

Dorothy Dalglish School

www.dorothydalglish.ca

February 2023

Message from the Principal

Hello DDS Families,

Welcome to February! February is a month when we think of kindness more than usual. As part of this month's theme of Friendship, we are celebrating the week of February 13-17th as Kindness Week. We will be challenging students with some Random Acts of Kindness activities that focus on being kind to each other, giving back, and building each other up.



Pink Shirt Day is always on February 22nd, however, this is a non-instructional day for us this year. As a result, we will be recognizing Pink Shirt Day on February 17th instead. We strongly encourage all students and staff to wear pink on this day if they can. Pink Shirt Day originated in 2007 when some students stood up to bullies after a new student at their school had been bullied for wearing a pink t-shirt. During the day we will work with students about the importance of respecting each other. We will remind them of the importance of turning to a friend, parent, teacher or other responsible adult when they feel that they are being bullied.

Our focus remains to cultivate a positive climate and create the best learning environment possible. High quality instruction and student learning are our highest priorities. Staff have been learning and implementing number talks and rich math tasks. Our students and staff alike are learning a lot! Everything that we do at DDS is designed to help students learn in all areas and be successful well beyond their time with us.



Each year, the government shares surveys with students, parents and teachers to gather feedback on the quality of education provided by school authorities and their schools. Schools and school authorities use the results to identify areas for improvement and to help build their education plans. It is that time of year again! Starting February 6th, parents with students in grades 4 - 12 will start receiving survey packages by mail from Alberta Education for the 2023 Assurance Survey. Parents can either complete the surveys online or return completed paper copies directly to Alberta Education. Please take a few moments to complete this survey - your participation supports local and provincial planning and is very important to us.

Here are some important notes for parents regarding the survey:

1. The survey package will include:
 - * a copy of the Education Minister's letter
 - * a Random Access Code for accessing the survey online and instructions for accessing the survey in other languages, if needed.

Once you receive your Random Access Code you can start the survey using this link:
<https://public.education.alberta.ca/APOS/>

2. Parents with more than one student in the relevant survey grades will receive a separate survey package and Random Access Code for each child.
3. The survey will remain open until **March 3rd, 2023**. Students in grades 4 - 6 will complete their surveys during class time .

Thank you again to our families who support our school and students, and we look forward to what February will bring to our community!

Yours in learning,
Mrs. McGregor



A decorative border at the bottom of the page featuring a repeating pattern of pink and red hearts of various sizes.

Sat

NO SCHOOL FOR STAFF & STUDENTS

CONGRATULATIONS



Student of the Week

Grade 6	Isaack
Grade 5	Hyrum
Grade 4	Claire
Grade 3	Evelyn
Grade 2	Hannah
Grade 1	Alex

GOOD JOB!



The Grade 5 class won the CANstuction award for their structure and the Grade 6 class won the award for the most items collected. Thank you to Ms. West for organizing this event. It was a great challenge for the students and a great way for the school to support those in need. ❤️



DDS Word of the Month



Friends are **people that you can have fun with**. Friends share, play together, and laugh with each other. A friend likes you for who you are. A good friend can cheer you up when you are sad, and keep you company when you are lonely. Friends stick up for each other when someone is mean, or being a bully.

The Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortium (SAPDC) is offering two learning opportunities for anyone interested. These sessions will be offered virtually via Zoom.

The first is a 4 part series (February 2, 9, 16 and March 2, 6:30-7:30PM) titled "Power of Parents" Click link below to register, get an overview of the sessions, along with an introduction to the presenter.

Registration link: [Click](#)

Session Overview: [Click](#)

The second session is (March 8th, 7:00-9:00PM) titled "Executive Functioning for Parents of Students with ADHD" Click link below to register, get an overview of the sessions, along with an introduction to the presenter.

Registration link: [Click](#)

Session Overview: [Click](#)



Thank you to everyone at Dorothy Dalglish School for welcoming me into the school community. Thank you to my wonderful DDS family for the great experience I have had during my time here. It has been an absolute pleasure working with all the students, families and staff at DDS over the past 3 years! I am going to miss all the friendly smiles and welcoming people I have got to know during my time here!

All the best,

Miss Katie, *Making Connections Worker*



CONGRATULATIONS



Student of the Week

Janaury 13, 2023

Grade 6	Maddien
Grade 5	Liam
Grade 5	Autumn
Grade 4	Kasia
Grade 3	Daniel
Grade 2	Rowan
Grade 1	Elizabeth
Kindergarten	Logan
Kindergarten	Hayden



SPLASH AWARD

Decker—Grade 3



CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations
to the Grade 1
class for their
awesome school
spirit on
DDS Blue Day!



