## Dorothy Dalgliesh School

## Message from the Principal

With report cards coming up, along with Student-Led Conferences (Wednesday, March 13), I reflect upon my work as a principal and ask myself what would my report card look like if someone filled one out on me? I LOVE my job, and I feel truly privileged to be principal at DDS, but is what I am currently doing enough? What can I do to improve? How can I make our school even better?


I would like to think of our school as student-centered, forward thinking, innovative, and conscientiously contributing to your child growing up to be the best person he or she can be. First, we have, in my opinion, the most caring and invested staff in Palliser. In addition, we are ahead of many of our provincial educational peers in our implementation of best curricular practices. Furthermore, we employ new strategies and techniques to create safe, engaging environments in which kids learn best. Moreover, we have a strong emphasis on kindness and positive thinking. Great things are happening at DDS, but I always ask myself, "How can I do better? What else is there? What's next?" In consideration of the Four Pillars of Education: learning to know; learning to do; learning to live together; and learning to be, am I leading this school most effectively to achieve all I can for your child?

I would love for my school to be on the map, so to speak, not only because of the amazing things we do, but because of the amazing people we help to build, especially your child. So, in the spirit of report card season, I ask you - what grade would you give me? What grade would you give our school? Please stop by for a visit, or call me. I hope to see you out for Student-Led Conferences, so feel free to stop by my office then, or anytime - I'd love to hear your "report card" on me.

With warmest regards, your partner in education,
Ms. Shari Rogerson
Principal
Student-Led Conferences will be held on:


| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  | 1 <br> Kindergarten Day Assembly Wear DDS Blue | 2 |
| 3 | $4$ <br> Mini Basketball | 5 | $\begin{aligned} & 6 \\ & \text { Pizza Orders } \\ & \text { Pick up after 3:00 } \\ & \text { Mini Basketball } \end{aligned}$ | 7 Hot Lunch <br> Taco in a Bag <br> Parent Council Meeting $3: 30$ Everyone Welcome | 8 <br> Report Cards are sent home | 9 |
| 10 | 11 <br> $\frac{\text { PD DAY }}{\text { NO }}$ STUOOL FOR STUDENTS <br> No Mini Basketball | 12 <br> Scholastic Book Fair | 13 <br> Scholastic Book <br> Jr. ATB Banking STUDENT LED CONFERENCES 3:30 pm-8:30 pm No Mini Basketball | 14 <br> Scholastic Book Fair Hot Dog Lunch $550$ | 15 | 16 |
| 17 | 18 <br> $\frac{\text { PD DAY }}{\text { NO }}$ STUOOL FOR STUDENTS <br> No Mini Basketball | 19 | $20$ <br> Mini Basketball | 21 <br> ${ }^{\text {Grade }}$ Bifild Tip Hot Lunch Pancakes \& Sausag | 22 <br> Kindergarten Day Assembly | 23 |
| 24 | $25$ <br> Mini Basketball | 26 | 27 <br> Jr. ATB Banking (8) $\sqrt{0-2}$ Mini Basketball Tournament | 28 <br> Hot Dog Lunch $5 \sqrt{50 \%}$ | 29 | 30 |
| 31 | WORD OF THE MONTH: ACCEPTANCE |  |  |  |  |  |

Kindergarten News
Wow, I can't believe that March is already here and we only have 4 months of school left.


THEMES: Our Themes for March are Night time and Transportation,
The boys and girls will participate in center activities that revolve around our themes.
In Language Arts the children are starting to learn how to write their own stories and we are also rhyming up a storm!
In Math we will be continuing to work on measurement and comparing objects.
In Social we are looking at how we belong and how we can be a good citizen.
In Science we will be discovering objects that sink and objects that float. We will also continue to learn about animals at night.
In Gym class the students will be playing circle games and continuing to use skipping ropes. Thank you to all of the families who helped their children with their Valentines. The children were very excited to share them with their classmates.
Thank you to Chase D. and his Grandma for donating craft supplies to our class.

## Upcoming Events

Our extra Fridays for Kindergarten this month are March 1 and March 22 I look forward to seeing you and your child for Student Led Conferences this month.

