

Dorothy Dalglish School



Newsletter

April/May 2021

Message from the Principal:

Happy Mother's Day on Sunday, May 9th to all our Moms, Grandmas, Aunties, and special ladies in our kids' lives.

I do not know where the year went! I cannot believe it is May! When I look back to August - which weirdly feels like 3 years ago and last month all at the same time - I was feeling anxious for the year to come. I was worried about COVID-19 and how it would look to bring kids back to school but beyond thrilled to actually HAVE them back. Now we have about 36 school days left until summer break!

While COVID-19 obviously remains a huge concern, I feel blessed to lead a school where my students and staff have shown such grace and resilience under these uncertain times, and have done everything they can to keep the school open for business.

Thank you for you to all of you for understanding that we need to do everything we can to keep COVID-19 out, especially with the numbers stubbornly refusing to diminish. We are required by AHS and Alberta Ed to ensure students are sanitized regularly and to wear masks whenever possible. I believe it's contributed to our school being able to stay open - **let's keep it that way!** Speaking of amazing staff, it is **Teacher Appreciation Week** May 3-7! I believe everyone in our school is a teacher in their own way. Consider sending a special thank you to your child's teachers - [click here to find some ideas!](#)

It's also **Education Week** May 3-7, and we are celebrating by booking Scientists in Schools! Thank you to our School Council and the Public Schools Betterment Society of Picture Butte for sponsoring this. We also have **Rocks and Rings** arriving for the week of May 10-14, where we will turn the gym into a virtual curling rink! [Click here for more.](#) Typically an instructor would come out with the Rocks and Rings package, but due to COVID-19, teachers will be provided with resources to teach kids how to curl.

Great news! You may be aware that we have been working hard toward acquiring funds to build the Don Boras Outdoor Learning Commons. We have been granted the **Community Priorities Fund!** So it is "all systems go" to move forward with the build. Thank you to Miss Katie West, our Making Connections Worker, for submitting the grant proposal - this grant is a ton of work to complete!

Thank you to Gerrie-Mae Zillman and Dominion Precast for donating kids' masks for DDS to give away!

Have a fabulous May - I hope you get to enjoy the weather in a socially distanced manner

Ms. Rogerson



May 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Virtual DDS School Council 3:45PM	4	5	6 HATS ON FOR MENTAL HEALTH Staff Appreciation Lunch	7	8
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK & EDUCATION WEEK						
9 HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY 	10	11	12	13 	14 Kindergarten Friday DDS Spirit Day "DDS Blue"	15
ROCKS & RINGS AT DDS MAY 10—14						
16	17	18	19	20	21 PD DAY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	22
23	24 HOLIDAY NO SCHOOL FOR STAFF OR STUDENTS	25 PD DAY NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	26	27	28 DDS Spirit Day "Twin Day"	29
30	31	DDS WORD OF THE MONTH: HONESTY Honesty is about being truthful in what you say and in what you do. Honesty includes telling the truth (not lying), not hiding the truth (deceiving), and acting in a way that is morally right (not stealing, cheating). Honesty is important in how we all work together in society.				

Aquaponics at DDS!

Aquaponics at DDS?! It's true. In early February, with the help of aquaponics expert Michael Lavorato, we set up an aquaponics system at Dorothy Dalglish School, and we now have a total of 18 fish! We have five different species: Koi, Neon Tetra, Limia, Bristlenose Plecos and Swordtail, all living together in relative peace and harmony.



Homeroom classes have been naming our fish, and as a school, we've been learning about care and maintenance of our aquarium. Unlike tropical fish tanks, our aquaponics system is focused on a pond-like biological ecosystem that will support the growing of vegetables.

Now that our water parameters are within an optimum range, we are in the vegetable growing business! Most of our seedlings have grown roots long enough to reach the aquarium waterbed, and are now thriving plants! Our water parameters remain stable, and our nutrient-rich aquarium water continues to feed our young plants. It's not time for salad just yet, but within a few weeks, we should see some fairly substantial plants.

