

DICKINSFIELD FLYER

February 2018 "Together We Fly Higher" "Ensemble Nous Volons Toujours Plus Haut"

Website: <http://dickinsfield.fmpsdschools.ca/> Facebook: École Dickinsfield School
Twitter: @Dickinsfield App: École Dickinsfield School

Principal's Message

Question Parents Ask

"What's Happening at École Dickinsfield?"

There's always something going on at our school! During the month of January we sponsored Danceplay, a nine-day residency program where all classes had a chance to discover dance through the skilled dance instructor who flew up from Vancouver to lead the program. We are looking forward to hosting another residency in the Spring, with Les Bûcherons, a well-established performing arts group that provides educational French-Canadian programming for students through interactive workshops, performances and maple sugar shacks.



We also have all kinds of STEM after school activities going on, including an Innovation and Invention on Mondays in the computer lab; Bricks4Kids, Tuesday, in the ECDP room; and on Thursdays we have a Science Fair Club, where kids are preparing for our school Science Fair on March 26, followed by the Regional Science Fair, April 20. Stay tuned!

Question Parents Ask (Continued)

“I received a survey in the mail from Alberta Education. What’s that all about?”

From January to the end of February, Alberta Education conducts the annual Accountability Pillar Survey. The survey is an opportunity for selected parents of Alberta school children to have a voice regarding the quality of education that their children receive.

- The Accountability Pillar uses a set of 16 indicators consisting of student outcomes such as high school completion, etc., provincial assessments of student learning, and surveys.
- They survey students, parents and teachers on various aspects of quality
- Only parents of Gr. 4 students receive this survey from Alberta Education. This corresponds to the sample group of students chosen to fill out the survey (Gr. 4 students only.)
- Teachers will be also completing the same survey.

When you receive the survey, I would encourage you to exercise your democratic right to report how you feel about the quality of education that your child is receiving during their time at École Dickinsfield School. There are a few things that it would be good to keep in mind.

The first is that if you don’t know the answer to a survey question, it is better to skip it. For instance one year, we had a bit of an issue in this regard. The survey question inquired if parents felt their child was being taught attitudes and behaviours to be successful at work when he or she left school. Half of the parents said they didn’t know while the other half said they were very satisfied. However, this response is interpreted by Alberta Education to mean that only 50% of parents are satisfied that these attitudes are taught. As a Leader in Me School, I can assure you that all those habits and attitudes and behaviours are definitely taught!

Another thing to bear in mind is that the results are often viewed as a comparison to other schools. For example if you are asked about a question such as how satisfied are you with the variety of subjects available, and you have a favorite subject (e.g. Economics, Political Science, etc.) that you wish was available, please recognize that schools have a prescribed program of studies, and think about the questions in broad terms rather than specifics, and rate your satisfaction accordingly. This will result in a more balanced evaluation. The final thing to remember is that the more survey respondents the better! Thanks for filling out the survey!

Paul Smith, Principal

Leader In Me – 7. Sharpen the Saw

The seventh habit “Sharpen the Saw,” is illustrated by using the analogy of a woodcutter. A woodcutter had been sawing out in the woods for several days straight. As the days went by he noticed that his productivity was dropping. It was getting harder and harder to saw with each successive day.

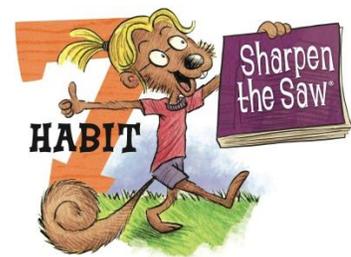
After all, the process of cutting dulls the blade. And, the duller the blade, the greater the effort that is required to keep sawing. The solution, of course, was for the woodcutter to stop periodically to sharpen the saw. In much the same way, we teach students that to prevent burnout and to maintain peak performance we need to figuratively sharpen the saw. Sharpening the saw is about renewing the four dimensions of your nature:

The Physical Dimension; by watching that we get enough sleep, proper nutrition, and exercise, and taking breaks from too much “busy-ness”

The Mental Dimension; by paying attention to learning, and developing our thinking skills

The Social/Emotional Dimension; by fostering good relationships, and developing empathy for others.

The Spiritual Dimension; by commitment to the core values that create character.





A Valentine of Love! Project Cambodia

One of our school families (Kara-Lyn and Byron Fediuk) will be travelling to Cambodia this month. If anyone in our school community has gently used items they would like to donate to the Cambodian school we have supported in the past, we invite you to do so. Please drop them off in the school office PRIOR To Feb. 14. This could be your family's Valentine's Day gift of love to kids in another corner of the world!

