

# Douglas Park School February Newsletter

## Upcoming Events...

**Feb. 1:** Keep reading for the READ-A-Thon; Progress Report Cards for Term #1 are issued; Family Literacy Bingo Cards are due to the office; Girls Basketball here vs. McLurg at 4 PM; LEADS meeting for Grade 5's 3:45-5:00 PM; Dental sealant program here

**Feb. 2:** Happy Groundhog's Day (Shadow or no shadow?) Students in the DC Program are swimming in the PM

**Feb. 3:** DPAC meeting at 8 AM; Book Swap in the library

**Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>:** Rocks and Rings Curling Program for Grades 2/3-5; Create for Mrs. Simons in AM & 12:45 for Mr. Wagner's Grade 4s; last day for Dental sealant

**Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>:** Immunizations in AM; Boys Basketball game here vs. Massey School; Girlspace Program at noon; Twizzler Tuesdays on sale at noon for \$0.50 each

**Feb. 8<sup>th</sup>:** Skating at the Al Ritchie Arena in AM for Grade 8's; Welcome to SUNTEP students, with Ms. Ochitwa and Mrs. Cutting; Grade 5's are on outdoor trip; Girls Basketball game at MacNeill School

**Feb. 9<sup>th</sup>:** Boys BB practice at 3:45

**Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>:** No School for students – Professional Development Day

**Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>:** 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School;

**Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>:** Happy Valentine's Day! Girlspace Program at noon; Twizzler Tuesday (\$0.50 each) Pink/Red/White Day; Boys Basketball game at MacNeill

**Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>:** Skating at the Al Ritchie Arena in PM for Grade 4's; Day of Pink Rally for Grades 6-8 @ 12:30 to 2:00 (wear Pink shirts)

**Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>:** Day of Pink at DP – everyone is to wear pink shirts; Mrs. Yuhasz's Grade 1 on outdoor trip in PM; Boys BB practice at 3:45

**Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>:** LC3 Dance in PM

**Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> inclusively** – no school for students and staff – Family Day & Winter Break

**Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>:** Skating at the Al Ritchie Arena in PM for Grade 7's

**Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>:** Twizzler Tuesday (\$0.50 each); Girlspace Program at noon; Triple P Parenting Session for PreK and K Families at 6:30 PM; Learning Assembly at 2:30; Boys Basketball game here vs W. S. Hawrylak

## Literacy and Learning

### A Foundation for Success

Families are important. What a family does to encourage school success matters and establishes a strong foundation for your child's school years.

- Have high expectations for your child. When you expect him/her to do well at school, he/she probably will.
- Praise your child when he does something well at home or school. One success leads to another!
- Focus on your child's strengths. Every child has skills and strengths, but some children may need help to see their own abilities.
- Fill your home with lots to read. Advertising flyers, catalogues, menus and newsletters are free and fun to read. You can also buy second hand books and magazines at garage sales and stores.
- Join the public library. It's free and has books, DVDs and programs for all ages.
- Let your children see you reading and writing. When they see you reading newspapers or websites, using recipes, or writing notes or e-mails, they will do the same.
- Eat meals together and talk together as you eat. Share events and tell family stories.
- Help your child use language to express feelings: "I am angry because \_\_." "I am happy because \_\_." "I am proud because \_\_."
- Help support the school's initiatives and participate in school events.

Thank you for supporting your child's learning!

## DP School Family Literacy Day Fun Facts

Thank you to the 35 families who submitted family literacy photos for us to display on the main hallway bulletin board and the school TV. We have 43 families (27 of them completed the whole Bingo card) who participated in the Family Literacy Day 15 *Minutes of Fun* Bingo (students in PreK to Grade 3). Draws for prizes will be made on February 28<sup>th</sup> at the assembly. Thanks for participating!

## Winter Weather is still here!

February and March will continue to have days of cold winter weather conditions. Please remind your children to dress appropriately for the weather. Outdoor recesses will continue (-25 degrees Celsius is the determining temperature for indoor recesses) and the Polar Bear Club for those who have permission. Please clearly label your child's winter clothing items with his/her name. Also, we encourage families to drop off and pick up students on the 20<sup>th</sup> Avenue access so that we minimize congestion in the front of the school and allow adequate space for the wheelchair buses and taxis. The bus loop in the front of the school is a no stopping or parking zone. The several wheelchair buses need that area at all times. Please be extra careful when dropping students off since we all need to ensure student safety. A reminder to students that the front doors are always unlocked for students arriving late or when the doors may be locked due to indoor recess times.