School Council News

Thank you to everyone who donated towards the Christmas dinner. It was great to be able to provide that for our school family this year. We had our first meeting of the year on January 24 and had quite a few discussions on the go. We're excited to hear that field trips are in the works however with inflation, some are having to be adjusted. Kona Ice will be booked again as a year end celebration for our students. We reviewed Palliser's Inclement Weather policy and are looking for parent feedback on that.

Our fundraising society (PSBSPB) has been given February 24 & 25 to work at the casino in Lethbridge. We split the shifts with Picture Butte High School and aim to have 50% covered by DDS' parents and staff. There are 4 different shifts between Friday & Saturday with daytime being 1pm-8/9pm or night 8/9pm-4am. If you're interested in volunteering for the casino, have feedback regarding Palliser's inclement weather policy, or any questions/concerns about council, please contact Michelle at jmmarti@shaw.ca



Our next meeting will be Tuesday February 28 at 3:45pm.



The hot lunch program is transitioning to a new leader, Laurell Greene. Roxane Drake is slowly stepping back as this is her final year at DDS. Thank you Roxane for all of your time and energy over the past few years with leading this program and thinking up menu items.

We are always looking for help with this program so if you have a few hours to spare on Thursday mornings or if you'd be willing to do a grocery run occasionally, please contact Laurell at laurell.greene@gmail.com

MARCH HOT LUNCH MENU

March 02, 2023	Pancakes & Sausage, drink & snack \$6.00	Order due Feb. 14, 2023
March 09, 2023	Hotdog Lunch (includes drink & snack) \$5.00	Orders due Mar. 2, 2023
March 16, 2023	Chili, drink and snack. Sposored by 6A Cattle Co.	Order due Feb. 14, 2023
March 23, 2023	Hotdog Lunch (includes drink & snack) \$5.00	Orders due Mar. 16, 2023
March 30, 2023	Pasta & Meat Sauce, drink & snack. Sponsored by Schooten & Sons Feedyard	Order due Feb. 14, 2023

Please order all lunches online [SchoolCash](#)



Kindergarten News

Exciting news for February!

We have started book buddies with the Grade 6 class.

THEMES: Our Themes for February are Friends, Feelings and Night Time

In Language Arts we are continuing to learn how letters and their sounds work. We will be doing activities that revolve around stories about friendship.

In Math we will be working on measurement and comparing objects.

In Social we are looking at how we belong.

In Science we will be comparing night and day. And answering the question, "How do we know that it is night time?" We will also be talking about nocturnal animals.

Thank you to all the hot lunch parents. We love our lunches.

Thank you to Mrs. Van Zeggelaar and Mrs. Guenther for all your excellent help in Kindergarten!

Upcoming Events:

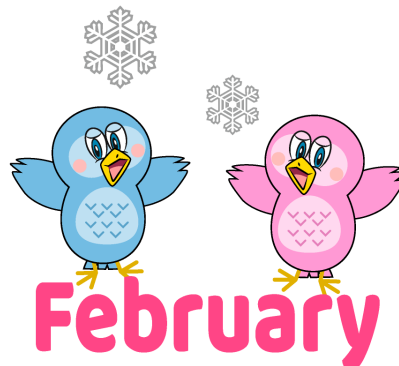
Our Kindergarten Friday this month are **February 10 and February 17**

We will be having a **Valentine exchange party** on **Tuesday, February 14.**

Enjoy the snow!

Hugs,

Mrs. Grandmont



Grade 1 News

Wow...the end of January already. It feels like we just walked in the school from the holidays. I hope everyone had a wonderful and safe holiday.



January has been spent getting back into our normal school and classroom routines. This class never skipped a beat! We have been hard at work since we returned to school and there are no signs of slowing down. We have written our first full story focusing on a good beginning, a middle and a good ending that wraps up the story. The students did an amazing job and are looking forward to sharing their stories during our Student-Led Conferences that will happen in March. I know that seems like a long ways away, but based on how fast this year is flying by, they will be sharing them with their parents before we know it.

We really enjoyed getting out and delivering our holiday cheer this month. It was postponed due to the weather the last week in December, but it didn't dampen our spirit of giving!

The Grade 1s would like to thank our amazing Hot Lunch moms for all the delicious lunches they have prepared for us so far this year. We look forward to them every week. As well, another huge thank you to Ms. Mohrmann and Mrs. McGregor for our awesome hot dog lunches as well.

We hope February is just as incredible as the previous months have been! Thank you for helping make DDS GREAT!

Mrs. Nish

Grade 2 News

January was a great, fun-filled month for all of us! We were glad to go on our community walk and deliver crafts with our DDS families. In February, we are looking forward to Valentine's Day and 100's day - more information will be coming home soon.

