

DICKINSFIELD FLYER

November 2015 "Together We Fly Higher" "Ensemble Nous Volons Toujours Plus Haut"

Principal's Message

If you have any little ones who are eligible for next year's ECDP or Kindergarten, make sure you register soon! Both French immersion and English programs are very popular, and we have been inundated with registrations already!

Our programs are designed to improve your child's development in a number of key areas:

1. Social skills, like how to play cooperatively with other children in a peaceful and sharing way, and the ability to make new friends
2. Respect for others
3. Self-awareness and emotional skills, like understanding their feelings
4. Language, literacy and numeracy skills
5. Developing creativity, curiosity, and a joy for learning
6. Group activities, such as talking, drawing and making things together with other children their own age
7. Exposure to new ideas and concepts.

ECDP and Kindergarten also provide families with access to support and assistance for children with special needs, such as speech, language, gross motor skill development, etc., along with resources and links to community support services. Be sure to tell your friends that now is the time to register for 2016-17!

Paul Smith, Principal



I would like to thank all the staff and parents of École Dickinsfield for all your support over the 14 years that I have worked at the school. École Dickinsfield is an amazing school and it is the students, staff and parents that make it what it is. As I move to a new phase in my life, I wish each and every one of you all the best in your future.

Isabelle Doblanko, Librarian

HABIT 2: BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND



Begin with the End in Mind means to think about how you would like something to turn out before you get started. Reading a recipe before cooking or looking at a map before leaving on a trip is beginning with the end in mind. For young children, a good example is that of a jigsaw puzzle. Before doing a puzzle, they look at the cover of the box. They start with the end in mind. Imagine you didn't have the picture on the box as your guide. Then it would take longer to finish the puzzle and you would be less effective use of your time. Goal setting with the end in mind is an important skill to be effective and successful in life.

Habit 2 means to have a plan. I plan ahead and set goals. I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission and vision. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

Check out the "Parent's Place" at www.TheLeaderInMe.org for fun ways to bring the habits home.

Suggested titles for young children that reinforce Habit 2:

- *The Very Busy Spider* By Eric Carle
- *Click, Clack, Moo-* By Doreen Cronin

Suggested titles for older children that reinforce Habit 2:

- *Nothing's Fair in Fifth Grade* by Barthe DeClements
- *Shiloh* by Phyllis Reynolds Naylor

Point out examples to your child of goals that they have mastered. Such as: learning to ride a bike, learning to read and write, tying shoes, or another skill.

Parent Association News

Everyone is welcome to attend PAC monthly meetings. The next PAC meeting is December 1st at 9:15am in the conference room.

Cookbook

Due to low recipe submissions, the deadline to submit your delicious recipes has been extended to **December 1st, 2015**. All submissions will be entered into a draw for a free cookbook. If you need the instructions again please send an email to dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com.



Online Auction

The Dickinsfield Parent Association is looking for your help with an Online Auction this year. This particular fundraiser is to raise money for a school mascot and to contribute to many resources for the classrooms. Your child benefits from the contributions funded by the Parent Association. We are asking all parents to help us gather NEW items to donate for the auction. Please bring items to the school office between November 2 and 11. The auction will take place from November 16 to 21.

If you want to help with this fundraiser or have any questions about it please contact Kristy at kristy@sturgefamilynet.

Christmas Bazaar

Our Annual Christmas Bazaar is coming up in December. A great time to collect all those things you would like to give away to the Bazaar to enable all the children to shop for a Christmas present for family members.

For questions or inquiries about any of the above or any other inquiries you can also send an email to dickinsfieldparents@gmail.com.

We look forward to seeing you at one of our PAC meetings or volunteering for any of our great fundraising activities.

Student-led Conference

This year the format for meeting with parents after report cards will be somewhat different than what has been experienced in the past. We will be having student-led conferences, where the students will be present to explain their learning and their goals for the term. Student-led conferences will look different at different grade levels. Some grades will have centers, where the students demonstrate their learning in activities set up around the class. Others will have student-parent-teacher conversations where the student will explain their learning and goals, using their Leadership Notebook.

There are many benefits to this type of conferencing. Here are a few:

- students assume greater control of their academic progress.
- students accept personal responsibility for their academic performance.
- parents, teachers, and students engage in open and honest dialogue.
- students learn the process of self-evaluation.
- students develop organizational and oral communication skills.

To help you Begin With the End in Mind please mark Monday, November 23rd and Wednesday, November 25th on your calendar, as these are the dates for student-led conferences.

Book Fair at The Library

Book fair will run from November 16 to 26.

Each class can come to the library during their regular library time and the library is open to parents Nov 23 – Nov 26 at 11 am. The book fair is open during Parent Teacher Interviews from 4:30-7:30 pm.

Parent Information sessions: “Parents in the Know”

Presentations will be held monthly on: Resiliency, Child Sexual Abuse, Mindfulness, Healthy Relationships and Internet Safety.

Next presentation: November 24th 2015, 7-8 pm; Father Patrick Mercredi School (455 Silin Forest Rd): **Child Sexual Abuse Safety presentation**



We have a Dickinsfield Green Team! Two parents and their families, and staff have joined together to do an audit of our school's environmental efforts, and conduct some campaigns. Join in! If you'd like to help out or get more information, contact kathleen.cochrane@fm-psd.ab.ca

DFGreen Team
@DFgreenschool

École Dickinsfield School has an Idle-Free campaign until mid-November.

Parents who turn off the key when dropping off and picking up kids will be eligible for a draw for Tim Horton's Gift Cards.

Many communities in Canada are idle-free in an effort to help reduce greenhouse emissions and protect lungs.

Edmonton does not allow idling in front of schools or hospitals.

[Check it out.](#)

Idling for 10 seconds takes the same amount of gas as to restart your vehicle, and vehicles only need 3 minutes max to warm up the engine, even in winter.

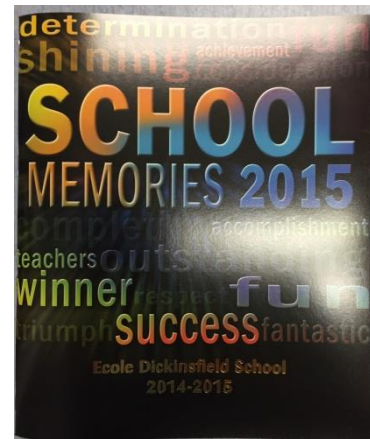
Mrs. Wells has been working with our wonderful bus drivers to idle less as well.

So help us out - Turn Off The Key!
DFGreen Team
@DFgreenschool



2014-2015 School Yearbooks FOR SALE

Drop by the office to get your copy of the 2014-2015 School Yearbook. The cost is \$20.00 each and every additional copy is \$15.00 within the same family.



Important Upcoming Dates

November 19 – Report Cards Go Home
November 20- No School
November 23 – Parent Teacher Conference 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm (Student Led)
November 24 – Grade 5 Immunizations
November 25 – Parent Teacher Conference 4:30 pm – 7:30 pm (Student Led)
November 25 – Cut off for lunch program orders
November 26 – Grade 4 Ski Day
November 27- No School

December

December 3 – Grade 4 Ski Day
December 4 – No School
December 8 – Christmas Concert – ECDP & K – Starts at 7 pm
December 9 – Christmas Concert – Grades 1-3 – Starts at 7 pm
December 10 – Christmas Concert – Grades 4-6 – Starts at 7 pm
December 14 & 15 – Christmas Bazaar
December 18 – No School
December 21-January 1 – No School – Christmas Holiday Break (School resumes on Jan.4/16)