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Principal

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Dear Dufferin Families:

October proved to be a very busy month for our students. We are proud of our softball, cross country, and soccer teams for their accomplishments at their tournaments and meets.

November brings us to the midway point in term 1 of our school year. With that comes our progress report cards for students in Grades JK-8. The progress report card is designed to show a student's development of the learning skills and work habits during the fall of the school year, as well as a student's general progress in working towards the achievement of the curriculum expectations in all subjects. Progress reports will be sent home on November 3rd. Parent/teacher conferences will occur on November 10 in the evening and November 11 in the morning. An electronic booking link will be sent to all families to sign up for a 10 minute meeting time for each of their children.

Yours in cooperation,

Mme A. Smith
Principal



October 26-Pizza Day
October 28-Photo Retake Day
Nov. 2-Electrical Safety Presentations in Gym
Nov. 3-Progress Reports go home
Nov. 7-11-Book Fair
Nov. 9-Pizza Day, DPC 6:30
Nov. 10-Remembrance Day Assembly, School-wide BINGO (2pm), 3:30-7:00pm-Progress Report Interviews
Nov.11-PD Day (no school for students), Progress Report Interviews (am)
Nov. 16-Pita Pit
Nov. 18-Gr. 1 and 1/2 to Safety Village
Nov. 23-Purdy's Fundraiser orders due
Nov. 28-Resource Team, Colour Blind Presentations,
Dec. 2-Dental Screening for JK, SK, Gr. 2, Gr. 7



Scholastic Book Fair

Reading for pleasure unlocks the power of information and imagination and helps children discover who they are. Here's what you can do to help children develop stronger reading skills and a love for reading:

- * Set the example. Let children see you read.
- * Have a collection of books in your home. Update this collection routinely to keep up with changing tastes and reading skills.
- * Support our school's Book Fair. Allow your children to choose their own books to read.

Our Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event includes a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits. All proceeds support new books for our school and classroom libraries.

Book Fair details:

Dates: Monday, Nov. 7-Wednesday, Nov. 9 –Classroom visits to Book Fair

Thurs, Nov. 10 (evening) & Friday, November 11 (morning): Book Fair open to families

Where: École Dufferin Gym

If you can't make it to the Fair, then shop at our school's Virtual Book Fair. All orders ship directly to our school and we will arrange for a pickup time when they arrive. Your online orders will also benefit our school.

Visit our Virtual Book Fair homepage to watch some trailers and look through our digital flyer:

<https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5194400>



Purdy's Chocolate Fundraiser

Our Purdy's chocolate fundraiser continues. Orders are due online by Nov. 23. All items will arrive in time for holiday delivery. To place an order, visit the Purdy's website and create an account using the campaign code 64235.

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/1399836-97524>

If you would like a paper catalogue, please contact the school and we can send one home with your child.



Help is Here

Our staff is always here to help work through any concerns. If you have a classroom concern, your first point of contact for support is the classroom teacher. The following link outlines the Concern Resolution process in Grand Erie:

<https://www.granderie.ca/board/familysupports/parent-concern>

Student Census

Students in Gr. 4-8 will have the opportunity to complete the online Student Census during the month of November. Individuals may opt out of the census with written parental permission. The goal is to maximize participation. Parents of K-3 students will complete the census for/with their students. The census should take about 15 minutes to complete. Additional information will be sent later this month.

Inclement Weather and Transportation

Winter is just around the corner. In the event of inclement weather, there is the potential for transportation delays or cancellations and school closures.

Dufferin bus routes are in Zone 4.

If transportation is cancelled for schools in Zone 4, École Dufferin will be closed.

Inclement Weather Information:

- Information on Student Transportation Services can be found here: <http://www.stsbhn.ca/>
- If there are school or board facility closures, Grand Erie will post a notification by 6:30 a.m. on the Board's website here: www.granderie.ca
- Information will be posted on Grand Erie's Twitter (@GEDSB)
- Closure information will also be shared with local media (i.e. radio, television)
- Find the Board's Inclement Weather Policy here: <https://bit.ly/2HoC1YX>



Making Time for Math

As we look at our school data and plan for school improvement, we will continue to have an increased focus on mathematics learning. There are many ways you can support your child as partners in their development of understanding in mathematics:

*Be Positive:

Choose your words carefully. When adults say they aren't good at math-sometimes to make children feel better-they may be giving children permission to stop learning.

*Avoid math anxiety:

Math anxiety (unproductive tension and stress) is real and occurs in children as well as adults. Pressure from timed tests and the risk of failure are minor sources of math anxiety. Try not to over-react when your child makes a mistake. Making mistakes is an important part of learning!

*Learn from mistakes:

Homework time can be a more positive experience if you help your children learn from mistakes; praise their efforts, ask them to explain their answer, ask them to think about why the mistake happened, and encourage them to try again.

*Help set the tone:

Be relaxed and engaged as your child does math homework. You are not expected to be an expert, but you can offer support and ask questions: "How did you do that?"; "How do you know if you are right or wrong?"; and "Would you teach me how to do another question like this one?"

*Be patient and build confidence:

If your child becomes frustrated, stop. Remind them of things that they have already learned to do successfully, such as riding a bicycle or playing a musical instrument.

(Adapted from CODE-Council of Ontario Directors of Education)

Dufferin Parent Council

Our next virtual school council meeting will be on November 9. Contact Mme Smith if you would like the link to join the meeting. Meeting minutes are posted on the school website and on the bulletin board inside the front foyer at the school.

Fun facts about DPC:

*We organize the pizza days each month

*We offer a \$10/student subsidy for all field trips

*We fundraise for larger cost items that enhance the school for all students.

*We can always use more volunteers to help. Why not get involved?

Remembrance Day

We will be recognizing Remembrance Day on Thursday, Nov. 10. A limited number of spaces will be available for families to attend. If you plan on attending, please RSVP using this link: [RSVP](#). Poppies will be available for students. Cash donations can be sent to the school on Nov. 10.



Lost and Found

Our lost and found bin is over-flowing! Please encourage your child to look for any lost items in the lost and found. The bin is located in the library. When you are in for the Progress Report Conferences, please take a moment to check the lost and found for any missing items.

Any items remaining in the lost and found at the end of November will be donated to charity.

