



Dufferin Elementary School

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September 2026

Principal's Message

Welcome back to another wonderful school year at Dufferin Elementary!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable summer filled with time to relax, recharge, and make special memories with family and friends. It has been so exciting to welcome our students and families back to school and see the smiles, laughter, and enthusiasm throughout the building once again.

Our students have settled into their classrooms, are getting to know their teachers and classmates, and have already begun their learning for the year. It is always amazing to see how quickly classrooms become vibrant places where students are asking questions, trying new things, and building the relationships that will help them succeed throughout the year.

We are looking forward to another fantastic year of learning, growth, and celebration at Dufferin Elementary. Our staff are committed to providing engaging learning opportunities while continuing to create a safe, caring, and inclusive environment where every child feels valued and supported.

A strong partnership between home and school is one of the greatest contributors to student success. Thank you for the trust you place in us each day and for the many ways you support your children and our school community. We truly appreciate working alongside you.

As we begin this new school year together, I encourage all of our students to be curious, work hard, be kind to one another, and take pride in all they accomplish. I know this year will be filled with many memorable experiences, exciting opportunities, and successes worth celebrating.

Here's to a fantastic year at Dufferin Elementary! As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Scott Galloway

Principal, Dufferin Elementary



Dufferin's Daily Schedule

8:25 am - Morning Warning Bell - Students line-up to enter the building

8:30 am - Morning classes commence

10:10 am - Recess, students go outside

10:25 am - Recess ends & students return to class

12:05 pm - Lunch hour - Students eat their lunch in their classroom

12:20 pm - Students go outside or to other activities

12:55pm - Afternoon classes commence

2:34 pm - Dismissal for the day

Verification Forms and Permission Forms

The school district requires parents to update Student Verification Records on a yearly basis. Along with this document, a *permission for Personal Information Consent*, an *Outside Media in Schools* and a *walking permission* form have also been sent home. In addition, kindergarten students and students new to the school will also be sent home with *Student Use of District Technology* and *Google Apps for Education (GAFE)* forms. These forms should be signed and returned to the school no later than September 21st.

School Cash

School Cash Online is the preferred method of payment for school fees and field trips. For tips, tricks and information on how to set up and manage your School Cash account please go to the SD73 website. <https://www.sd73.bc.ca/en/community-parents-and-students/cashless-schools.aspx>

Why Use SchoolCash Online?

- **Convenient:** Make secure payments 24/7 from the comfort of your home
- **Easy To Use:** Online shopping with various payment methods
- **Safe:** Your child won't be carrying cash or cheques to and from school
- **Saves Time:** Manage your school expenses and view payment history in one place
- **One Account:** You can manage the fees for up to 8 students at 8 different SD73 school through one account.

** Please note that paying online has a processing fee (on average 2.5%) incorporated in the cost to be paid online, which was approved by the Board after the budget consultation process last spring. These represent true transaction fees charged by the District's processing platform.*

School Supplies and Fees

Parents will receive a school fees notice this week. These fees cover the cost of basic supplies, cultural performances and an agenda if required. **School Cash Online** is the preferred method of payment. Please have school fees paid by October 5th.

Safe Arrival

Please remember that all student absences and late arrivals should be reported by calling



1-844-350-2647, by visiting **go.schoolmessenger.ca**, or download the **school messenger app**. Please do not call the school directly. All absences or late arrivals that have not been

reported before 8:45 am will initiate the School District's safe arrival system to call home and cell phone numbers up to 5 times until a parent is reached and a response is given.

Picture Day

Picture day will be on October 1st. If your child is not able to attend the October 1st date, a retake day has been scheduled for October 14th. Class photos will also be taken on October 14th.

Reporting

Three formal report cards will be sent home with students.

2026-2027 Dates:

Dec. 11th, 2025

Mar. 10th, 2026

Jun. 29th, 2026



Parking Lot

Dufferin has limited parking and the school parking lot is designated for **SCHOOL STAFF ONLY**. It is not to be used for the drop off or pick up of students or parent parking. **Please park in the gravel parking lot or on Hillside Drive.** The roundabout is strictly for buses and daycares. Your cooperation is appreciated. We also kindly ask that you are mindful of no parking zones around the school. Parking in these zones creates a hazard to traffic and pedestrians.

How to Support Your Student

- Inside Shoes
- Weather appropriate clothing
- Healthy snack/lunch
- Water bottle
- Arrive on time
- Gym strip (intermediate students)
- We encourage primary students to keep a change of clothing in a Ziploc bag in their backpack in case of spills or accidents

English Language Learners

New students who arrive at Dufferin from other countries will meet with our district ELL Resource Teacher to assess their language proficiency and receive assistance transitioning to school in a new culture.

