

# Dufferin Elementary

Volume 12

May 25 2015

Dear Parents:

We are almost into June! At this time of year it is challenging for students to stay focused. They are starting to feel like they are done and the school calendar is filling up with special activities and field trips. These changes in regular school routines often don't help students maintain their focus.

It is increasingly important that we help students stay focused on their final few weeks of school. Talking with them about what they are learning as well as keeping those home routines will help them stay focused. It is important that they have a strong finish to the year.

Developing students' knowledge, skills, and attitudes to their potential, so they can contribute to a multi-cultural society, and information-based world.

## SCHOOL OFFICE HOURS



School office hours are from **8:00am to 3:30pm**. If you are attempting to reach the school by telephone, please note that generally no one is available to answer the telephone outside of these hours. If you need to contact the school outside of these hours to let us know of an absence, please feel free to email our secretary Ms. Norton ([anorton@sd73.bc.ca](mailto:anorton@sd73.bc.ca)) and leave a message.

## SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN

Dufferin Elementary and the staff and School Planning Council have been working hard this year to develop a new School Growth Plan that will guide us for the next three years. This includes an updated school vision and focus on

numeracy, literacy and social responsibility.

The new plan will be shared with parents and the school community after it has been approved by the Board of Education.

## LIBRARY NEWS

Book exchanges will continue up to and including June 11. All books will be due back to the library on June 15!

## GRADE SEVEN SCHOOL LEAVING

There are several activities happening in June for grade seven students that need to be noted:

June 15-17 Eagle Bay  
June 23 Grade 7 Luncheon  
June 25 Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony

The Grade 7 Luncheon is planned and organized by the grade seven parents. The gym is reserved for this event in the afternoon of June 23. If you wish to help, please contact parent organizers.

## ABORIGINAL NEWS

Dufferin is also planning to host an Aboriginal Day on June 19<sup>th</sup> which will include a number of cultural activities. This event will be hosted in the afternoon in the school gymnasium.

## FLAG FOOTBALL

Congratulations to our 2015 flag football team. They went through the season undefeated! A special thanks to our coach Mr. Noble.



The flag football team will be holding a windup on Wednesday, May 27 at noon.

## TRACK AND FIELD

Congratulations to all of our students who made it to the Zone Track and Field Meet as well as the 1500m last week. We did very well and will have

six students representing Dufferin in the 1500m district's and thirty students going to the District Track and Field meet on Tuesday, May 26! Go Dufferin!

We also had two students win the aggregate award for their age group at zones. Aggregate students are the best 'all around' athletes at the zones for their age group. Congratulations to:

Tyke Girls - Kalie Saari  
Pee Wee 1 Girls - Paige Judiesch

## MORNING PUBLIC ACCESS TO SCHOOL

***Please be aware that for safety and liability the school is not open to the public, parents or students without an appointment, or unless it is a cold weather day (below -15) until the first bell at 8:22am.*** If you need to be in the school prior to that time, please let the office know so arrangements can be made.

If you are in the building, unless it is for pick up at the end of the day or drop off after the first bell, you are required to sign in at the office. This will be in accordance to new school district safety protocols. Thank you for your attention and understanding.

## DAILY BELL SCHEDULE

A copy of the bell schedule can also be found on the school website (<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>) under General Information and Schedules.

## PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Our next PAC meeting is on:

**Wednesday, June 3 @ 7pm** (at the school)

All parents are encouraged to attend and become actively involved at the school. Child minding is available upon request. If you do need child minding, please let us know the Friday before. You can email the PAC at: [dufferinelempac@gmail.com](mailto:dufferinelempac@gmail.com)

Some upcoming PAC events are:

**FUN FAIR! – June 11, 2015**

School T-shirt orders and jerseys are available at the school – students should be bringing order forms home.

## FUN FAIR – JUNE 11

The PAC is planning their annual fun fair on Thursday, June 11 from 5pm-8pm. This is always a big fund raiser and great community activity. You can help support your children and PAC by:

1. **Volunteering** – if you can volunteer, please contact the school and/or PAC.
2. **Donate to Gift Baskets** – each class is collecting items for a gift basket that will be raffled off at the Fun Fair.
3. **Donate Prizes** – A box is located at the entry way for *lightly* used toys that can be given as prizes for events at the fun fair. Please drop donations off in the box.