Take care,
Mrs. Grandmont


March 01
Kindergarten Claire
Grade 1 Wyatt
Grade 1 Jonah
Grade $2 \quad$ Neal
Grade 2 Maddien
Grade 3 Ryder
Grade 4 Daniel
Grade 4 Ciara
Grade 5M Paul
Grade 6

Grade 1 News
Well, if that was February, it went as fast as it came!
March will have us continuing to master out first 100 sight words. The students are really starting to recognize them by sight as we go through our second round. We are also into our second round of reading assessments, as our second report card will be coming home on March 8th. We will be hosting our Student-Led conferences on Thursday, March 13th starting at 3:30pm. Students will be showing parents what they have been working on and all that they know by this point in Grade 1.

We will also be participating in three sessions of Archery which will be led by Mr. Van Dyk for the Grade 1 class at Picture Butte Archery Club. The students always have such a fantastic time doing this activity. We would like to thank Mrs. Boras for organizing this as well as her and Mr. Van Dyk for instruction the students in this activity.


Thank you to our School Council for providing the necessary funds to bring in Ryan
Laird's "Bigger Than That" presentation on February 25th. The students really enjoyed the songs and his message!
Thank you for all that you continue to do to help your child succeed in Grade 1! Please keep reading with your child every night, and going over their sight words with them. Reading the same At-Home reading book each night is really starting to help in their fluency, as well as accuracy!

Have a wonderful March and let's hope for some warmer weather soon!
Mrs. Nish

The Grade 2 class won the "Spirit Cup" for

Reading Strategy of the Month: Flip the Sound
One of the most challenging aspects of reading and writing is
the number of tricky patterns and letters that create different
sounds. All vowels and some consonants have more than one
sound, which can make certain words challenging for beginning
readers and writers.
When you are reading with your child, if they use a sound that
matches the letter, but it is incorrect for the word, encourage
them to try "flipping the sound". This way, your child is using
their knowledge of letter sounds to work through the challenging
word as independently as possible.
Reading/Writing Trick: "Magic e"
"Magic e" is a word pattern which "flips" a vowel sound. If "C"
represents a consonant, and "V" represents a vowel, the word
pattern is as follows: CVCe. When this word pattern occurs, the
vowel before the letter e make its long sound or "says its name".
This pattern may be referred to in a number of ways at school
including: Magic e, Pinchy e, Sneaky e, Super e, etc. Therefore,
it is important to ask your child what they call this word pattern
in their classroom, so you can use matching language at home.
Example "Magic e" Words: make, these, kite, hope, cute

Grade 2 News
Where has the time gone? It is already March! The Grade 2's have been continuing to work hard on improving their reading and writing during February. We have added new stories in each child's personal reader and all of the students have increased their reading level by at least 2 levels or more. In March we will be focusing on the reading strategy of sequencing, through our individual reading
 as well as in our guided reading groups.

In our writing we are concentrating on creating original stories that have interesting beginning, which draw our readers in, developing setting by using our senses and introducing our main character by slipping in a few of his/her physical characteristics as well as personality traits. Students have also worked on editing stories they have written previously and we have even made a few classroom books for all to enjoy.

In Math we are wrapping up our unit on addition and subtraction (numbers to 50 ) and will be increasing our math skills by now including numbers from 0 to 100. We have also been working on calendar skills daily, such as ordinals, odd / even numbers and skip counting by 2's, 5's and 10's. At home you can continue to help your child with all of these skills by playing card games, snakes and ladders and dominoes.

In Social we have wrapped up our section on natural resources and jobs that can be found in our
 three Canadian cities: Iqaluit, Meteghan and Saskatoon.

In Science we are just starting our unit on temperature. You could help your child with this unit by discussing the temperature in Celsius on a daily basis, how to dress appropriately for the weather and if possible allow your child to try and read a thermometer you may have outside.
I also attended some fabulous sessions during Teacher's Convention and have already started to share these activities with the students.

Finally, I look forward to seeing all of you for our Student-Led Conference in March.

## Thank you:

To all parents who sent Valentine's Day treats with their children
Thank you to the Home and School for providing hot lunches for our students. I appreciate all of the hard work these parents do for the benefit of all students in DDS!
Thank you to Ms. Hillier for helping keep our school so clean.
To Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. West, Mrs. Takeda for all they do on a daily basis in our classroom.
To the Grade 6 class for helping with KOPS on the playground and for lunch buddies.
Thank you to all the parents for helping students study weekly spelling lists, reading with their child on a daily basis and for signing their agendas as well.
Thank you to Mrs. Stauth and Ms. Rogerson for all that they do for our school.
To Mrs. Boras and Mr.VanDyk for helping the students with archery.
Mrs. Gibson


I absolutely cannot believe that we are in March. It is Book Fair time again, which means it must be just about spring:) We are getting ready to have our Spring Book Fair this month. The Fair will run March 12, 13, and 14th. The Book Fair will also be open the night of Student Led Conferences. All students will have a schedule sent home with them so you are aware when their class will be visiting the fair. All proceeds from the Book Fair are spent right in the school library. Hope to see you at the Fair! Happy Reading.

