



Dear Parents:

First Term report cards are rapidly approaching! This can be a time of stress for many students, parents, and yes... teachers. It is important that we begin talking about report cards with our children in advance. It is also important that we stress the positive and focus on growth and goal setting. This will help make things less stressful and is also proactive in motivating students for the next term.

Another helpful tip in keeping students successful is setting up routine and organizational skills at home. According to Oxford Learning, morning, after school and evening routines all require organizational skills to run smoothly. Whether it is emptying book bags right after school, picking out school clothes the night before, or enforcing bed times, an organized routine teaches children consistency, which pays off in school. If disorganization is a problem at home, it's likely a problem at school. Children who demonstrate consistent organization skills at home transfer those skills with them to the classroom. Help children get organized at home and you are helping them be organized at school.

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



Please note that the 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) and leave a message.

LIBRARY NEWS!

Our library is up and running for this new school year, and lots of new books will be ready for sign-out. A couple of things for students to keep in mind are:

1. Those students with overdue books from last year are encouraged to find them, or if they are lost, pay for replacement.

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.

8:22am	Warning Bell
8:30am	Classes Begin (O'Canada)
10:05am	Recess Begins
10:20am	Recess Ends / Classes Begin
12:00pm	Lunch – Outside Play Time
12:30pm	Lunch – Inside Eating Time
12:45pm	Lunch – Warning Bell/Clean Up
12:50pm	Lunch Ends / Classes Begin
2:30pm	Students Dismissed
3:00pm	Detained Student Dismissal

PARENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (PAC)

Our next PAC meeting will be on:

Monday, December 1 @ 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 @ dufferinelempac@gmail.com

The PAC is still looking for a DPAC representative to represent Dufferin at the District PAC meetings once a month. If you are interested, please contact us or come to the next PAC meeting on December 1. We are also looking for a new Treasurer. Karen McKenzie is retiring her position as treasurer due to other commitments. Karen has spent many years as the PAC treasurer. She will stay on to mentor the new treasurer. If you are interested, please contact the PAC via email or come to the next PAC meeting.

Some upcoming PAC events are:

Poinsettia Order Due: **Friday, Nov 21**
PAC Craft Fair: **Saturday, Dec 6**

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

WOLFPACK VOLLEYBALL CLINIC

Thompson Rivers University (TRU) will be offering a volleyball clinic this year. It will be for Grade 5/6 and 7/8.

Where: Tournament Capital Center – Middle Court
When: Sunday, November 16, 23, 30 and December 3, 14
Time: 10:30-12:00 for grades 5/6
12:00-1:30 for grades 7/8

The cost is \$75 per student and includes a Wolfpack T-shirt and coaching from varsity athletes and coaches!

To register you can email or call Chad Grimm: cgrimm@tru.ca or 250-319-8607

SCHOOL ILLNESS

It is that time of year where 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.

VOLLEYBALL

The grade 4/5 Volleyball season has come to a close! It was a great season and the school and

students would like to thank our coaches and volunteers. Without their help, our students would not have been able to participate in the season: Mrs. Geoghegan, Mr. Deol, Mrs. Preymak, and Mrs. Dalsin. Plus all the other parents who pitched in as drivers and fans! We would also like to thank all the volunteer referees and score keepers! School extra-curricular programs depend on volunteers to run and we are lucky to have had this dedicated group!

Also, Our Tier One grade 6/7 girls start their playoff run this week! They will be taking on other schools in the first round of the playoffs on Thursday, November 20 at Lloyd George. The first game starts at 3pm and is a single knock out. Go DUFFERIN Go!

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.



JUNIOR WOLFPACK!

On Friday, November 21 it will be “**Dufferin Elementary Night**” at the Wolfpack basketball game!

Friday, Nov 21 6:00-8:00pm

Free tickets will be available to all students and

their family! It will also include a Wolfpack SWAG Bag that has a Wolfpack ruler, pen, and a signed players card. You will also receive McDonald's gift certificates. After the game, all Dufferin students in attendance will be welcome to come and meet the team!

2014/2015 SCHOOL CALENDAR

Please note that the school calendar is also posted on the Dufferin Website (www.dufferin.sd73.bc.ca). The website calendar will be updated on a regular basis.



Nov 18	Picture Retakes (am)
Nov 21	Poinsettia Orders Due
Nov 21	Jr. Wolfpack Night (TRU)
Nov 28	Term 1 Report Cards
Dec 5	NI Day* (No school for students)
Dec 6	Craft Fair (PAC)
Dec 17	Christmas Concert
Dec 19	Last day before Winter Holiday

December 20 – January 4 WINTER HOLIDAY

Jan 5	School Reopens
Feb 2	Groundhog Day YPC – Project Soul
Feb 9	Holiday (BC Family Day)
Feb 11	Early Closure for Parent Interviews
Feb 12	Early Closure for Parent Interviews
Feb 14	Valentines Day
Feb 20	NI Day* (No school for students)
Mar 8	Daylight Savings
Mar 13	Term 2 Report Cards Last day before Spring Break

March 14 – March 29 SPRING BREAK

Mar 30	School Reopens
Apr 3	Holiday (Good Friday)
Apr 6	Holiday (Easter Monday)
Apr 7	Day of Suwentwecw
Apr 20	NI Day* (No school for students)

May 10	Mother's Day
May 11	NI Day* (No school for students)
May 18	Holiday (Victoria Day)
May 20	Zone Track Meet
May 26	District 1500m Race
May 27	District Track Meet

Jun 21	Father's Day
Jun 25	Last Day for Students (½ Day) Term 3 Report Cards

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

HEAD LICE

With the colder weather and holidays, students are 'bundling' up, wearing hats, keeping inside and in close contact with friends and family. This makes it easier for our pesky friends the head lice to spread.