Items such as story books for young children, alphabet games, colour and shape toys, Lego, Duplo, children's DVDs, and older model smart phones that still work, will be treasured in Cambodia.



Celebrating Diversity

Our school was just featured in a city teacher e-newsletter for our success with Diversity. With the help of a [DEHR ATA Grant](#), École Dickinsfield School spent last year learning about diversity and how to celebrate differences. Our school events include an annual multi-cultural fashion show, Pink Shirt Day, henna day and hijab awareness day. Staff participated in three P.D. sessions on LGBTQ and Transgender awareness. Our library now has books for students celebrating all the ways people are unique: holidays, culture, language, gender, types of family, ability/disabilities, and beliefs. Education & celebration of diversity helps create safe space for students, families and staff. Way to go Dickinsfield! [Take a look at our amazing video!](#) <https://youtu.be/dypRneaog14>

Waste Free Lunches -Why bother?

It's all in the math. One baggie that gets thrown out a day, times 700 students, times 175 school days, equals 122,500 baggies in a year, just from our school. Now imagine our planet's 7 billion people. If each person throws out just 1 baggie in a day, that's 7 billion a day. Now imagine the rest of the plastic waste thrown out daily, and you can see that we have a serious global problem.

Our school is part of the solution! We encourage Waste Free Lunches, for everyone, every day. Instead of baggies, use reusable containers. It's easy to get in the habit!



Find out more:

[Chris Jordan](#). Click on the photo to see 60,000 plastic bags, the number used in the US every five seconds.

[Canadians Produce More Garbage than Anyone Else](#) CBC
[Global Garbage Crisis](#), Global News

[École Dickinsfield Students](#) explain Waste Free Lunches:
<https://youtu.be/b74b6yT004E>



A music note from Mme. Chantelle

Since coming back from winter holidays, École Dickinsfield students have been working hard to learn the notes on the Treble Clef staff. It will soon be time for grade 4-6 students to start their recorder unit. You will have the choice of ordering a recorder through the school at a discounted rate (approximately \$10 for a recorder and work book) providing your own (should your child have one from a previous year or from a sibling) or choosing to borrowing one from the school (limited number available). Please keep an eye out for an order form in the next week with more information. All forms will need to be returned as soon as possible so that we can put our order in promptly. Thank you!

At the end of January, a meeting was held for grade 4-6 students who were interested in joining a Hand bell choir. I was delighted at the turn out! Our club filled up quickly and we are now rehearsing in preparation for the Rotary Music Festival. Thank you to all who expressed an interest in learning this instrument! Rehearsals will continue Tuesday mornings from 8:15-8:55 until the first week of May (unless otherwise notified).





Monday, March 26, 2018
10:00 am - 12:00 pm

**Student created projects
worked on at home**

**Science Fair Club: Thursdays 3:45-4:30
February & March**

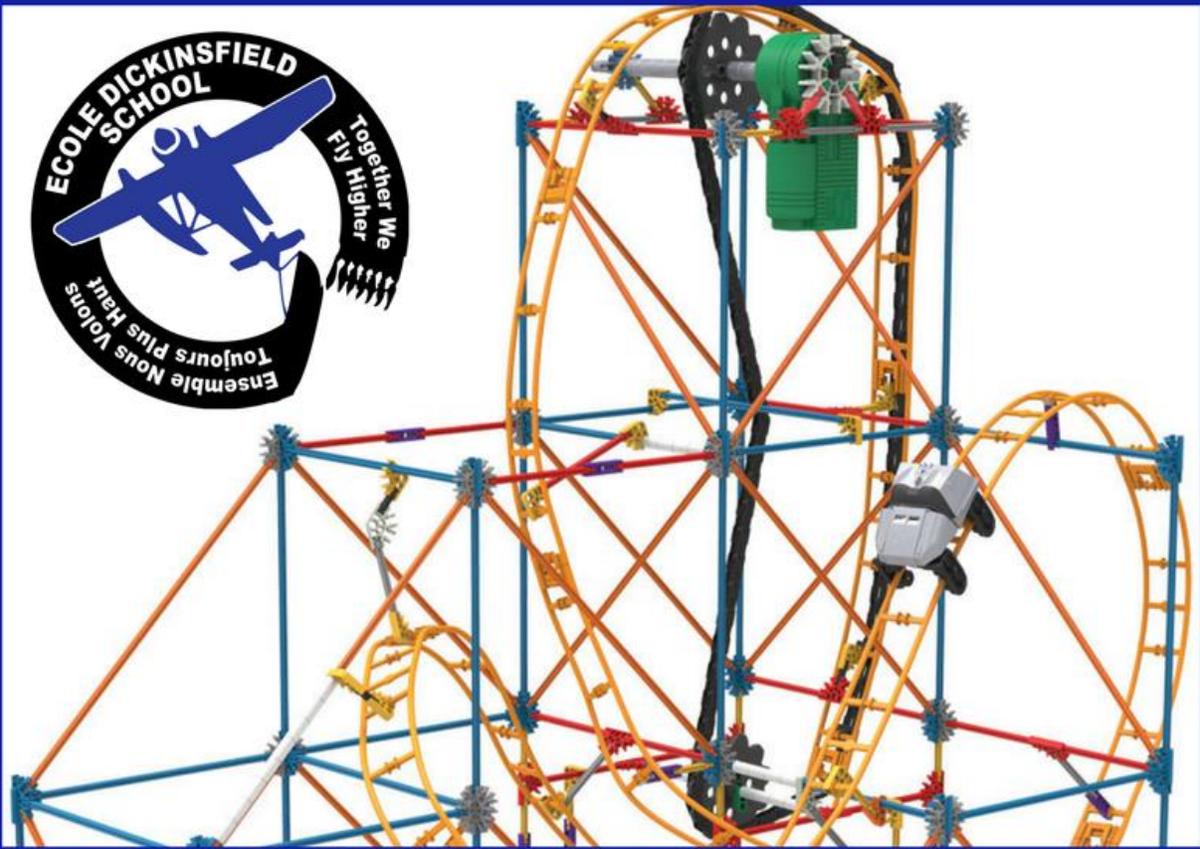
**Open to all students in grades 1-6
7 projects from grades 4-6 will be chosen to go to the
Regional Science Fair happening April 20, 2018**

