

Dunstable School: News from the Bears' Den

Virtue For September: Cleanliness!

Important Dates

First Day of School for Grades 1,3, & 5	3
First Day of School for Grades 2,4, & 6	4
Labour Day ~ No School	7
First Day for Kindergarten Surnames A-I	8
First Day for Kindergarten Surnames J-W	10
D-Prep Begins	15
Highway Clean-Up	16
Dunstable Day	18
Terry Fox Run	24
PD Day ~ No School	25

Principal's Message

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year!



I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your patience and flexibility as we continue to navigate the new procedures and requirements called for by Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services. As we adapt to our new set of circumstances, you may see some of our practises modified to meet evolving expectations. Thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

As always, each year brings a few staffing and timetable changes. All of our teachers will continue in their previous grade assignments. Unfortunately, we have had to make some reductions to program assistant time. So you will see Mrs. Beattie and Mrs. Teha in our Kindergarten/Preschool program on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mrs. Felske will be in our Grade One and Two classroom. Mr. D will be teaching Grade Three and Grade Four, and I will be teaching Grade Five and Grade Six. Mrs. Dubovsky will be managing the office and the library, and she will also be assisting in classrooms at various times throughout the week.

Even though Covid precautions require us, while in school, to wear masks, to do more hand sanitizing, and to practice physical distancing whenever and wherever we can, I want to assure you that we remain committed to growing our Dunstable community. What makes our school special is that family feeling

and sense of connection. We are in this together and we will continue to encourage our students to play, laugh, and learn together.

Open communication has always been important to us. This year we are adding some tools to our Communication Toolkit in the event that we need to reach out in a quick manner. Please watch for information about our School Messenger e-mails and texts. You can also follow us on Facebook and join our Dunstable School Families group. Please read your child's agenda at the end of each day, initial it, and send it back to school in the morning. We also encourage you to read each of our monthly newsletters and visit our website (www.dunstable.ca).

2020-2021 will be a school year unlike any other but, while we may be anxious and uncertain as we set off on this journey, together we will rise to the occasion.

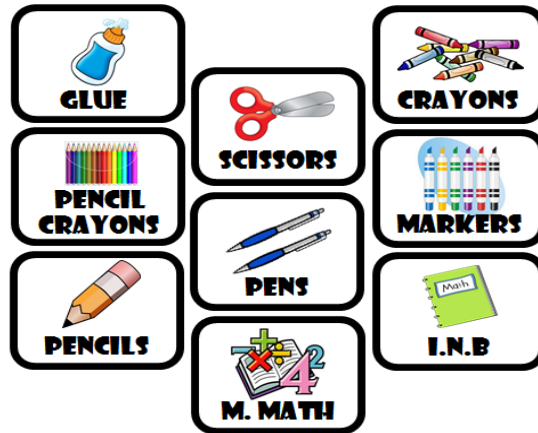
Ms Tkachuk

Virtue for September ~ Cleanliness!

Cleanliness means washing often, keeping your body clean, and wearing clean clothes. Cleanliness in your mind is concentrating your thoughts on things that are good for you. You can "clean up your act" by deciding to change when you have done something you aren't proud of or have made a mistake.

Fee for Classroom Supplies (Grades K-2)

Parents/Guardians of Kindergarten to Grade 2 students have a supplies fee of \$30.00 per child.



New Update: Pembina Hills families will now pay school fees and sign permission forms through the [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#). We are **no longer using School Cash Online**. We will soon be sending home a letter with instructions on how to access the Portal.

Thanks for your patience as we move through this process.

Welcome New Students!

Our school welcomes the following New-to-Dunstable community:

D-Prep/Kindergarten: Oliver L., Sylas, Teagan, Piper, Kenzi, Tegan, River, Willow, & Xander

Grade 3/4: Jayse, Cali, & Grayson

Grade 5/6: Mikayla & Tyse

We are so glad to have you attend Dunstable School!



Dunstable Staff for 2020-21

Principal: Ms Tammy Tkachuk

Teachers:

Kindergarten Mrs. Melissa Beattie

Grade 1/2 Mrs. Carla Felske

Grade 3/4 Mr. Derek Dachyshyn

Grade 5/6 Ms. Tammy Tkachuk



Office Staff & Librarian:

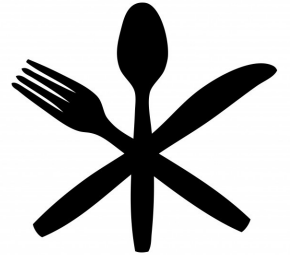
Mrs. Ehren Dubovsky

Education/Speech Assistant:

Mrs. Kim Teha

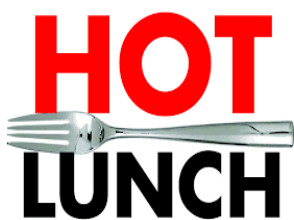
Lunch Time

A microwave is available in each classroom; however, please be considerate and send only foods that can be quickly warmed up. Please do not send items that take long periods of cooking time, such as frozen dinners, Mr. Noodles, Cup of Noodles etc. Only Fifteen minutes, are allotted for lunch and most students in the class need to use the microwave and still have time to finish their lunches. Please send cutlery with your child(ren) as we will not be providing eating utensils. We thank you for your cooperation!



Breakfast Program and Hot Dog/Hot Lunch Days

Once again we are very fortunate at Dunstable to have parent volunteers who are willing to manage these programs! We will be providing a small breakfast snack every morning!

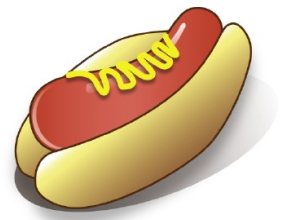


Hot Dog/Hot Lunch days are Thursdays.

Hot lunch prices will vary depending on what is served. Please refer to the calendar attached to each monthly newsletter for details.

We hope to start our Hot Dog/Lunch days in October.

Stay tuned.



Highway 651 Clean-up

Dunstable Highway Clean-up is on **Wednesday, Sept. 16**. Students (age 9 and over) and staff are picking up garbage along the highway. Gloves and safety vests are provided. The younger children are helping clean up the school grounds.



Terry Fox Run



This year our Terry Fox Run is scheduled for Thursday, September 24. Everyone is encouraged to contribute "A Toonie for Terry" on that day.



September Birthdays

- 6 - Tyse
- 20 - Willow
- 21 - Jayse & Cali



Dunstable School Council

School Council's first meeting of the year is scheduled for Sept. 24 @ 6:30 pm. A new executive will be elected for the 2020-21 year. All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend this meeting. We welcome your input and ideas!

The next School Council meeting will be decided after nominations.



Transportation



Changes

Please view the Pembina Hills Public Schools website [www.phrd.ab.ca] for the latest information regarding changes in policies.

Parents or guardians, please note:

If you are picking your child up after school and **haven't notified us**, please be sure you are here **before** the buses leave at 3:45 p.m. When buses leave, all students are expected to be aboard unless you have contacted us (in your child's agenda or by a phone call) regarding exceptions.



Our school will continue to use the WITS program this year. This is a program that helps children deal with bullying and interpersonal disagreements. WITS stands for **W**alk away, **I**gnore, **T**alk it out, and **S**eek help. If you have any questions or want more information, please contact your child's teacher.