

DICKINSFIELD FLYER

June 2017 "Together We Fly Higher"

"Ensemble Nous Volons Toujours Plus Haut"

Website: <http://dickinsfield.fmpsdschools.ca/>
Twitter: @Dickinsfield

Facebook: École Dickinsfield School
App: École Dickinsfield School

Top Classes who Fundraised for Claire got to Dye the Admin Teams Hair! Before



After: Pink, Blue, and Red!



Principal's Message

FUNDRAISING FOR CLAIRE:

Claire is a little girl in Ms. Eckford's class who has Severe Aplastic Anemia. This means that she can no longer produce platelets, red blood cells or white blood cells, which means that she needs to have daily blood draws and constant transfusions. Due to Claire's condition and multiple hospital stays her family has been faced with many days off work and trips to Edmonton, all of which impose financial stress. So far our school raised more than \$10,000 through the generosity of the École Dickinsfield community supporting our special days, dances, book sales, etc. Other opportunities to give are available at <https://www.gofundme.com/3m9vzu0>.

ROBOTICS and CODING

Congratulations to École Dickinsfield's Tech teams!



On May 27, a great group of robotics enthusiasts assembled for the Fort McMurray Annual Robotics Tournament. Our students performed extremely well. Dickinsfield had a number of teams of four, one of whom, the "Imperial Potatoes," was awarded 2nd place overall. Another team from École Dickinsfield, the "Cyber Seals," won 2nd place in Mechanical Design. The Most Valuable Player was Derek Tiessen. In the Coding competition, Jake, Aslan, Daniel, and Max represented well for École Dickinsfield. Well done all, and many thanks to coaches Mrs. Keca and Mme. Naoual!

CONGRATULATIONS TO KRISTEN CRAIG- EDWIN PARR AWARD WINNER

Every year since 1990, the Alberta School Boards Association has honored six outstanding first-year teachers with the Edwin Parr Teacher Award. School boards may nominate any first-year K to 12 teacher, but with so many Alberta teachers to choose from, making it past the semi-finals to the podium is quite the honor!

From 1990 until 2016, the year of the award's inception, only one teacher from Fort McMurray Public School district had been recognized as tops in Alberta. Things changed this year, however, as Kristen Craig, our first year teacher in Gr.4, was honored. Kristen is a terrific Gr. 4 French Immersion classroom teacher. Any time you walk into Kristen's room, you can see kids who are totally engaged in their learning. Kristen's classroom is a place where kids thrive! Congratulations on winning this prestigious award, Kristen!



Edwin Parr Awards
Banquet

Edmonton

BALL HOCKEY TOURNAMENT

Finally, congratulations to our Dickinsfield Flyers ball hockey team. Even though a few of our key players were away due to other competing competitions, the Flyers took the silver medal in the city-wide tournament. Congratulations, team!



Dickinsfield Flyers Ball Hockey Team

What a great school we have! As this is the final newsletter of the school year, I would like to wish one and all a wonderful summer!

Paul Smith, Principal

June School Council Meeting

June 7, 6:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room

Agenda includes: ASCA conference report
Computer filters
Class sizes

Did you know... the June School Council meeting will be our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** where we will vote in our Executive members for next year. Everyone is welcome!

BALL HOCKEY

Ball Hockey continues in the gym for grades 4, 5 & 6 every Monday from 3:40pm – 4:30pm until June 26th. All are welcome.

Important Information for Parents June

- June 1: Movie Night for Claire
- June 2: PLF No School (Staff Appreciation Lunch supplied by PAC)
- June 7: School Council Meeting @ 6:30pm
- June 7: Green Scene Field Trip
- June 9: Volunteer Appreciation 12-1 in Library
- June 15: Leaders Meeting
- June 16: FLA PAT Part B Gr. 6
- June 19: PAT ELA Gr. 6
- June 20: PAT Math Gr. 6
- June 22: PAT Social Studies Gr. 6
- June 23: PAT Science Gr. 6
- June 26: Water Park Day (10-2) at Pew Park
- June 27: Sports Day, June 28: if raining on June 27
- June 28: Gr. 6 Farewell
- June 29: Last Day for Students; Awards Assembly
- June 30: Last Day for Staff



Fort McMurray Public School District 2017-2018

August '17						
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September '17						
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October '17						
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Aug. 16	Schools Open for Registration
Aug. 21	First Day for School Admin
Aug. 28	First Day for ATA
Aug. 31	First Day for CUPE
Sep. 04	Labour Day (No School)
Sep. 05	First Day for Students
Sep. 11	First Day for ECDP
Sep. 15	PLF #1 (Staff Only)
Oct. 09	Thanksgiving (No School)
Oct. 16	School Board Elections
Oct. 20	PLF #2 (Staff Only)
Oct. 27	Institute Day (Staff Only)
Nov. 03	PLF #3 (Staff Only)
Nov. 10	Time in lieu for Remembrance Day (No School)
Nov. 13	PTI - Time in Lieu (No School)
Dec. 01	PLF #4 (Staff Only)
Dec. 22	District Day (Staff Only)
Dec. 25 - Jan. 5	Christmas Break (No School)
Jan. 08	Classes Resume
Jan. 19	District Day (Staff Only)
Jan. 31	Semester II Begins
Feb. 02	Joint District PD (Staff Only)
Feb. 15	Winter Games set up after 4:00 pm
Feb. 16	PLF #5 (Staff Only) Winter Games
Feb 17-19	Winter Games & Family Day (No School)
Feb. 26 - Mar. 2	Convention Break (No School)
Mar. 16	PLF #6 (Staff Only)
Mar. 30	Good Friday (No School)
Apr 2-6	Spring Break (No School)
Apr. 20	PLF #7 (Staff Only)
Apr. 27	District Day (Staff Only)
May. 04	PLF #8 (Staff Only)
May. 18	PTI - Time in Lieu (No School)
May. 21	Victoria Day (No School)
Jun. 08	PLF #9 (Staff Only)
Jun. 28	Last Day for Students
Jun. 29	Last Day for Staff

