

# Dorothy Dalglish School

[www.dorothydalglish.ca](http://www.dorothydalglish.ca)

## Word of the Month

*Generosity*

### Dates for your Calendar!

- Dec. 5 Mini-vball tourney 1:45
- Dec. 6 Hot Dog Day  
Home and School  
Council Meeting 3:40
- Dec. 13 Hot Lunch
- Dec. 14 Kindergarten Day  
Assembly "DDS Blue"
- Dec. 17 Food Hamper  
Donations Due
- Dec. 18 Christmas Concert  
1:00 and 7:00PM
- Dec. 20 School wide Turkey  
dinner for all staff and  
students
- Dec. 21 Pajama Day  
Last day of school
- Merry Christmas*
- Happy New Year*
- Jan. 7 School Resumes

## Principal's Message

I cannot believe we are already almost 4 months into the school year – where does the time go!?

It's the most wonderful time of the year! December is always such a fun, but incredibly busy month. With Christmas Concert practices well on the way, Christmas crafts in the making, and trying to keep kids focused on school work while thoughts of Santa dance through their heads, it positively flies by like Santa's reindeer on Christmas night!

For many, Christmas is often viewed as the most magical time of the year. But while we prepare and shop and bake and shop and decorate and shop, please think about those for whom Christmas is not so magical. For some, Christmas is the most stressful time of the year, and not because they are finding it hard to get the millions of little tasks done that make Christmas Day perfect. Some people are alone at Christmas. Some people won't have warm clothes on Christmas, let alone a gift to open, or a meal to eat. For some, Christmas is a long unhappy break where they spend uninterrupted time in a situation that is uncomfortable, and sometimes even harmful.

While preparing for your happy Christmas, please talk to your kids about those less fortunate. Consider donating to a food bank. Why don't you volunteer an afternoon serving food to the seniors at a care centre? Encourage kids to give up some of their gently used toys and donate them to the local shelter. Consider a simplified Christmas list for your kids: something they want; something they need; something to wear; and something to read. Buy an old fashioned board game for the whole family to play. And if you know of anyone who could use a hand, let me know – I have contacts for resources to help.

Ms. Rogerson



Junior ATB deposit days are at noon on December 5 and 19.

If your child, has an account, they are welcome to deposit money at our Junior bank in the atrium. If your child would like to set up an account, please see Jane Boras for an application form.

It's never too early to start saving money.

Hope to see you soon!

## Christmas Gift Challenge

Keeping Christmas Simple.



1.  
Something  
they want



2.  
Something  
they need



3.  
Something  
to wear



4.  
Something  
to read

## Kindergarten News

December is sure to be an exciting month in our classroom. The children are already thinking about Christmas and sharing their experiences.

**THEMES:** Our Themes for December are Christmas and Gingerbread.

In Language Arts we will be reading *The Gingerbread Man*, *The Gingerbread Girl* and *The Gingerbread Baby* and participating in numerous literacy activities that revolve around these stories.

In Math we will be learning how to subitize. This is when you can look at a group of objects and tell the quantity without counting them. We will also be building patterns and looking for patterns in our environment. Christmas decorations have great examples of patterns.

In Science we will be exploring our five senses. The students will be completing: My favorite holiday: sight, sound, smell, taste and touch.

In Gym the students will be acting out the stories that they are reading and playing some circle games.

Thank you:

Thank you Mrs. Bourque and Brody for donating extra clothes to our class.

Thank you to all of the parents who came out for Parent/Teacher interviews. It was great to celebrate your child's accomplishments and set goals for their future learning with you.

Thank you to Queen Rogerson and King VanDyk for coming in and being Royal Readers in our class!

Thank you to Teacher Tara and Ms. Wiebe for all your help, you ladies are awesome!

Our EXTRA FRIDAY for Kindergarten is Friday, December 14.

See if you can find some patterns this month with your family and have a great holiday together!

Hugs,

Mrs. Grandmont



## Grade 1 News

Well...that was November! I think I blinked and missed it!

My Grade 1 students have been continuing their hard work as they learn to read! We have been learning about how certain letters that aren't vowels can also make different sounds depending on the letters they are paired with. This English language is so confusing!