Bottle Drive



A huge thank you to the parents that dropped bottles off on a very chilly morning, as well as to the East Village Pub who donated a truck full! We raised \$260.00! Thanks go out to Nia Van Heerde, Colin Rose and Mme. Monique for sorting.
To date we have over \$1600.00 raised for the Pediatric unit. Can't wait to see what the year-end total will be.

Mrs. Webb



INNOVATION & INVENTOR CLUB
EVERY MONDAY IN FEB, MAR & APRIL
3:45 - 4:45 FOR GRADES 4-6

EMAIL MME KECA OR MR HAYWARD FOR MORE INFO

École Dickinsfield School Council

Do you have questions about your school? Join us at our next meeting!

February School Council meeting: **Monday, Feb. 12, 2018 at 6:30pm**

- In the school Library
- Presentation: ***to be announced...***
- Regular meeting to follow

For more information or to contact us, please email dickinsfieldschoolcouncil@gmail.com.

KIDZ NIGHT OUT
 A night out for parents.
 A night of fun for the Kidz!!

bricks 4 kidz
 We Learn We Build We Play

Update Location

2018 Kidz Night Out
FOR DICKINSFIELD STUDENTS

Kidz Night Out: Feb 15 from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm
Transformers and Rescue Dots for Boyz and Girlz
3 Hours of fun builds
 Get ready to build and discover how your model transforms! Kidz will love the mash-up of combination models that can be rebuilt into something different. These awesome 2-in-1 models will include exciting characters, robots, vehicles and more! Follow the step-by-step building plans and ignite your inner engineer by using your imagination to transform your model into something unique. Join us for this fun-filled camp where you'll use your creativity and engineering skills to build and transform! Come Hungry we have Pizza too

Rates and Registration:

\$55 Per Student
 To register go to www.brick4kidz.com/479
 Register early to guarantee your place
 we accept visa , MasterCard call
 780-799-0636
 or E Transfer to eseggie@brick4kidz.com

For a full description of each program and to register online, please visit our website at
brick4kidz.com/479
 Fort McMurray • AB T9K1G7
phone 780-799-0636
 email eseggie@brick4kidz.com

Late or Absent Procedure

If your child is going to be late or away from school, it is very important that you contact the school office. There are a couple of options:

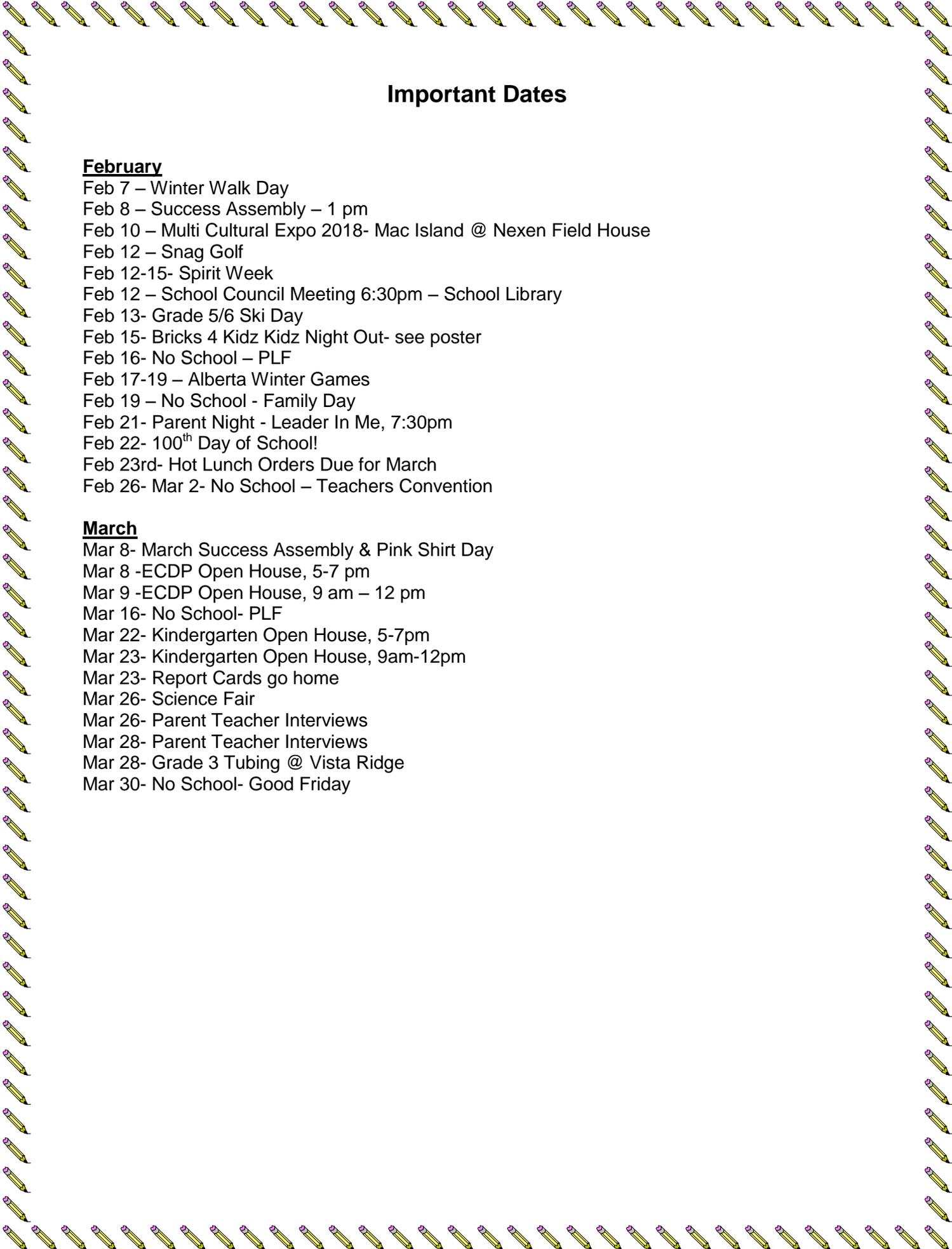
Call: 780-791-6990 and press 1 to leave a message for the Attendance Secretary

Or email: dfabsences@fm-psd.ab.ca

Please state clearly:

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

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.



Important Dates

February

Feb 7 – Winter Walk Day

Feb 8 – Success Assembly – 1 pm

Feb 10 – Multi Cultural Expo 2018- Mac Island @ Nexen Field House

Feb 12 – Snag Golf

Feb 12-15- Spirit Week

Feb 12 – School Council Meeting 6:30pm – School Library

Feb 13- Grade 5/6 Ski Day

Feb 15- Bricks 4 Kidz Kidz Night Out- see poster

Feb 16- No School – PLF

Feb 17-19 – Alberta Winter Games

Feb 19 – No School - Family Day

Feb 21- Parent Night - Leader In Me, 7:30pm

Feb 22- 100th Day of School!

Feb 23rd- Hot Lunch Orders Due for March

Feb 26- Mar 2- No School – Teachers Convention

March

Mar 8- March Success Assembly & Pink Shirt Day

Mar 8 -ECDP Open House, 5-7 pm

Mar 9 -ECDP Open House, 9 am – 12 pm

Mar 16- No School- PLF

Mar 22- Kindergarten Open House, 5-7pm

Mar 23- Kindergarten Open House, 9am-12pm

Mar 23- Report Cards go home

Mar 26- Science Fair

Mar 26- Parent Teacher Interviews

Mar 28- Parent Teacher Interviews

Mar 28- Grade 3 Tubing @ Vista Ridge

Mar 30- No School- Good Friday