Grade 3 News
March... in like a lion? Hopefully we start to get some spring weather soon! I'm ready to say good-bye to the snow.

In Language Arts, we are continuing working with our guided reading groups to practice reading skills. I'm really seeing students using some different strategies to have more success with their individual reading. Students are also trying some different genres of books and it's awesome to see them branching out! Students are currently working on paragraph writing, using a topic sentence and including 3 to 4 sentences. They are writing pieces about a variety of subjects they are interested in.


In math we are working on multiplication. I have been very impressed with how enthusiastic students are about practicing their multiplication tables. In the grade 3 curriculum, students need to memorize the facts to $5 \times 5$, so please practice these with your children. Every student makes flashcards when they are done the work for each number, so feel free to practice with these or check out some websites that allow for more practice as well! The more practice they get, the easier the facts will be for students to recall. I will also give students extra practice pages to bring home, if they want. The order that we are learning the multiplication tables is $0,1,2,5,4$ and 3 . For students who master these facts, there will be opportunities for them to learn some of the facts beyond that. Thank you so much for your help in this area. It is so important for students to memorize these facts to ensure future success in math.

We are finishing up our science unit on Hearing and Sound so our next units will be Building and Testing. Students will first learn about various building materials and what makes a structure stronger, and then they will be able to construct a structure to test their knowledge!

On Thursday, March 21, the grade 3 class will be going on a field trip to the Galt Museum in the morning, to take part in their Building Bridges program. Then in the afternoon, we will be attending the Gems and Minerals show. A permission form will be sent home with all of the details in the first week of March.

Congratulations to Ryder F., Jonah and Emerald for getting 100\%, five times in a row on their spelling tests. They have "bumped up" to more challenging groups. You have all been working very hard on your spelling, and it definitely shows. Be proud!

Thank you to all families who sent treats for the Valentine's Day party. We really enjoyed all of the yummy goodies!


## Grade 4 News

Our reading focus for March continues to be inferencing (reaching conclusions based on the information in a text and your own experiences).

Our shared reading is a novel called "Skinny Bones" by Barbara Park. This story is narrated by the main character, Alex Frankovitch, an unpopular and awkward 10 year-old boy. During this shared reading, we will address all of the key reading strategies including how to:

- Predict: Use evidence and prior knowledge to help you think about what will happen in a text.
- Infer: Use evidence and prior knowledge to help find out important details that the author doesn't specifically tell you.
- Visualize: Use the words and details in the text to make pictures in your head.
- Question: Ask questions while reading to help monitor your understanding.
- Connect: Make connections between what you read, your own experiences, other books, and the world.
- Evaluate: Use your own opinions to talk about a text
- Summarize: Brainstorm and write about the most important details about a text.
- Determine Importance: Come up with what is the most important things about a text.
- Synthesize: Organize, recall, and recreate information, and fit it in with what you already know.


In writing, students are learning to compose informational paragraphs. This involves educating readers about various topics. Children choose a topic, brainstorm ideas, organize their ideas, compose a rough draft and write a final copy. These paragraphs are organized into an introduction, middle and conclusion.

Children are beginning to make progress on their times tables! Keep practicing so we can hit our multiplication unit head on in April! In March, we will cover rounding of whole numbers and decimals, how to calculate the area of regular and irregular 2-D shapes, an understanding of congruency, and an understanding of line symmetry.

Our Science focus for March is on Light \& Shadows. Students will be learning about sources of light, materials that light can pass through, and about what happens when a material blocks or changes the path of light. By observing shadows students will discover that light and shadows follow a predictable path. We will be experimenting with mirrors, prisms and a variety of other materials that can affect the path by reflecting light and by splitting light into colours.

Archery is on March 8, 15, and 29 from 9-10 am at the Picture Butte Archery Range. Parents are welcome to join us and help out.

I look forward to seeing parents and children during Student Lead Conferencing on March 13, 2019.
Thank you to Mrs. Wobick and Ms. Neels for their exceptional work in Grade 4.
Thank you to parents who brought in treats for Valentine's Day.
Thank you parents for supporting reading, spelling and math at home.
Thank you to all Grade 4 students for being exceptional Dorothy Dalgliesh School recyclers!