During November, we have learned about the letters "g, h and a little bit of i" and all the sounds that each letter can make in various words. We have also learned about the vowels 'u' and 'i' and how they both have short and long sounds. Our word families have been "-in", "-all", "-un", and "-ug".

In Writing, the students are continuing to learn how to add a little more detail to their sentences.

In Math, the students are still improving daily on their 'Quick Counts' and are learning about what measurement is and how to use non-standard units to measure in the unit of Shape and Space - Measurement.

We are into our unit on "My Community". In Science, we have just started our unit on "Senses" and how our senses can keep us safe from harm, but are still intermittently working on our "Changing Seasons" unit, as we are moving into Winter.



The students will now be hard at work preparing for our annual DDS Christmas concert, which will be amazing as usual. We would like to thank Mrs. Gibson and Mrs. Dato for all of the work that they will be putting in to get this performance ready for December 18th.

Please continue to ensure that your child is dressed for "morning weather" as it starts getting a little chillier in the near future. It is always easier to take coats off if it gets too warm outside. Also, PLEASE continue to have your child read to you at night, as well to practice their sight words! These two things are so crucial to their future achievements in reading.

Grade 1 would like to send out a HUGE thank you to Ms. Rogerson, Ms. Neels, Mrs. Veltman, and Mrs. VanHell for always providing us with our morning breakfast snacks every day! We are so spoiled to be able to have this program this year at DDS!

I just know that December will fly by in an instant, so I hope everyone has an enjoyable month getting ready for Christmas!

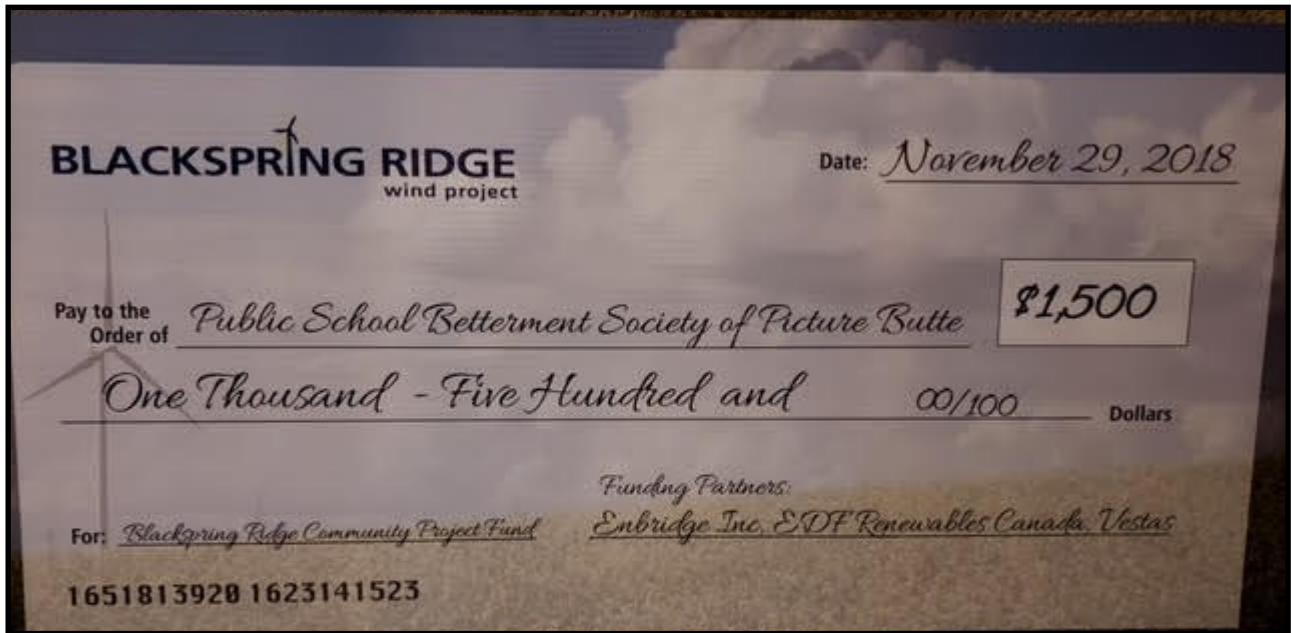
Have a great December everyone!