Aquaponics has been a fantastic addition to DDS, and offers students hands-on learning about sustainability. |

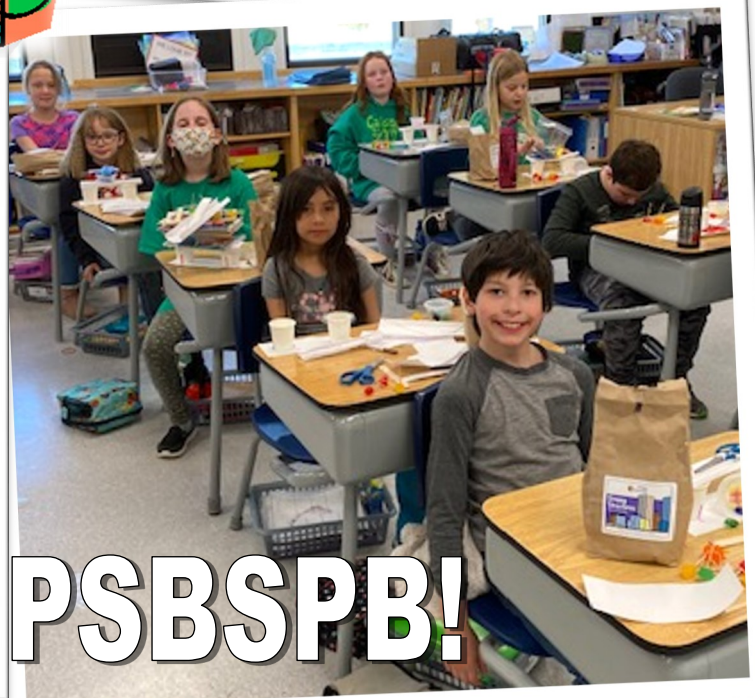


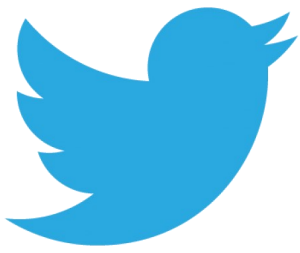


Grade 3 Scientists in the School!



Thank you PSBSPB!





twitter

Follow DDS on Twitter

@DDSPictureButte

Click here to visit our
school website

[Dorothy Dalglish School](#)
[Website](#)

Please pay your 2020/2021 School Fees. These funds help pay for Art & Science supplies for your child, and pay for the technology user fee due to Palliser School Division which allows your child to use the computers and internet.



We had a fabulous Book Fair!

We were able to purchase some fantastic books for the library!!

The winners of the free books were Eduardo and Erick.

The Grade 5's were the Classroom winners with Natalie's name being drawn. Ms. Mohrmann's class and Natalie

each picked \$25.00 worth of books.



**Thank you to everyone who
purchased books from the
Fair!!!!**

GRADE 5 EGGS



more Easter Egg Art



KINDERGARTEN EASTER CRAFTS



Kindergarten News

The Kindergarten children are continuing to blossom and surprise me every day with the knowledge they are gaining. This is so awesome to see.

Our themes for May are Flowers and Bugs.

In **Language Arts** the children will be doing literacy activities that revolve around "The Hungry Caterpillar" story and they will be continuing to write their own stories.

In **Math** we will be exploring 2D and 3D shapes.

In **Science** we are learning about the life cycle of a butterfly and how a flower grows.



In **Gym** we will be starting our outside games unit, which includes soccer, t-ball and tag.

Just a reminder our extra Friday is May 14.

I hope that you are all able to get outside and enjoy the sunshine with your family.

Hugs,

Mrs. Grandmont



Help us power the fight against breast cancer

DDS has joined the Fundraiser for CURE campaign!

Click on the link below to donate and help our school reach our goal of \$1000.00

[*CURE* DDS Cancer Fundraiser](#)

If you prefer to send us a cheque, please make it payable to the *CURE* Foundation and mail it to the following address:

CURE Foundation

1320 Graham Blvd., Suite 130 T.M.R. QC H3P 3C8



Home & School will a
Google Meet on

Monday, May 3, 2021
3:45PM

Please contact

jmmarti@shaw.ca

To join the meeting

EVERYONE IS WELCOME

Grade 1 News

Oh my gosh, where are the days flying to? I cannot believe we are onto May already! Even though our time left in Grade 1 is coming to a fast end, I am just so thankful that I still have all of my little friends in my classroom with me!



April saw more improvements in Reading with another round of reading assessments completed. This group of students are outstanding! We have started working more intently on our writing. We are talking about all the things that are MOST in the world, and boy, are these kids FUNNY! I can't wait for their books to come home so you can read their ideas! I seem to be the subject of a lot of the silliest things in the world to this class.

In Numeracy, we are learning Mental Math strategies to help us with our basic math facts. This is another area where this class is excelling.