Our reading strategy for this month was Making Connections. With this strategy, we learned that good readers make personal connections to the text by using the three main ideas, text-to-text, text-to-self, and text-to-world. Students used prompts to make connections such as, I think..., this reminds me of..., this makes me think about.., and I remember.
To honour Black History Month we are currently reading the historical fiction book "Underground to Canada," by Barbara Smucker. The dramatic story takes place in the Southern United States, the protagonist is a young girl, Julilly, and her flight from slavery.
In Math, we recently finished our expressions and equations unit, students had to identify and solve unknown variables. We are now currently studying word problems using the following operations, adding, subtracting, multiplying, and division.
In Science, we have finished our Classroom Chemistry Unit. Students conducted experiments by mixing materials together to see what happens: which material will dissolve, which material reacts and which material remains unaffected. Students tested that a solid can dissolve and be recovered for example, a crystal can be recovered when the liquid evaporates. Students also discovered when mixing two materials together, they can create a chemical reaction such as carbon dioxide gas and explain how this gas is different from air.

Reminders: Please continue to read with your child for at least 10 to 20 minutes, and
 practice multiplication facts nightly. There is no school on March 11, and March 19.
Thank you,
Ms. Dennahower

Grade 5M News
Well March has sure come quickly! We had an awesome day at the ski hill and have to say a HUGE thank you to our parent volunteers: Mr. Marti, Mrs. and Mr. McLeod, Mrs. Hanna, Mr. Quinn, Ms. Kawauchi, Ms. Neels, and Mr. Spanke. Also a huge shout out to Mr. Van Dyk for all his hard work organizing, Ms. Dennahower for joining us on the slopes, and Ms. Rogerson and Mike for helping keep everyone safe for the day.

For the month of March our focus reading comprehension strategy will be Making
Connections. Students will be finishing up our read aloud Number the Stars before moving in to some small guided reading groups. Our writing unit, Literary Essays, will focus on examining short fictional stories to grow our own ideas and dig deep in the text for evidence.

In math we are moving forward and are getting into the "meat" of the math curriculum - number
 sense. We will be starting off with estimation, rounding, reading and writing numerals to a million, reading and writing number words and place value to a million. We will also continue to practice our mental addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. When practicing these facts at home with your child please watch for:

- can your child readily answer a fact question within 3-5 seconds?
- do they know the fact families? (the numbers that belong together like 9,3 , and 27 )
- are they still using their fingers to skip count?


In science we are just finishing our Classroom Chemistry unit and will be starting to examine the weather soon. Fingers crossed that the snow melts and we can get outside for some experiments! In social we will be heading into our last region - the Arctic.

Important Notes:

- Thank you to Mrs. Gibson for looking out for everyone with our hot dog days
- Thanks to all the volunteers who make the hot lunches possible
- Thanks to Parent Council for their help bringing in Ryan Laird - the kids loved it!


Grade 6 News
It's March already! Wow - we are well on our way towards Spring, and there are a lot of things going on here in grade six!

Here is what we have been up to in our core subjects:
LA - In writing, we are finishing up our unit on news articles, and will be starting short stories soon. In reading, we are reading an excellent book called "Raven Quest", and are using it to practice our ability to predict when we read.

Math - We just started our Number strand. Right now, we are working on reading, writing, and understanding numbers up to a billion.

Social - We just finished our unit on the Iroquois Confederacy, and are going to start our next unit, Local Government. During this unit, we will be building a town in Minecraft. The students are really excited about it!

Science - We are in the process of finishing our Sky Science unit by completing presentations about the planets in the Solar System. Up next - Air and Aerodynamics.
 Just a few notes to add as well:

- A big thanks to Mrs. Dato, Tyson, Dakota, Angie, and Jayme, who are all helping with Mini-basketball. We really appreciate your help!
- Thanks to Ms. Mohrmann, who organized the grade 5/6 Little Caesars fundraiser.
- Thanks to Mrs. Gibson and the grade sixes for running the hot dog fundraisers.
- Thanks to all the parents who helped chaperone the grade 5 and 6 ski trip. We really appreciate it!
- We have finalized the dates for the Edmonton trip. They are June 23rd, 24th, and 25th. We would love to have as many parent volunteers as possible. If you would like to chaperone, please contact me. Also, if you are going to chaperone, you need to have a current criminal record check (from this school year) on file at the school.

Thanks! As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at the school.
Have a great March!
Mr. Van Dyk