Mrs. Nish



# Thank you

A huge THANK YOU to Blackspring Ridge for their donation of \$1500.00 to the Public School Betterment Society of Picture Butte for the beautification of the school frontage at Dorothy Dalgiesh School and to add more garbage and recycling cans around the school yard. We appreciate your support!



BACKWARDS  
DAY



## Grade 2 News

First, it would be very helpful if all parents ask their child if he or she needs any new school supplies for the New Year? Some children are low on erasers, glue sticks and some of their markers are not working so it might be something they could put on a Christmas list.

In Language Arts we will continue practicing comprehension strategies in our guided reading groups, as well as when reading independently. Our guided reading books have included both fiction and non-fiction texts, which have allowed us to discuss various features of those genres as well. We have been focusing on a variety of word patterns in our spelling, such as "ow" and "ou" so that students have more strategies for decoding unfamiliar words that they encounter in text. In writing we are using strong verbs to create action in our stories and students have been writing about animal movements to practice "showing" instead of just telling. This helps us to "paint a picture" for our readers and make our writing more interesting.

In math we are currently working on a numbers unit, with a focus on numbers 1 – 50. Students will be learning about place value of ones and tens, skip counting in various ways starting at different numbers and ordering numbers. They will also be identifying numbers as odd or even and learning estimation strategies.

In Science the students are working on the very interactive Boats and Buoyancy unit and soon will be making clay boats and testing their buoyant capacity.

We are also very busy working on our concert songs for our play called "Slapshot Santa Shoots Again" and hope to see everyone out on December 18 at 7pm. Please remember we are having a dress rehearsal at 1pm on that same day so please invite grandparents or any other guests to enjoy this event then if they are unable to attend at night or want a better view.

Thank you's:

Thank you to all the parents who brought snacks for our Halloween party.

Thank you to the Grade 5's for hosting an amazing Halloween carnival this year.

A huge thank you to parents who are just starting to read the A – Z books at least 5 times throughout the week with their children! The strategy of re-reading will definitely make a difference in the students' ability to read more fluently and with expression!

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend Parent-Teacher Conference.

Thank you to the Parent Council for the delicious and healthy lunches each month! We appreciate you all so much!

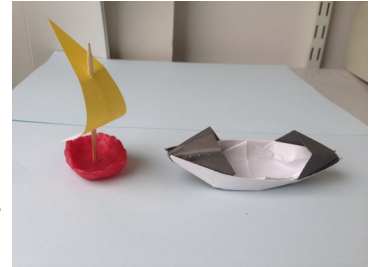
Thank you to Ms. Neels, Mrs. Velthuis, Mrs. Vanhell and Ms. Rogerson for all to provide our students with a breakfast program at our school this year.

Thank you to the Grade 6's for being great KOPs at recesses and lunch buddies and for helping with hot dog days every second Thursdays.

Thank you to Mrs. Olsen, Mrs. West, Mrs. Takeda, Mrs. Stauth, Ms. Rogerson, and Mrs. Pittman for all you do for our classroom and school.

**Merry Christmas**

Mrs. Gibson



## North County Interfaith Outreach Society

Christmas Hampers will be made up on Saturday, December 22nd, in the hall at St. Catherine's Catholic Church from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

Deliveries will start after that. If anyone would like to help or be involved with this project, please call Nancy Nieboer at: (403)738-4687.

Anyone in need may apply Tuesday or Thursday mornings from 10:00 AM - 12:00 noon at 326 Highway Avenue in Picture Butte.





## Grade 3 News

Can you believe we're heading into December???

In Language Learning, students continue to work in their guided reading groups, to practice reading strategies and become better readers each day! Two of our groups finished their books and will be doing some research on the Chromebooks, then presenting their information to the class through Google Slides. Another couple of groups are currently starting some work on projects related to their books, that they will also share with the class.