In math, we have started our addition unit, and we are getting so good at mental math strategies. We have also learned how to make ten and doubles and near doubles. It is important that students continue to practice their counting and addition skills.



Science has been tons of fun. We did a demonstration on apples - did you know that they are magnetic? Ask your child why! We also did an experiment where we blended cereal down and then pulled out the iron pieces using magnets. We have been learning about how magnets have two poles and the different types of magnets and magnetic elements.

In reading, we are continuing with Daily Five. Every child gets at least 20 minutes of small group reading time on most weekdays, and I have seen tremendous progress in our classes' reading skills. It has been awesome to see confidence and fluency growing! Continue to keep reading at home and filling out your home reading log in order to be entered into our weekly draw! Way to go! We have also been reading *According to Humphrey* as a class - the kids love this funny and endearing novel about a hamster who lives at school as a class pet. We have used this book as an example in plot diagrams, using a beginning, middle, and end. This month we have also been focusing on rising and falling action and how we know when we have reached a problem.

In writing, we have been focusing on How-To books. We learned the steps to writing a how-to book, including creating a topic sentence, developing a sequence of steps using transition words like next, finally, first, and then a conclusion. Students wrote how-to books on making a PB and J sandwich, although they weren't very specific and I took their directions a little *too literally* - *so funny!* *We built structures from lego and other building supplies, and had to create how-to books on how to build our structure. We have also been practicing making words. We read poems together as a class and then use it to build words with letter tiles. When we are done, we sort the words based on things they have in common. We have learned the difference between synonyms and antonyms and are using them to make our writing better.*



In PE and health, we have been playing basketball. We learned how to pass, shoot, and dribble. We have also played lots of fun new tag games, like line tag and hot dog tag. We are learning about managing strong emotions like anxiety or anger, and what happens when we 'flip our lid'. We started a new unit on living healthy, including healthy eating, exercise, and sleep.

I cannot wait to see what next month brings - February will be filled with lots of love and learning. Please reach out to me with questions or concerns by email, class dojo, or phone.

All the best,

Tia Giesbrecht

Grade 3 News

January seemed to fly by! I cannot believe we're heading into February already!

In Language Arts students are writing information books that will be published and shared with classmates. All students have chosen a topic that they are experts on and are writing chapters to teach information to others. At the end of our writing and editing, students will type up their books to celebrate with a "gallery share" of our work.

We are also reading *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe* so soon we will be watching the movie to see what similarities and differences there are between the written and media forms. Students will compare the two, using a Venn diagram and sharing what they found with classmates at the end. We will also continue reading self-selected books to practice our reading strategies.

I have really seen students practicing their words for our weekly spelling assessments and I am so proud of the work they are doing. Great job, Grade 3s! Also, a big congratulations to Ryker and Katilyn who have had 100% on their spelling tests five times in a row so they have "bumped up" to a more challenging group. Be proud of all of your hard work!

We finished up our unit on addition and subtraction and have started our patterns unit. We are learning about increasing and decreasing patterns, writing pattern rules and differentiating between finite and infinite patterns.

We are continuing to work on our Hearing and Sound unit in science and are finishing up Peru in Social Studies. Our next unit will be Tunisia.

Our class will be celebrating Valentine's Day on February 14 with a little party. If your child is planning on bringing valentines to exchange, I am asking that they bring one for everyone in the class. I will send home a class list so you have all of the names of children in our room.

Thanks to all parents and families for their continued support. As always, if you ever have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Mrs. Gurr



Grade 4 News

Happy New Year!

Here's a quick glance at what we have been learning:

- It has been a long stretch since our Winter Break and we have been learning a lot!

- In Writing, students have been working on Personal and Persuasive Essays. I am looking forward to our Writing Celebration when students will be able to share their essays with you.



- In Math, we have been sharpening up our multiplication and division skills. As well as, learning about 2D shapes and calculating area with square units.

- Students have been testing their mechanical skills as we learned about and built "Devices That Move".

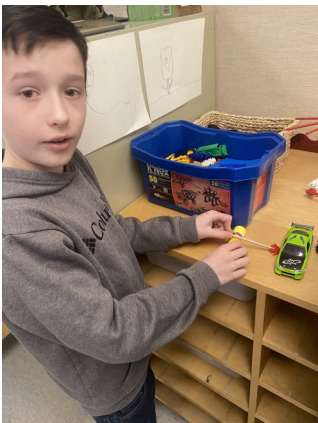
- We have loved playing basketball as a class! It has been so awesome seeing everyone participating all together and working as a team!