We are continuing to spend as much time outside for our gym time as we can, and it is awesome to see the students creating new activities and games that are safe for them to play.

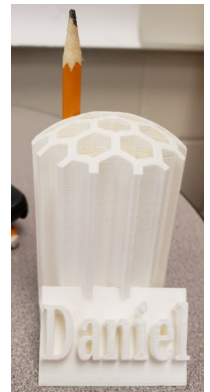
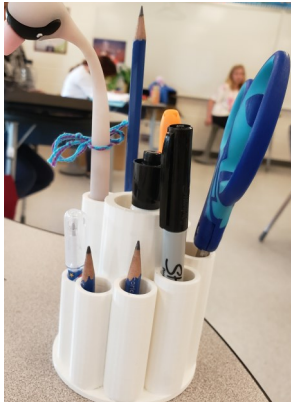
We would like to thank Mrs. Yanke and Mrs. O. for our amazing breakfast program. As well, Ms. Neels for keeping us all on track in Grade 1, and Mrs. Pittman for running another fantastic book fair for us! A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Hillier for keeping our school so clean so that we know we are as safe in our building as we can possibly be. Our school would not be the same without all of these people!



Mrs. Nish

Grade 6 3D Printer Projects—Pencil/Pen Holders

The Grade 6 students designed and created their own holders! Great Work!



Grade 2 News

In Language Arts we will be working on a poetry unit where students will get to experiment with some different types of poems as well as figurative language, such as alliteration and similes. Along with writing poetry, we will also be reading various types of poems. To practice our reading strategies, we will continue to work in our Guided Reading groups too.



We are continuing to work on our unit on addition and subtraction in Math. When that unit is complete we will start working on our 2D and 3D shapes unit, where students will learn the characteristics of shapes (triangles, squares, rectangles, circles) and objects (cubes, spheres, cones, cylinders, pyramids.)

In Science the next unit we will be exploring will be our small crawling and flying insect unit.



In Social Studies we have been exploring the natural resources that can be found in each of the three Canadian cities we are studying. We have been learning about lobster fishing, soapstone carvings and igloos. This unit is very hands on and the class is having fun completing several projects.



Thank you's:

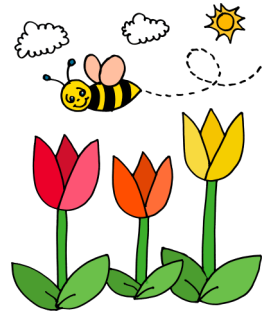
- to all parents who continue to help with reviewing our weekly word lists and reading with their child at night. I truly appreciate all of your support!
- to Mrs. Takeda and Mr. Pritchard for being there for all of our students.
- to Ms. Yanke and Mrs. O for the breakfast program.
- to Ms Yanke and the grade 6's for taking care of the hydroponics system. We really enjoyed helping out for a week.
- to Mrs. Pittman for library classes and running another fantastic book fair.
- to Ms. Hillier, Mrs. Stauth, Ms. Rogerson for helping out in our classroom in a variety of ways.
- to our school council for providing our upcoming staff appreciation lunch. It will be delicious and is so kind!

Mrs. Gibson

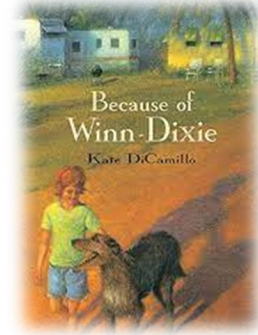


Grade 3 News

We are finally enjoying some beautiful spring weather! The students are loving it and they are wanting to spend as much time in the sunshine as they possibly can!



In Language Learning, students are finishing the unit on writing persuasive pieces. They have been writing bold thesis statements and then supporting their arguments with valid reasons that will convince their readers to share their opinions. Students have also been working on using transitions (we call them stop light transitions) to connect their ideas together and make their writing more sequential.



I truly enjoy seeing how much this group of students love to read! I am impressed with how they have all been able to find “good fit” books for themselves so they are practicing skills that are important for them to work on. We are currently reading the book *Because Of Winn Dixie* together, learning about ways to get to know our characters better by studying what they say and what they do throughout the novel. Our next reading unit will be focusing on how most stories follow a similar “plot line” and how the characters in these stories tend to move through the events in predictable ways.