We have started our information writing, and at the end of the unit the grade 3s will be publishing their books, adding graphics, labels and charts to enhance their writing. Students will be working hard to write introductions, multiple chapters and conclusions, so they will be very anxious to share their non-fiction books with everybody when they are completed.

In Math, we will be finishing up our place value unit, to the thousands. Our next unit will be addition and subtraction, where students will be working on numbers with answers to 1000. We will also learn estimation strategies and continue doing a problem solving question each day.

We started our next unit in science which is hearing and sound. Students will learn that sound is made through vibrations, it travels in waves, different sounds have different pitches and we need to protect our ears over the course of our lives. We will be working on this unit for the next couple of months.

In Social Studies we are learning about Peru, and we have been discussing the geography as well as the climate. Students worked on their own or in small groups, to create a weather forecast for their chosen geographical region in Peru. We videoed all of the forecasts and will be trying to figure out the best way to share them with parents!

Congratulations to Emerald and Kennedy, as they both earned 100%, five times in a row on their spelling tests, to "bump up" to more challenging groups! Great work, ladies!

Thank you to all parents who came out and took part in our parent - teacher interviews! I truly appreciate your support!

I also missed a couple of thank you's in November: A HUGE thank you to all families who donated items to our "Pampering Mom" basket for the DDS Harvest Gala. It turned out amazing and the amount of items donated was fabulous!

Also, thanks to all parents who sent Halloween treats! We were definitely spoiled.

Mrs. Gurr



## Student of the Week



November 23, 2018

Grade 1 Molly

Grade 2 Jacob

Grade 3 Chad

Grade 4 Vera

Grade 5 Lindelie

Grade 6 Gewel



## Grade 4 News

### Literacy:

Our reading strategy for December is sequencing. Sequencing is the order of events, directions or steps. It links information in an ordered way. Students learn to recognize text signal words (eg. next, and then, first, last, etc.).

Grade fours are beginning a shared Novel Study called "Mice at Centre Ice" written by Canadian Estelle Salata. The story takes place at the The Montreal Forum. Benny the Bullet, is the organizer of the MHL, the Mouse Hockey League. Benny and his friends overcome all types of dangers in their struggle to regain and keep the coveted Cheddar Cup (stolen from them years ago by the villainous Rink Rats).

Children are writing fictional narratives. These stories are created from their own imagination and include:

- characters and setting, (beginning)
- an interesting problem (middle) and
- solution (ending)

### Numeracy:

In December, we are wrapping up addition and subtraction, with and without regrouping. Now that children are understanding these concepts up to the ten thousands place value, they will apply this to problem solving. It is very helpful if children know their basic adding and subtracting facts to 20 automatically. There are many card games that make learning these facts fun.

We will also learn how to tell time to the minute using digital and analogue clocks.

### Science:

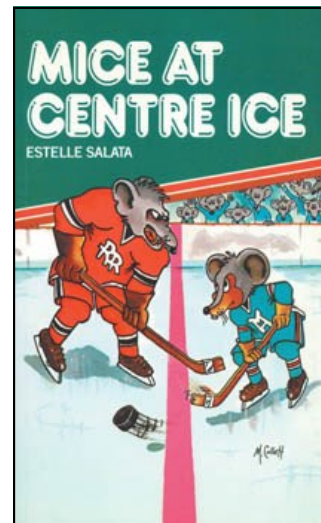
In Science, students are learning about the basic components of simple machines: how they are assembled, how they operate, and how they are used. These simple machines include wheels, roller, levers, gears and pulleys.

### Thank you's:

Thank you to Ms. Sandy Neels and Mrs. Sue Wobick for their exceptional assistance in the grade 4 classroom.

Thank you to parents for supporting your child's learning at home by practising spelling words, reading, and basic math facts.

Thank you parents for coming out during parent-teacher interviews. It was wonderful to meet you and discuss your child's progress!



Just a reminder that we are a

PEANUT SENSITIVE SCHOOL.

Please do not send anything to school with your child that contains peanuts.



