



Dear Parents:

I would like to first thank everyone for their patience as we moved through some of our 'start of school' organizational pains. Overall, however, I think it has been a relatively smooth start! I am really impressed with the level of responsibility students have displayed at all ages for the start of this school year. A lot of that has to do with the support and modeling from parents at home. If you haven't already, check out the parent tips on the school website under "general information."

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](mailto: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.

2. Fall Book Fair is coming: November 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> - from 8:15am-4:00pm. 50% of profits go back to the library for the purchase of new resources!
3. Drop Everything and Read (DEAR): Oct 27<sup>th</sup> - October is National Library Month and we will be celebrating by holding a DEAR event on this date!

## 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)

Or next PAC meeting will be on:

**Monday, November 3 @ 7pm** (at the school)

All parents are encouraged to attend and become actively involved at the school. Child minding is available upon request. Some upcoming PAC events are:

Mugs & Muffins 8am in school gym: **Oct 20**  
Return Great Little Coupon Books: **Oct 20**  
Return Dielman orders: **Oct 31**  
PAC Craft Fair: **Dec 6**

School T-shirt orders and jerseys are now available at the school - students should be bringing order forms home. Also, lunch forms should be going home soon for our lunch program!

## SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

Our projected enrollment for this year is around 280 students. The staff at Dufferin presently consist of:

### Primary Teachers:

Ms. J. Carter	Mrs. C. Twamley
Mrs. N. Preymak	Mrs. P. Lovett
Mrs. M. McGeough	Mrs. H. Bailey
Mr. J. Richard	Mr. G. Gagnon

### Intermediate Teachers:

Ms. L. Eacrett	Ms. J. Dalsin
Mrs. K. Geoghegan	Mr. K. Bamsey
Mrs. J. Bubela	Mr. T. Noble

### Teacher Support:

Principal	Mr. M. Bowden
Librarian	Mr. R. Rhynolds
Learning Assistance	Mrs. M. Bell
Resource Teacher	Mrs. B. Primus
Teacher Preps	Mr. K. Allan
	Mrs. J. Bubela

### CUPE Support:

#### Certified Education Assistants (CEA)

Ms. P. Behrmann  
Ms. S. Dickinson  
Ms. N. Sun  
Ms. J. Rahn  
Ms. E. Zerr  
Ms. C. Cleveland  
Mrs. C. Harnett

#### First Nations Education Worker (FNEW)

Ms. F. Joe

Library Assistant	Ms. L. McBurnie
Secretary	Ms. A. Norton
Custodians	Mr. D. Bruno
	Mr. D. Smith

## HEALTHY SCHOOLS

A special note to parents to remind you that it is your responsibility to let the school know if your child has a serious health condition or requires medication at school.



Parents who have completed forms last year are also required to update the information on file. Please contact the school office if you require more information or to pick up the forms to be

filled out.

### **Reminder:**

Children are often the first to be affected by illness and are responsible for much of early disease transmissions in communities. There are two types: Gastrointestinal (ie vomiting and diarrhea) and Circulating Respiratory (ie cough, runny nose, sore throat and fever). **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.



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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.**

## SAFE ARRIVAL PROGRAM

Our school operates a "Safe Arrival Program." After the morning check-in, teachers report the names of students who are absent. This is checked with the "reported absences" and the parents of students who are unaccounted for are contacted.

In order for this program to operate smoothly it is imperative that parents let us know if their child is going to be absent.

## 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.



Oct 20	Mugs & Muffins
Oct 23	Lock Down Drill
Oct 24	NI Day* (No school for students)
Oct 27	Drop Everything & Read (DEAR) Earth Rangers Presentation
Oct 29	YPC – Story Theater
Oct 30	Picture Day
Nov 2	Daylight Savings
Nov 3	ROCKS Assembly PAC Meeting
Nov 4-5	Book Fair
Nov 7	Remembrance Day Assembly
Nov 10	NI Day* (No school for students)
Nov 11	Holiday (Remembrance Day)
Nov 15	Municipal Elections
Nov 18	Picture Retakes (am)
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 our 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

For the safety of our students and to avoid congestion, we would like to remind parents that parking/dropping

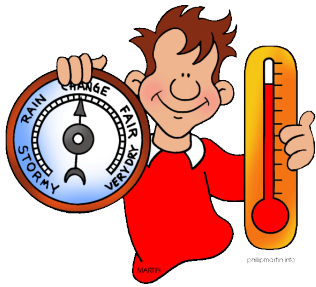


off students in the ROUND-ABOUT AREA in front of the school is restricted to buses only.

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. This includes quick drop off and pick ups. Please obey the traffic signs and stop or park only in designated areas.

## DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

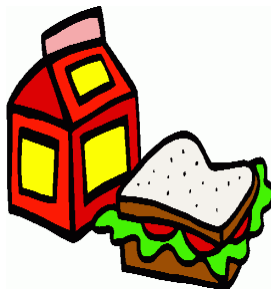
As we move later into Fall, please make sure students are dressed appropriately. The weather can change drastically during the day. This also affects our footwear. Students should have separate inside and outside footwear. When entrances are marked by orange cones, this is an indicator that students should be removing their outside footwear at the door to keep our hallways and classroom clean.



## EATING LUNCH AT SCHOOL

Students who live close enough to school to go home for lunch are encouraged to do so. If not, students are welcome to remain at school during the lunch hour. 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.

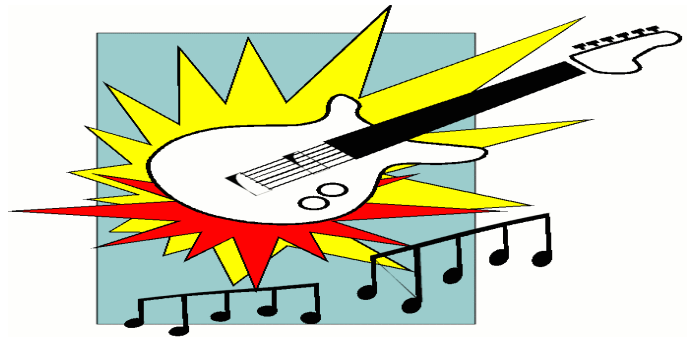
If your child brings a lunch to school, we will assume it is your intention they remain at school for lunch. If they have your permission to leave school grounds, they will require a written and signed note.

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. 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.

## YEARBOOKS - 2013/2014

Dufferin Elementary still has a number of Yearbooks for the 2013-2014 school year for sale. If you are interested in purchasing one, please contact your child's teacher or the office.

## 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 **Hallway Behaviour!**

- Walking
- Staying on the right side of hall
- Respecting other classrooms by being quiet
- Using the correct doors during breaks
- Having a hall pass when inside during breaks

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.