Mrs. L. Frei - Principal  
Mrs. T. Duke - Vice-Principal



**SCC READ-A-THON:** The SCC is hosting the third annual Read-A-Thon to promote the importance of reading and help us develop better readers

- Some minimal fundraising this year by the SCC
- Starts on Mon., Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> and ends on Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>
- Prizes will be awarded at the Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> assembly

This year, we want to increase the number of participants and have a higher number of minutes read.

### Students:

- Read-A-Thon is on (PreK and K can be read to)
- Collect donations to support our school
- Are eligible to win prizes

### Prizes:

- 3 prizes of \$100 for the student who spends the most minutes reading (one student in each learning community)
- \$10 for each student who reads a total of 400 minutes or more and raises \$25 or more in donations
- 3 classroom treat prizes (one in each learning community) for the classroom with the most minutes spent reading
- Each minute spent reading counts as an intramural house team point which is a great way to increase your total points as a team
- \*This year the goal is to have more students participating and more minutes spent reading (103 students participated in 2016)Let's READ!**



Sales are...  
Tuesdays for LC1  
Wed. for LC2  
Thursdays for LC3



### **Kindergarten Registration for Fall 2017**

Children who will be 5 years of age by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and live in the Douglas Park School boundaries (please see the RBE website for boundary changes) are eligible to attend Kindergarten in September 2017. Please call the office at 306-523-3720 or stop by to get a registration package. We will need a copy of the birth certificate and immunization records.

**SCC News**  
Thank you to Laura Bennett, the SCC Chair, who creates the monthly SCC newsletter which is sent home each month. The next SCC meeting is on Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM and ALL parents are welcome to attend. The SCC is hosting the annual Read-A-Thon until February 14<sup>th</sup>. They are also providing a Book Swap on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bring in books and take another few home! We appreciate the SCC's support for our school's events!

**Mathletics**  
We encourage all students from grades 1-8 to use Mathletics at home and school to help improve math skills. Each student has a login account number and can readily access it at home to continue with their assignments from school.

**Balfour Collegiate Grade 8 Open House**  
Please join the Balfour Collegiate staff and students at the Grade 8 Open House on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM in the Auditorium.

**Basketball Season... Go Lions Go!**  
Our girls and boys basketball teams are off to a strong start in their season. Congratulations to both teams for winning second place at the Balfour Collegiate Feeder school tournament on January 24<sup>th</sup>. We are looking forward to a great season of competition and skill development. Our school tournaments will be held on Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup> (Girls) and Boys (TBD).

**Grade 8 Farewell**  
The Grade 8 Farewell will be held on **Monday, June 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM** here in the gym. Please note the date change. The students "After Party" will be organized by the parents' group and will have more details very soon.

**Grade 8 Outdoor School**  
Our Grade 8 students will be going to Outdoor School on Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> and returning around 3 PM on June 8<sup>th</sup>.

**We are on the web...**  
Please check our school website: <http://douglaspark.rbe.sk.ca/> for weekly updates and school news.

**Lost and Found items**  
Please have your children check through the lost and found items to claim their belongings. Also, students are encouraged to label their belongings with their first and last names.

**Special Lunches**  
We are encouraging families to order the special lunches online at <https://www.healthyhunger.ca>. The cash payment option is available online. If you would prefer a paper copy, you may request one at the office. Our next lunch will be on Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and it will be provided by Dairy Queen. Orders close online on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Progress Reports Term #1**  
Parent Portal (<https://powerschool.rbe.sk.ca/public>) is open online at any time for parents/guardians (Grades 1-8) to monitor your child's assignments, grades and attendance. Progress Reports for Term #1 were issued on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Students in Grades K-8 will have scheduled 3-Way on Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> all day. There are no regular classes on this day. Some kindergartens will also have conferences on March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Please note that all kindergarten students will not have school on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Red Cross Day of Pink on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>**  
Make this the day you add your voice to the many across Saskatchewan calling for a change around the culture of creating respectful relationships. We like to GET LOUD for Red Cross Pink Day. We raise awareness of bullying issues and encourage everyone to become involved in building healthy communities. And the more voices we have, the more we can accomplish! Join us on Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 and show the world that, together, we can imagine a world without bullying! Wear your Pink Day t-shirts!

Reading aloud builds a child's "want" to read.

# READ ALOUD TO A CHILD TODAY

Where your child spends the most time annually

7800 hrs. Home  
900 hrs. School

Which teacher has the biggest influence?

Interest in reading a book outside of school

Kindergarten: 100%  
4th Grade: 54%  
8th Grade: 30%  
12th Grade: 19%

What changed in 4th grade?  
Parents stopped reading to their kids.

Too much time Spent with Screen Media is Associated with:

Childhood Obesity    Sleep Disturbances    Attention Span Issues

Children who have 100 pieces of printed material in their homes have higher reading scores than those with less.