## December Word of the Month

DDS's Word of the Month is **generosity**, which is timely for Christmas – the most giving time of the year! Here are 5 ways you can show generosity and give back at Christmas:

**Volunteer** at a senior's center, hamper program, or serve a Christmas meal.

**Knit** socks or mitts, which will add a personal touch to any Christmas hamper.

**Donate** a new toy to your local Salvation Army.

**Buy** extra groceries for the local food bank.

**Contact** your local food bank about how you can sponsor a family or Christmas hamper.

## Grade 5M News

In writing we have jumped into our personal and persuasive essay writing unit. The class has learned about collecting ideas from our lives to share opinions on a variety of subjects. It has been really fun to read about some of the kids opinions and I have learned a lot more about what makes each student tick and what or who is important to them. To improve our writing we have learned about writing strong introductions and conclusions, transitional phrases, persuasive language, and how to write a clear thesis statement with supporting reasons and evidence. After revising and editing students will complete an additional personal or persuasive essay from start to finish independently.

In math the class has completed the Space and Shape strand of our curriculum which included Measurement, 3D and 2D Shapes, and Transformations. We are now learning about Statistics and Probability. The class has focused on mastering the language of probability including the terms impossible, possible, certain to describe the likelihood of one event. We have also worked to compare chances using the words more likely, less likely, and equally likely. For the next couple weeks we will learn how to differentiate between first hand and second hand data as well as how to create and read double bar graphs. If we have time we will spend the week before holidays working on solving word problems and understanding how operations are related to one another. As a class we have also begun to focus more on our addition and multiplication fluency. Students should be able to add and multiply single digits accurately and quickly. **Many students have created flashcards to practice at home - please help your child be successful by practicing their facts with them for a few minutes every night. This will really help them be more successful in math!**

In science we have completed our Mechanisms Using Electricity unit with the exception of our “battery powered vehicle” project. As soon as our materials arrive we will jump into this fun project, building and racing our vehicles. Students will have access to school materials as well as the kits they have ordered but they may wish to bring in items to “fix up” their cars and make improvements such as better wheels or cardboard to build a body. We will also be starting a mini-unit about winter weather as an addition to the Weather Watch unit we will study this spring.

In social we have been focusing on the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Lowlands region of Canada and the important groups of people who have contributed to the region's history and still live there today. We will continue to learn about the seigneurs, habitants, and missionaries of New France over the next week before moving onto the Canadian Shield region.



### Important Notes:

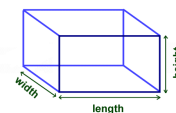
- As we amp up our math study it is really helpful for students to know their math facts fluently
  - Try asking your child addition, subtraction, multiplication and division questions over dinner and watch their strategies for answering
    - Can they answer automatically?
    - Do they use their fingers?
    - Do they skip count?
- A HUGE thank you to the Betterment Society volunteers for all their work fundraising with the Gala and casino
- Thank you to all the parent volunteers that have helped around the school and with hot lunch - an especially big shout out to Mrs. Liptak and Mrs. McLeod for always offering to come in and help out in grade five!
- Thanks to Mr. Van Dyk for organizing mini-volleyball - it is always a good time
- Thank you to Mrs. Rogerson, Ms. Neels, Mrs. Veltman, and Mrs. Vanhell for all they do to make our snack program a hit

Ms. Mohrrmann

## Grade 5D News

During our Reading Workshop, we are currently reading, "Finders Keepers," by Andrea Spalding. The story takes place near our neck of the woods in Fort McLeod, and also involves FMNI culture. The main character, Danny Budzynski finds a strange object shaped like an arrowhead, but it's unlike anything in the museum in Fort McLeod. Then Danny meets Joshua Brokenhorn, a boy from the Peigan Reserve near Head-Smashed-In-Buffalo Jump, teaches Danny about the mysterious lance head. We learn a little about FMNI culture within this novel as well as how Danny solves his own problems at school.

In Math, we finished our Capacity and Volume Unit. Students understand how to measure capacity using the units, L and mL. We also focused on finding the volume of a three dimensional shape, with the formula of  $V = L \times W \times H$ . We have just started our next unit on Probability.



In Science, we studied Mechanisms Using Electricity Unit. Students explored series and parallel circuits using only one power source with two loads. They also tested double and two-way switches. Students are currently waiting with anticipation to start building their cars as their final project!