It is recommended to parents that you **check your children at home at least once a week!** If you find any, please treat them immediately and report it to the school so that we can take steps to keep them under control. The school handles any reported cases confidentially.

More information about head lice and how to control them can be found on our school website. Thank you in advance for helping with this. Vigilance by the home is the best way to control the spread of head lice. Remember, it isn't enough to just use the shampoo. Some lice are immune - so removal of all the nits (eggs) from the hair after treatment is necessary or they can hatch and re-infest. It only takes one live louse to lay hundreds of eggs.

SCHOOL PARKING

Unfortunately, school parking is starting to become an issue. 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 and it is important that the roundabout area is accessible for buses at all times. We have had two incidents where buses

could not access the round about for loading during school field trips due to vehicles stopped in the bus round-a-bout. **Please model respect and obey the traffic signs and stop or park only in designated areas.**

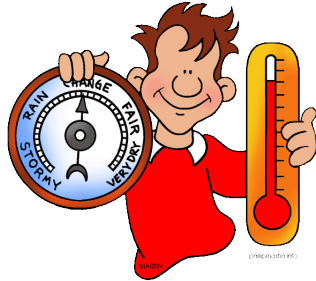
SHAPEDOWN BC

Kamloops Healthy Weights for Children: Shapedown BC, is a family based program for children between the ages of 6-17 years and their families who struggle with their weight and are ready to work on implementing a healthier lifestyle.

The team includes a Registered Dietitian, a Registered Social Worker, an Exercise Specialist and Pediatrician. We are currently seeking physician referrals for children and adolescents who may benefit from a multi-disciplinary assessment and support around healthy lifestyles. If you are interested, please contact Interior Health at 250-851-7300 or at www.interiorhealth.ca/shapedown

DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

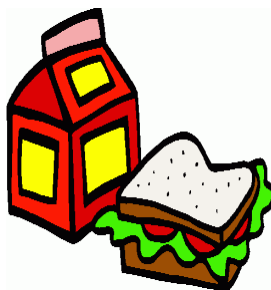
As we move later into Fall, please make sure students are dressed appropriately. The weather can change drastically during the day. This also affects our footwear. Students should have separate inside and outside footwear. When entrances are marked by orange cones, this is an indicator that students should be removing their outside footwear at the door to keep our hallways and classroom clean. A reminder students are expected to be outside during breaks unless the temperature is **colder than -15 Celsius**. Please have your children dress accordingly.



EATING LUNCH AT SCHOOL

We ask that all students remaining at the school for lunch:

1. Eat lunch in their designated area
2. Behave in a mannerly fashion



3. Clean up after themselves
4. Remain on school grounds for the duration of the lunch hour

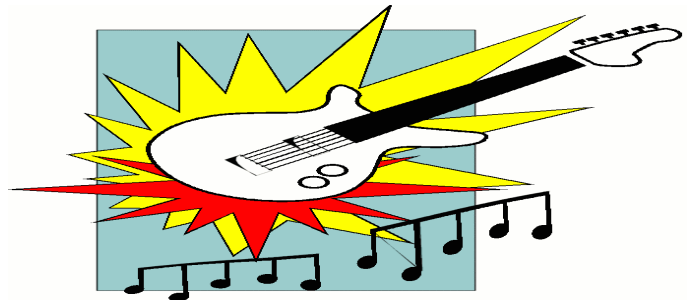
Students who are unable to follow school expectations during the lunch period may be asked to go home for their lunch.

If your child brings a lunch to school, we will assume it is your intention they remain at school for lunch. If they have your permission to leave school grounds, they will require a written and signed note.

At this time and due to safety, we will not be granting permission for students to cross the overpass (Copperhead Drive) during school hours. This includes going to the Petro-Canada Service station.

Parents may take their children to lunch. Students can be released to other parents at lunch if there is a signed note confirming permission for your child to leave with that parent. If students need to purchase a lunch we encourage you to take advantage of our lunch program or parents may sign their child out and take them to lunch. If you take your child for lunch, please sign out at the office and sign in when you return.

DUFFERIN ROCKS!



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

Respectful
Organized
Caring
Kind
Safe

This month we are going to be working on **Respect!** Showing respect to someone means you act in a way that shows you care about their

feelings and well-being.

- Treating people with courtesy (good manners)
- Using appropriate language (including not calling people names)
- Caring enough about yourself or others that you don't do things that will hurt you or get you in trouble, or hurt others or get them in trouble

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.