

Ecole Dufferin Newsletter

Issue Seven

Newsletter Date: March/April 2021

From the Principal's Desk

March is already here and we are full speed ahead to April.



As you know, we have had a disruptive year where we have been asked to be flexible and to show our perseverance. Thank you to my staff, my students, and my families for being so patient during this time. I know this has been a crazy year and that this year has tapped out our mental health in so many ways. Just remember that we care and we will do everything to make life here at Dufferin as normal as possible so that your children can thrive during this unusual time.

We have begun hot lunches and the sale of kettle corn. This is a nice change back to some normalcy. Hot lunch for April will not be online until the government announces whether or not we have to close again and pivot to virtual learning.

As you are all aware, our March Break has now been moved to April 12th to the 16th. Please mark your calendars. Easter will also be the weekend of April 2nd to the 5th. In advance of this holiday, I wish you all a Happy Easter with your families !!

Picture day which includes Graduation photos will take place on March 11th. Wear your best picture outfits!! Graduates, please bring a white shirt for gowns.

Upcoming dates:

Every Wednesday and Friday Kettle corn sales

March 10th School Council Meeting 6:30

March 11th Picture Day
Hot Lunch La Bottega

March 25th Hot Lunch La Bottega

April 1st April Fool's Day
April 2nd Easter Friday - NO SCHOOL
April 5th Easter Monday - NO SCHOOL
April 12th-16th Re-scheduled March Break - NO SCHOOL
April 28th Secretary Day



International Day of Pink and Safe Schools

We celebrated **Pink Shirt** Day last month. Pink Shirt Day began in Nova Scotia when two high school students and their teenage friends organized a high-school protest to wear pink in sympathy for a Grade 9 boy who was being bullied. The students took a stand against bullying when they protested against the harassment of a new Grade 9 student by distributing pink T-shirts to all the boys in their school. Our school promotes a positive school climate and inclusiveness.

April 14th will mark the “International Day of Pink”. Once again the Safe Schools Committee will encourage students to wear pink as a statement against bullying. Talk to your children about bullying. Encourage them to report bullying to their teachers. Explain to your children the difference between bullying and normal conflict between students.

Conflict VS. Bullying

Happens occasionally

Happens repeatedly

Accidental

Done on purpose

Not serious

Serious-threat of physical harm or emotional or psychological hurt

Equal emotional reaction by both

Strong emotional reaction on part of victim

Not seeking power or attention

Seeking power or control

Not trying to get something

Trying to gain material things, or power

Remorseful-takes responsibility

No remorse-blames victim

Effort to solve problem

No effort to solve problem

Secretary's Day

April 28th is Secretary's Day. We want to thank Mme Dutchuk who was with us most of the year, Mme Banner and Mme Demeulenaere, for all their hard work!!



Some Math

The curriculum identifies seven key processes students engage in as they learn and use math throughout the grade. Last month's newsletter, focussed on problem solving, reasoning and proving and reflecting. This month's focus will be on selecting tools and computational strategies and connecting. Your child will use these processes when learning new concepts and procedures, practising skills, and solving problems. Your child will also draw on his/her knowledge and skills from the five strands and make connections with real-life situations.

Selecting Tools and Computational Strategies

Tools used in math class include measuring tools such as rulers and protractors, physical manipulatives such as fraction strips, and digital learning tools such as graphing tools. Digital tools offer many ways to enhance learning by allowing students to see math unfold in ways that can't happen with a physical object. Such tools can be used to reduce the time spent on routine tasks and allow more time for concept development.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- **choose physical and digital learning tools and computational strategies to investigate, explore, represent, and solve problems**
- **use technology (tablets, computers, interactive whiteboards, etc.)**
- **use calculators for some tasks, but not for all tasks, depending on the goal of the lesson**

Connecting

Students learn best when they can connect new concepts with what they already know, and connect mathematical ideas to real-world situations.

In your child's math classroom, students:

- **make connections between new knowledge and skills and prior learning**
- **make connections between math and other subjects**

Fraction Strips

1							
$\frac{1}{2}$				$\frac{1}{2}$			
$\frac{1}{4}$		$\frac{1}{4}$		$\frac{1}{4}$		$\frac{1}{4}$	
$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$