**Reminders:** Please continue to read with your child for at least 10 to 20 minutes, and practice multiplication facts nightly.

Ms. Dennahower

## Literacy - Mrs. Dato

I cannot believe that it is December already! I would like to thank all of my literacy students and their families for being so positive and enthusiastic. It is truly a joy to work with each group and see the progress the students are making each and every week.

In each newsletter, I will share a reading strategy with you, as well as other literacy activities that you can try at home to continue to support your child(ren)'s progress.

### Reading Strategy of the Month: Check for Understanding

It is essential that we support our young readers in building their reading comprehension skills. When reading with your child, try pausing periodically throughout the story to have a conversation about what has happened in the story so far. By using the 5 W's (Who? What? Where? When? Why?) you can ask questions that will keep the conversation exciting and purposeful. Encourage your child to look through the book to help them if they are feeling "stuck". With little ones, pretending to be "book detectives" can add an extra layer of fun!

### Writing Activities for the Holiday Season

There are many writing activities that you can try doing at home with your child(ren) throughout the holiday season, such as:

- Writing holiday cards
- Writing thank you notes
- Labeling gift tags
- Keeping a holiday journal
- Making recipe cards for favorite Christmas treats



Thank you again for your enthusiasm and support. I hope that your family has a wonderful holiday season!

With best wishes,

Mrs. Dato



## Grade 6 News

December is finally here! Bring on the Christmas music, carols, snow, and the Christmas concert! Things have been busy in grade six, and we are finally taking a bit of a breather to get ready for the Christmas concert. Here is what we have been up to:

LA - In reading, we just finished reading an excellent book, Gregor the Overlander, to practice our sequencing skills when reading. Students will start working on their own sequencing activities as they read novels at their own reading level. In writing, we recently started our essay unit. Students have explored how to make a thesis statement, and how to organize their arguments into paragraphs.



Math - We are working on transformations. This means students are translating, reflecting, and rotating shapes on a grid. The students really seem to enjoy this unit.

Social - We are wrapping up our Ancient Athens unit with a persuasive essay comparing Canadian and Ancient Athenian democracies. After our Ancient Athens unit is finished, we will start our next unit: The Iroquois Confederacy.

Science - We are almost finished our Evidence and Investigation unit. Students have been busy trying to solve a crime where someone has stolen our dino sours and ring pops! Once we have solved the crime, we will start our next unit - Sky Science.

Just a few notes to pass your way:

- A huge thank-you to Mrs. Gibson for all her hard work on the Christmas concert so far!
- Thanks to all the parents for picking up their kids twice a week at mini-volleyball. The program was a huge success!
- Thanks to Mrs. Olsen and Mrs. Dato for volunteering to help out with our concession for mini-volleyball.
- A huge thanks to Mrs. Drake, who donated pop and chips to our mini-volleyball concession. We really appreciate it!

Just another reminder - if you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Thanks for giving me the privilege of teaching your child!

Mr. Van Dyk



If I could wish a wish for you,  
it would be for [peace](#) and happiness  
not only at Christmas,  
but for the whole year through!

I wish that there always be food on your table.  
That you always give to those less fortunate.  
May you always take time to share,  
and thank those who have [blessed](#) you.

I wish for time, so you may reflect  
on the blessings that you have,  
and that you express your [love](#)  
to those who are dear to you.

I wish for your thoughts to be positive ones,  
that you never quit, that you never give up,  
and that you continue to learn.

I wish for love, and peace  
to be yours always.



# December 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 ATB deposit day Mini vball tourney 1:45 	6 Hot Dog day Home and School Council Mtg. 3:40	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Hot Lunch	14 Kindergarten Day Assembly "DDS Blue" Wear blue	15
16	17 Food Hamper donations due today	18  1:00 and 7:00	19 ATB deposit day	20 School wide turkey dinner 	21 Pajama Day  Last day of school	22
23	24	25 Merry Christmas	26	27	28	29
	NO SCHOOL					
30	31 Happy New Year!					
	NO SCHOOL					