Indigenous Education Services

Students with an indigenous background are provided with additional resources and learning opportunities. Students who have self-identified as having indigenous ancestry will be sent home with forms to complete. Please contact our Indigenous Education Worker – Bambi Iio – for more information.

Supervision of Students

Supervision of students before 8:15 AM and after 2:34 PM is for bus students only. Students arriving early or staying after school hours must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Sign In and Sign Out

Please ensure your student arrives on time. Arriving late disrupts the class and the students' learning routines. If your child is late, please have them sign in at the office. They are also required to sign out if leaving early. For safety reasons, we ask that parents report to the office and we will then bring your child to you.

Personal Belongings

Please write your child's name on all articles of clothing and personal belongings. Precious and important items should be kept at home.

Our lost and found bin is located at the entrance of the school. Please encourage your child to check the lost and found for any missing clothing items, shoes or water bottles. Unclaimed items will be donated to charity before winter break, spring break and at the end of the school year.

Fruit and Veggie Program

Our school will be participating in the "BC Agriculture in the Classroom" program this year.

Our school participates in this program approximately twice per month. On these days, your child will be provided with a fruit or vegetable to try, along with a milk, yogurt, or cheese stick. There is no pressure involved, and it is simply an opportunity to expose our kids to different veggies and fruits. It is also an opportunity for teachers to share valuable nutrition information about each of the veggies/fruits provided.

You can read more about the program here: <https://www.bcaitc.ca/>

At the end of this newsletter is a reverse consent permission form. If you are happy for your child to participate, no action is needed. **If you do not want your child to participate OR your child has allergies, please fill out the attached form and send it back to us at the school.** Please keep in mind we never serve foods with any kind of nut.

Volleyball

We will be having a volleyball sign up meeting very soon to determine the number of Gr. 4-7 students in volleyball this year. We are anticipating having two boys and two girls teams, but the meeting will determine this. Currently, we have one girls coach and a teacher sponsor, as well as a teacher sponsor for a boys team. If any parents are interested in coaching this year, please reach out to Mr. Galloway.

SCHOOL STAFF

Administration

Mr. Galloway – Principal

Teaching Staff

Ms. Carter – K

Mrs. Thomas – 1

Mrs. Cross – 1/2

Mrs. Preymak – 2/3

Mrs. Lofgren – 3

Ms. Dalsin – 4

Mrs. Geoghegan 5/6

Dr. McCloy 6/7

Mrs. McGarry 6/7

Mrs. Bell – LART

Mrs. Gorman – Teacher Librarian

Mrs. Keith – P.E. Prep

Ms. Chand - Prep

Support Staff

Mrs. Gilbert – Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Smith - CEA

Mrs. Rosa – CEA

Mrs. Rowand – CEA

Ms. Iio – IEW

Ms. Kinakin – Day Custodian

Mr. Walton – Evening Custodian



- Mon, Sep 21st – District Non-Instructional Day
- Wed, Sep 30th – National Day for Truth and Rec
- Mon, Oct 12th – Thanksgiving Day
- Fri, Oct 23rd – District Non-Instructional Day
- Wed, Nov 11th – Remembrance Day
- Mon, Nov 30th – District Non-Instructional Day
- Dec 19th – Jan 3rd – Winter Vacation Period
- Mon, Jan 4th – School Reopens
- Fri, Feb 5th – District Non-Instructional Day
- Mon, Feb 15th – Family Day
- Mar 13th – 30th – Spring Vacation Period
- Fri, Mar 26th – Good Friday Closure
- Mon, Mar 29th – Easter Monday Closure
- Mon, Apr 26^h – District Non-Instructional Day
- Fri, May 21st – District Non-Instructional Day
- Mon, May 24th – Victoria Day
- Wed, Jun 30th – Administrative Day



Date: _____

We are pleased to announce that our school is participating in the
FRESH for KIDS Program
(Administered by the BC Agriculture In the Classroom Foundation)

Our school is involved in a province-wide healthy living initiative. One of the goals is to encourage healthy eating by providing fresh BC fruits, vegetables, dairy and nutritious products for our students *during class time*. Our students will receive these healthy treats over the school year!

To ensure every student's health and safety please return this reverse consent form

ONLY

If you do **NOT** wish your child to participate

AND/OR

If you need to alert us to certain **FOOD ALLERGIES**.

Student's Name:	
Teacher's Name:	
Grade:	

☐

NO I do not wish my child to participate in the FRESH for KIDS Program (as applicable)

☐

MEDICAL ALERT My child has food allergies you need to be aware of and therefore he/she may not be able to participate in every offering. To assist you, below is information on my child's "allergy profile".

Please list allergy(s) and define allergy profile(s):

For Example:

- ☐ It is airborne
- ☐ It is by ingestion only
- ☐ It can be contracted through touch – the skin.

If you need further guidance in this area, please contact me at: _____

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____
(Please print)

Signature: _____

FRESH for KIDS