The math unit we are moving into is division and grade 3 students need to know their quotients that correspond with the multiplication facts to 5X5. We are just starting to learn about this concept and students are working hard to "switch their math brains" over to division! The next unit that we will work on is data analysis, where students will be interpreting data on graphs and making their own graphs after collecting information.

We will be wrapping up our science unit on Building Things and will end our school year with Animal Life Cycles. The next unit in Social Studies is learning about Tunisia and comparing life in Tunisia with life in Canada, much as we have with the other places we have studied in the world, since the beginning of the year.

Congratulations to Skylar, Lili, and Hyrum, who got 100%, five times in a row on their spelling tests! As a result, they have "bumped up" to more challenging groups! Super job to all of the hard-working grade 3 students who practice their words each week!



Thank you to the DDS Home and School Council and the PSBSPB for our Scientists in Schools workshop. The grade 3 class took part in Building Structures with Scientist Pennylane. Everyone had a lot of fun while learning by doing a variety of experiments. Thank you for all of the support, DDS Home and School Council and PSBSPB!

Thank you to Mrs. Olsen and Miss Wiebe who do so much in the grade 3 classroom! You rock!

Thanks to all parents who encourage their children to read daily, work on multiplication tables and practice spelling words for the weekly tests, as well. It makes a huge difference in your child's confidence and also in their success!

Mrs. Gurr

Welcome Spring!

We are excited to welcome Spring and look forward to the warmer weather. We have been busy in our classroom learning new things.

We finished our poetry booklets with great success and celebrated by everyone reading their favourite poem in a poetry reading. The students were excellent poets and really enjoyed this unit. Now we have moved onto traditional Literature and are studying: Folktales, Fables, Myths and Legends. We will examine the elements of traditional literature and eventually publish our own story. We are also reading a variety of traditional literature; such as The Hare and the Tortoise, the Grasshopper and the Ant, The Fox and the Stork, The Three Wishes and How Summer came to Canada.

Language Arts



In Science we are studying Light and Shadow. In this unit we will be doing experiments with lights and shadows. We are looking at energy, light sources, light emitters, reflectors, properties of light, light and heat, white light, and shadows.

In Social we finished studying The Canadian Shield Region. We studied landforms, bodies of water, climate, vegetation, animal life, Fort Chipewyan, mushing, natural resources, northern Alberta and transportation.

Social Studies



In Math we finished our division unit in which we looked at division and multiplication, knowing when to multiply and or divide, remainders, and long division. We have now moved onto measurement where we will be looking at estimating, millimeters and centimeters, meters, kilometers, perimeters and telling time.

In gym we have been learning basketball drills and skills and look forward to playing a game very soon!



Thank you!

Thank you parents, Mrs. Wobick and Mrs. West for everything you do to support learning in the classroom!

Mrs. Fraser

Grade 5 News

The class has just begun our investigation of the biography and autobiography genres. Students are reading biographies about famous artists, scientists, explorers, inventors, and people who've changed the world in big ways. As they read the class is paying special attention to the characteristics of biographies so that they are better able to write their own. The class will also be working on researching information for their biographies which will give us many opportunities to talk about the importance of citing sources, avoiding plagiarism, and finding trust-worthy books and websites. A few notable first choices for biographies have been Helen Keller, Michael Faraday, Tecumseh, and Rosa Parks.

In reading, students are learning about the importance of evaluating. This involves looking at the facts presented and distinguishing between fact and opinion in a text. Students must think critically about what they read and view in order to form well reasoned judgements for themselves, rather than just believing everything they see, hear, and read. To practice these skills we read a picture book called "The Cats in Krasinski Square" which is based on a true event from WWII. Together students have also read many passages to practice differentiating between facts and opinions. We will also be learning more about finding the author's purpose for writing a text (persuade, inform, entertain) as a way to better evaluate the text.

In math we have continued to learn about decimals, fractions, and the relationship between the two. Students in grade five are expected to work with decimals to the thousandths place and should be able to compare and order these numbers. In fractions we will be working to compare fractions with like and unlike denominators, as well as learning about equivalent fractions.

You can help your child at home by playing card games that rely on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing. Simple single-digit addition is a great way to check in with your child. Can they add 7 and 6 quickly in their head? Do they still rely on their fingers? How long does this take?

In science, we are wrapping up our weather unit and will be moving into our last science unit all about wetlands ecosystems. The class will learn about different types of wetlands, especially those that are found in southern Alberta. We will investigate more about the elements of an ecosystem and learn about the plants and animals commonly found in the wetlands.