## SCHOOL PARKING

For the safety of our students and to avoid congestion, we would like to remind parents that parking/dropping off students in the ROUND-ABOUT AREA in front of the school is **restricted to buses and daycare only.**

We have four buses that bring students to school and pick up after school as well as bus pick up for field trips. It is important that the roundabout area is accessible for buses at all times. We have had several incidents where buses could not access the round about for loading during school field trips due to vehicles stopped in “no parking” zones. Please model respect and obey the traffic signs. ***Also be aware that these are city by-law regulations, and by-law officers will be monitoring and ticketing offenders.***

## SCHOOL ILLNESS

The flu season has been a bad one this year! Sickness is going around. Please be aware that in accordance to public health, ***to avoid further transmission in the school and community, students who are ill should be kept home from school.***

## CELL PHONES

The school district has a policy (Policy 406.1) concerning the use of cell phones at school. Please be



advised that should you require your child(ren) to have a cell phone at school, you and your child are required to be aware of our guidelines concerning the use of cell phones.

Students can not use cell phones or electronic devices during instructional times unless explicitly directed by the teacher. They are also required to use devices appropriately at all times, which includes respecting others rights to privacy by not taking pictures or videos without permission from an adult from the school. A violation of this policy will result in confiscation of the electronic device.

***Also be aware that children bringing cell phones or other electronic devices to school do so at their own risk. The school is not responsible for theft or damage.***

## 2014/2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please note that the school calendar is also posted on the Dufferin

Website ([www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca](http://www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca)). The website calendar will be updated on a regular basis.



May 25-29	Bike to School Week
May 25	District 1500m Race
May 26	District Track Meet
May 25, 27, 28	Eureka Science
Jun 1	Gr. 7 Orientation (Sa-Hali)
Jun 3	PAC Meeting
Jun 9	Gr. 6 Immunizations
Jun 10	Kinder Orientation
Jun 11	Fun Fair
Jun 15-17	Eagle Bay Trip (Grade 7)
Jun 15	Library Books Due!
Jun 17	TNRD Library Presentation
Jun 19	Aboriginal Day
Jun 21	Father's Day
Jun 22	School Fun Day
Jun 23	Gr. 7 Luncheon
Jun 24	Recognition Assembly
Jun 25	Final Assembly
	Last Day for Students (½ Day)
	Term 3 Report Cards

## ***\*NI Day = Non-Instructional Day (Staff Professional Development)***

### **TICKS**

With the warm weather, ticks are out! Children are outside almost every day of the week. It is important to check them (and pets) daily for ticks, especially before they come into the house. Ticks can easily drop off on carpets or furniture. Some favorite places for ticks are under arms, between legs, hair, behind your knees, and even in your belly button!



Some other ways to avoid ticks are: wear light-colored clothing; wear long pants with sneakers (socks or bare feet don't work); and stay on trails or groomed areas.

### **DRESS CODE**

Please make sure your children are dressed appropriately. The Dufferin Dress Code is based on the school district code of conduct as well as the high school dress code.

A detailed copy of the dress code can be found on the school website for your reference:

<http://dufferin.sd73.bc.ca>

### **HERITAGE FAIR**

Dufferin has two students who won at the Districts and will now be moving on to Provincials with the Heritage Fair!

Amanda McGillivray  
Josie Cumming

Awesome job and good luck!!

### **DUFFERIN ROCKS!**

At Dufferin Elementary we follow our ROCKS matrix. ROCKS stands for:

**R**espectful  
**O**rganized  
**C**aring  
**K**ind  
**S**afe



This month we are going to be working on being

**ORGANIZED!** Being organized means keeping our lockers, desks, classroom and hallway space tidy, being prepared to learn by making sure we have all our materials ready, and making a plan before we do something.

We will also be working on strategies to deal with peer conflicts (**TILT**):

**T** = Talk to the person

**I** = Ignore

**L** = Leave

**T** = Tell an adult

If you could review these expectations as well as the parent/student handbook with your children at home it would help us maintain a positive school culture at Dufferin. A copy of the ROCKS Matrix can also be found in the student agenda.