**THE THREE B'S:**  
The three best places to keep a box of books for your children to read:

Bed  
Bathroom  
Breakfast table

1,500+ children's books available through Usborne Books & More.

USBORNE BOOKS & MORE

Information from The Read-Aloud Handbook by Jim Trelease



**Random Acts of Kindness Week:** During the week of January 30<sup>th</sup> to February 3<sup>rd</sup>, we are recognizing Random Acts of Kindness (RAOK). Students and staff are given suggested specific tasks each day plus we encouraged all kinds of RAOK. We are focusing on the many positives that we already have at DP and continuing to develop more! It has been fantastic to see everyone going out of their way to be extra kind to one another.

### No School for Students:

Just a reminder that there is no school for students on the following days: Friday, February 10<sup>th</sup>; Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> inclusively; Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>; Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>; Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup>; Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> to April 21<sup>st</sup> inclusively; Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>; Monday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> and Friday, June 9<sup>th</sup>. Last day of classes is June 29<sup>th</sup>.

### Perfect Attendance:

The more you attend school, the more you benefit from daily instruction and in class learning. Therefore, you will get better at all learning opportunities! We are proud of our students' continued efforts to have perfect attendance. December's perfect attendance was 210 students, which is fantastic! We appreciate everyone's dedication to have consistent attendance.

### Triple P Parenting Workshops:

We are pleased to offer the Triple P Parenting Workshops for our parents of students in PreK and Kindergarten. Triple P Parenting is from the Early Years Family Centre and presented by Danica Escobar. There are three continuous sessions to this program which will be held on Tuesday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM here at the school in the library area. Each session has separate information. There is no cost to this program. We

will be sending home a note on February 6<sup>th</sup> Take your parenting skills to the next level. For any of us that have children, we know that raising children can be tough. Triple P is a parenting program that helps make raising children easier. Triple P doesn't tell you how to be a parent. It gives you a range of practical strategies and you choose the ones that fit your family.

#### Triple P helps you:

- Raise happy, confident children
- Manage child's behavior so everyone enjoys life more
- Set family routines and rules that everyone follows
- Get along well with your children and argue less
- Balance work and family without stress

**Home Alone Course:** Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00am to 12:00pm at Douglas Park School Gym for Ages 10+ \$30/participant. Pre-registration required. Please contact the Laura Strem, Boot Hill Community Association Program Coordinator at [laura.bhca@gmail.com](mailto:laura.bhca@gmail.com) or 306-565-1070 to register. This 2-hour class is designed to provide children aged 10-14 years with the necessary skills and knowledge to be safe and responsible when home alone for short periods of time. Participants will learn how to deal with phone calls and visitors, recognize hazards and follow home safety procedures, first aid basics, healthy eating, fire safety and how and when to use 911 to obtain emergency help.






You learn to write better by reading. You learn to read better by writing. Reading and writing work together to improve your ability to think!

# Celebrating our Students' Learning!

Name: Jordan

A penguin escaped from the zoo and now he's in your classroom! What happens?

first he ran into a desk. then he hid a couple days. then he tried to make friends with the penguins on the walk. then he stared at us for a couple seconds. then he ran in into another desk. then he waddled around for a little bit. then he looked out the window. then he barked in some draw and sat



### My New Year's Resolution 2017

My New Year's resolution is to swim more, learn to bake/cook, learn the Spanish language a fantastic friend practice french! spend more time with my family read more

By: Elijah Phillips

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Dear Miss Rindy,

I appreciate you because you teach me too things I love my dance but you taught me. It is amazing



Love,  
Brooklyn

### Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt

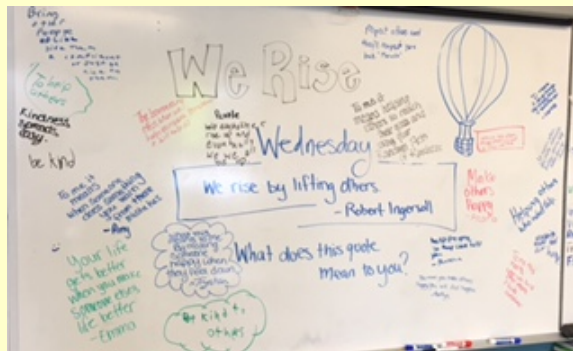
I was able to make many connections while reading Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt. My connection was when Sweet Clara got taken away to a plantation farm I make a connection to this because the Europeans took the first nations kids away. This connection I made was Text World. A reason I chose this as my connection is it's an important thing that happened in history. These were some connections that I made when I read the book.

Dear Mrs. Yasarsz,

I love you because you are my Grandmother. I love you because you are beautiful. I love you because you are my best friend.



Love,  
Sloane



We like to work together. Once you learn, you know it forever. I like to learn stuff. Even though it can be tough