November '17						
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January '18						
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February '18						
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April '18						
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May '18						
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June '18						
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July '18						
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LATE OR ABSENT PROCEDURE

École Dickinsfield School can be proud of the fact that almost every child is on time each day! Most parents recognize the importance of developing the habit of punctuality when children are young as preparation for the world of work. Punctuality is important for students as well. If they come late in the morning, students miss key instruction and can fall behind academically. The rest of the class is also impacted when a classmate arrives during the lesson and the teacher has to stop what she has been doing and give instructions to the tardy student.

If your child is going to be late for school, will not be able to attend or if you know of a vacation coming up, it is very important that you contact the School Office.

There are a couple of options:

Call: [780-791-6990](tel:780-791-6990) and press 1 to leave a message for the Attendance Secretary
Email: dfabsences@fmprsd.ab.ca

The information required when calling or emailing is as follows:

- **Child's first and last name**
- **Child's grade and/or teacher's name**
- **Reason for the late or absence**

When leaving a voice message it is very important that you please speak slowly and clearly.



Your child's safety is of great importance to the school so letting us know when there will be a late or absence is appreciated.

Diversity

- Staff have had three sessions this year learning more about LGBTQ+ concepts and how to create a safe and caring school for all children and adults. [Alberta Teachers Association](#)

- Staff also did the [Blanket Exercise](#) for Aboriginal Awareness week. It's a teaching tool to share the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Very moving.

- We had a fabulous multi-cultural fashion show - our fourth! Thank you to everyone who participated.

- Through a grant from the Alberta Teachers' Association Diversity, Equity And Human Rights Committee, we were able to purchase diversity books for the library and create a video. Check it out! [Celebrate Diversity](#)

- Check out our wonderful I AM... board celebrating all the ways we are special and unique. By learning about and celebrating our differences, we are creating a supportive school environment. For more information, check out Alberta Learning Safe & Caring Schools

Green Activities @DFGreenSchool



We've been active with our environmental activities this year and are pleased to be such an inspiration to other schools.

Waste Free Lunches: thanks for packing your child's healthy snacks and lunches in reusable containers. By doing this we have kept hundreds of bags of garbage from landfill this year. Learn more about the [impact of plastic waste here](#).

Reusable water bottles: Did you know that juice has a lot of sugar? [Check out this article](#) recommending less juice for kids. Water and reusable water bottles are always great for health and for the environment. The Parent Association and other grant have allowed us to purchase one bottle filling station which will go in place of the water fountain near the office. Exciting!

Destination Conservation: Congratulations and thanks to the team of students who learned about water conservation this year. They are great green leaders in our school.

Earth Day in Edmonton with Alberta Green Schools: Congratulations to the Chitre and Savanna who attended a special conference in Edmonton with 20 Albertan schools, highlight the fabulous green things our school is doing. Education Minister Eggen and many others were very impressed.

Anti-idling: Don't forget to turn off your car throughout the summer, instead of idling! Thank you so much to Dairy Queen for prizes for our anti-idling campaign. We've inspired other schools to "turn off the key" as well.

Composting: Our 20,000 school worms have produced 5 big buckets of compost for the garden this year. They processed over 200 gallons of apple cores and banana peels.

Recycling: Our recycling leaders and Mme Monique & Mme Mireille have been amazing recyclers this year, keeping hundreds of kilograms of materials from landfill.

Farmer Mandy came to do presentations with many classes, and gave us potatoes to plant. She has been a fabulous supporter of our school's garden efforts. <http://www.meadowcreekfarms.ca>

Environmental Fieldtrip

Three of our students are joining 21 others from 11 FMPSD schools on an environmental fieldtrip to the RMWB recycling depot, landfill and water treatment plant, and to Westwood High School to see their green activities. These students were the winners of the Environment Awards for their school science fairs. Exciting!

School Garden: Many classes and the Gardening Leaders helped plant our school garden in the front of the school. We will harvest it in the fall when we return to school. If your family is able to help water and care for it over the summer, please contact kathleen.cochrane@fmgsd.ab.ca

TOURETTE CANADA INFORMATION SESSION
A night to support parents/families of students with
Tourette Syndrome

When: June 8, 2017
Where: Fort McMurray Public School District
Conference Room A
Time: 6 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Pizza will be served from 6 - 6:30 p.m.
Speaker: Adrienne Hill - Tourette Canada via videoconference
Question & Answer session will follow
RSVP: Sandra.esler@fmpsd.ab.ca

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