

DICKINSFIELD FLYER

April, 2016 "Together We Fly Higher" "Ensemble Nous Volons Toujours Plus Haut"

Principal's Message

Spring has sprung! Coming up this month is our Multi-Cultural Fashion Show, where we celebrate the heritage of our students who hail from all corners of Canada and around the world. Students who wish to participate in the "fashion show" dress up in the national dress of their ancestral homeland. It's a great way to celebrate the diversity of Ecole Dickinsfield!



Multicultural Fashion Show Tuesday April 19

Our third multicultural fashion show will be at 10:45 a.m., Tuesday, April 19. All students and adults interested in wearing traditional clothing from their own or another culture are welcome to join in! We are also welcoming traditional dancing. Please contact Ms. Cochrane if your child is interested in participating. kathleen.cochrane@fmprd.ab.ca Hope to see you there!

The Ecole Dickinsfield Science Fair was held on March 21 and kids who joined the Science Fair club worked very hard, and put together some great projects.



We are thankful to our dedicated staff and volunteers who put in extra hours because they want to give your children special opportunities, whether through sports teams that meet after school, before school groups such as hand bell and choir, and other clubs such as Chess Club, Robotics Club, and Science Fair. Winners at our recent school science fair have the opportunity to participate in the Wood Buffalo Regional Science Fair which will be held at Shell Place on April 15 & 16, with judging taking place on Friday, April 15 and the awards celebration on April 16. Best of luck to our junior scientists!

All the best to our Chess Club students: The chess tournament for Fort McMurray schools will be held at Ecole Dickinsfield on April 30.

Another club that is currently meeting after school is the robotics club. Every Monday and Thursday, from 3:45-4:45, students have the opportunity to prepare for the annual Robotics Tournament. Here's a photo from last year's main event. This year the Regional Robotics Tournament is scheduled for May 28, and students are currently learning to program and prepare robots for the various challenges! In addition to our dedicated teachers and other volunteer adults, high school students from Westwood High School computer Science program will be mentoring the club members in coding.



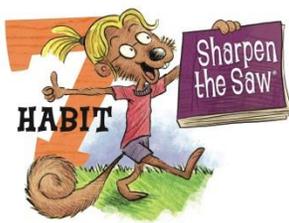
Early Childhood Update: We already have almost 200 students registered in next year's ECDP and Kindergarten. If you have not submitted your registration form for the Early Childhood programs, don't delay, as registration must be done on an annual basis, and first choice for morning or afternoon goes to those who register first each year. Ecole Dickinsfield School has hosted open houses for both ECDP and Kindergarten now, but for ECDP parents who missed the Open House in March we will have another ECDP Open House on June 27, 9:00-11:45.

Grade 6's who will be transitioning to Ecole McTavish are reminded of the following:

- Gr. 6 students visit McTavish: Wednesday, April 13, 1:15 - 2:30 PM
- Parent information night (parents of McTavish next year's Gr. 7's): April 21, 7 - 8 PM.

Paul Smith, Principal

Leader In Me – Ideas for Parents



Habit 7 — Sharpen The Saw

Balance Feels Best: Sharpening the Saw is about having balance in all areas of your life. Talk with your child about areas of his or her life that might be out of balance and find ways to put more focus on that area. For instance: we take care of our bodies by eating right, exercising and getting sleep. We spend time with family and friends. We learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. We find meaningful ways to help others.

This month, our students are learning about Habit 7, which encourages us to "Sharpen the Saw". Here are some ideas from www.TheLeaderInMe.org. For younger children, you could develop a "Sharpen the Saw" activity center in your home that includes arts and crafts supplies, puzzles, classical music and books.

For teens, you can encourage them to journal, take a break from technology, or start a new hobby.

Physical activity is also an important part of finding balance. Find something fun and active you and your children can do together such as riding bikes, going on a hike or participating in a sport.

Clothing Needed!

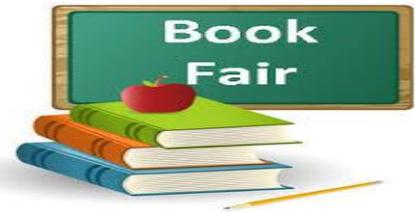
As the weather has become mucky recently, we have had a number of kids who have stepped in puddles or got muddy and come to the office for a change of clothes. We don't have enough on hand. If you have some that your kids have outgrown, we would appreciate if you could donate clean and appropriate clothing to our school office.