Important Notes:

- Please help your child to remember to read at home as well as practicing their mental math facts
- students should be able to recall their multiplication facts up to 10×10 quickly (a few seconds at the most)
- A HUGE thank you to Mrs. Pittman for all her work in the library and for another wonderful book fair!
- Thanks to home and school for the staff appreciation lunch - DDS has the best families!

Ms. Mohrmann



Grade 6 News

Spring is finally here (hopefully to stay!) We have had an awesome month of April, complete with some pretty cool new projects. Here is what we have been up to:



LA - We read the second book in the Gregor the Overlander series. It is called "The Prophecy of Bane" and was fantastic! We practiced our ability to make connections while we read. Students also practiced this skill while reading on their own. In writing, we just finished our news articles, and are now working on informational writing. Students are writing a piece explaining what makes an activist successful.

Math - We just finished our unit on multiples, factors, prime and composite numbers etc. Now we are working on basic number operations - understanding how to use addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division effectively.

Social - we are just finishing our unit on Local Government. The students built an incredible town in Minecraft as they learned about voting, property taxes, government services, and bylaws. It was a ton of fun. Next up, we will be learning about the Provincial Government.



Science - We just finished our unit on Sky Science. Now, we are learning about air and aerodynamics. We have been busy completing experiments to demonstrate that air exerts pressure, takes up space, and changes when it gets hot or cold. Please ask your child about it!

The end of the year is quickly approaching. I am really disappointed that students won't be able to go on the Edmonton trip, but we are hoping to do a few fun things so we can still celebrate your child. Please stay tuned as we continue to explore our options. I also want to share a few thank-you's:

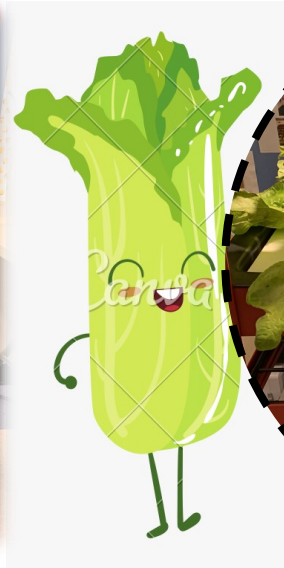
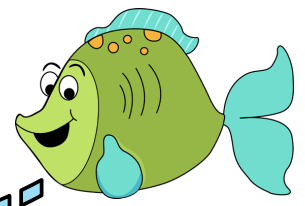
- Thanks to Mrs. West, who has been an awesome helper in our classroom!
- Thanks to Adam and Mrs. Hillier, who keep our school in tip-top shape.
- Thanks to Mrs. Stauth, for patiently keeping me on task and for keeping things running smoothly!
- Thank you to Mrs. Pittman for hosting an awesome Book Fair!



As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to message me or call the school. Have a great month of May!

Mr. Van Dyk

Aquaponics Update...



**Congratulations
Zoey!**



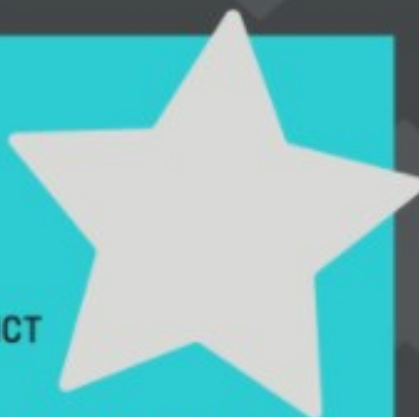
In aquaponics news, it's harvest time!! We cut down our first batch of lettuce, washed it and assembled a salad kit for one lucky student to take home for supper. Zoey in Grade 3 won this salad raffle, and will be the first to sample our aquaponics lettuce.

Thank you to the Grade 2 class for looking after the fish this week. Grade 5, you are up next week:)



**Big Brothers
Big Sisters**

OF LETHBRIDGE AND DISTRICT



TEEN MENTORING IS NOW BEING OFFERED RURALLY!

Looking for something to do after school?

Spend time viturally with a Big Brother or Sister!

Snacks and pre-planned activities provided.

Activities range from trivia games, word games, experiments,
crafts, challenges and much more!

AGES: 6-10 YEARS OLD



FOR MORE INFORMATION:
PLEASE CALL 403.328.9355 OR
info.leth@bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