Clean clothes for wet & muddy kids!



Book Fair Thanks:

A big thank you to Mrs. Duff and to all parent volunteers for the Book Fair! We sold \$9,027.19 worth of books and other merchandise at the book fair, and this will earn the library \$6,000 worth of free Scholastic books!



DF Green Team!

Are you a parent interested in helping our school become greener? Come to our DF Green Team meeting, Monday April 11 at 4 p.m. Child care might be possible. Contact Kitty Cochrane for more info. kathleen.cochrane@fmprsd.ab.ca
Follow our school's green activities on @DFgreenschool

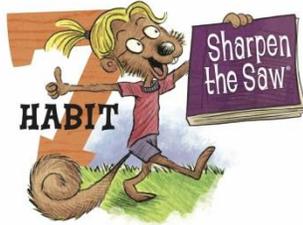
STAFF APPRECIATION BREAKFAST

The Parent Association is trying something new for the Staff Appreciation this year and needs your help. On April 15 (Friday) we will be providing a breakfast and coffee snack during their in service day. We are looking for door prizes still to be donated for draws as we usually do. We are also looking for help with healthy breakfast type snacks which you can follow the sign up genius link below to contribute to baked goods and snack items for drop off by 8:30 am on the Friday. If you need any further information or want to help feel free to contact Verona atverona@telus.net.

This is the signup genius link:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/4090D4FAAAA2FA57-staff>

Thank you very much for your help and contribution to collectively show appreciation to the staff at Dickinsfield School.



HABIT 7: SHARPEN THE SAW

Sharpen the Saw means to have balance in your life. There is a story of a man who was sawing down a tree and not making a lot of progress. When a passerby asked him why he didn't stop sawing to sharpen his saw, he remarked that he was too busy sawing. Habit 7 reminds us that we are more productive when we are in balance – body, brain, heart and soul. Just like the four tires on a car, if one area is being ignored or overused, the rest will feel the results. For young children, the car analogy is one they understand; a car could not go on fewer than all four tires. Explain the four parts of each person (body, brain, heart, and soul) and how important it is to take care of each part to make them all work better.

Balance Feels Best

I take care of my body by eating right, exercising, and getting sleep. I spend time with family and friends. I learn in lots of ways and lots of places, not just at school. I find meaningful ways to help others.

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 7:

- Arthur's TV *Trouble* by Marc Brown
- Horton Hatches the Egg by Dr. Seuss

Suggested titles for older children that reinforce Habit 7:

- The Tortoise and the Hare by Janet Stevens
- Henry & Mudge in puddle trouble by Cynthia Rylant

Ways to Apply at Home:

Body- eat good foods, play sports, and get plenty of rest.

Brain- Read, work on puzzles, watch a documentary or research topics that you enjoy.

Heart- Keep promises, listen, laugh, and be honest.

Soul- Volunteer, write in a journal, draw, sing, or play an instrument.



As many parents are aware, Dickinsfield started using an online company last year called "School Start" to sell school supplies. We like School Start because you can:

- Order your supply list online.
- Order any number of additional required items (if you already own the Webster's dictionary that is required you will not have to purchase it through our program).
- Receive your school supplies in an environmentally friendly, reusable shopping bag complete with your student's name and grade level.
- There are no minimum amount of school supply packages required to start the program at our school (if certain parents wish to purchase their supplies elsewhere they are free to do so).

What are the benefits to Dickinsfield School community for using this company?

- **Teachers** receive standardized supplies that they want in the classroom (when you order Crayola you get Crayola).
- **Students** receive quality brand name products that will last the entire school year.
- **Parents** save money and valuable time over their summer holidays.
- **School** receives a percentage of all orders to support school events and activities

How do we receive the school supply items once they are ordered?

- Packages will be delivered to your address on your specified delivery date.
- Parents will be able to view confirmation orders online along with delivery details.

When can I start ordering school supplies for next year?

- We are in the process of finalizing our supply lists and will be posting them on our website and sharing them with parents with the year-end report card.