- As part of Wellness, students have continued working through our Second Step program lessons. Most recently, we have talked about the "Problem-Solving Steps". Ask your students about the super catchy song to go along with that!



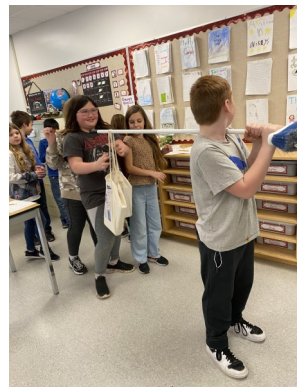
Special Notes & Reminders:

- Thank you to the Grade 4, 5, & 6 students for being such responsible Kids On Patrol! It has been great hearing stories about how you've been leading games and interacting with DDS's younger students.



- Thank you to Parent Council and the hot lunch crew for some tasty lunches!

- Thank you to Mrs. Pittman for providing our students with new books all the time! It has been AWESOME seeing kids get excited about literature, and it's all because you take the time to get to know their interests and what they love to read about!



**Thanks so much,
Miss Mastel**

Grade 5 News



For the month of February the class will wrap-up our study of sequencing as a comprehension strategy. Sequencing is all about putting things in order, so as children read the focus is on the order of events in a story, or the facts and dates in non-fiction books. To help us visualize this comprehension strategy, students will use plot diagrams (also known as story mountains) and timelines to organize and demonstrate their understanding of what they have read. In connection to this comprehension unit, students are also learning about the theme of a story and how to provide evidence of their thinking. Our next comprehension strategy will focus on building connections between the text we are reading, other texts, the world around us, and ourselves.

In writing the class has started work on personal essays focused on sharing about people, places, topics, and memories that are important to them. We have begun working on the structure of a thesis statement and a five paragraph essay, while also building on our ideas and sentence fluency. Moving into February we will be revising and editing some of our first draft essays using checklists to increase independence.

During the past few weeks the class has focused our study on our Patterns unit with a focus on pattern rules and understanding mathematical expressions using variables. The class has worked hard to extend patterns, use in and out function charts to perform single-step operations, and write simple expressions to match stories. As we wrap up January and move into February students will be solving for the variable in single-step operation equations (example: $93 - n = 32$; $4 \times m = 36$; $r + 54 = 78$). The more fluent students are with their multiplication, division, addition, and subtraction facts, the easier these problems are to solve.

Notes:

- Thank you to the families who encourage reading at home - it really helps your child be successful!
- Thank you Mrs. Pittman for running the best library around:)
- As always, a huge thank you to Parent Council and the hot lunch volunteers

Ms. Mohrmann

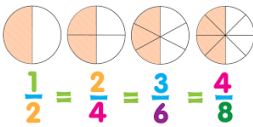


It feels like we really hit the ground running in 2023! Students are enjoying our KOPs (Kids on Patrol) leadership program where our Grade 4-6, in small groups, go out for recess with K-3 students in order to lead games and model inclusive play.

A black silhouette of a hand in the 'rock on' or 'devil horns' gesture. In the center of the palm, there is a white heart shape.

In **Mathematics**, we are spiraling through long division, order of operations, and integers to keep our skills fresh. In our current Number Sense unit, we are exploring fractions.

Equivalent fractions, reducing fractions, adding fractions and understanding how to work with mixed numbers is the focus. Although this unit is challenging for students, a growth mindset is helping many students to be patient in their learning.

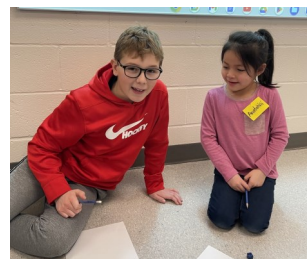
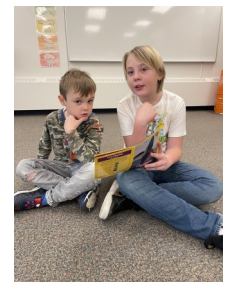
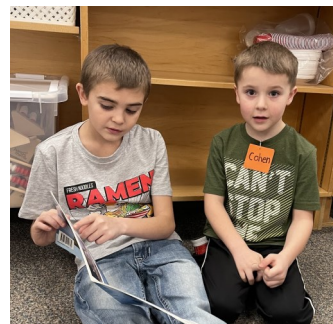
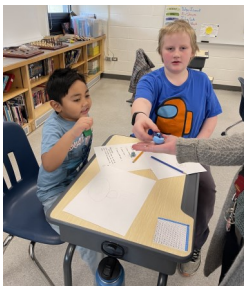


Our Air and Aerodynamics **Science** unit is proving to be an interesting, hands-on study. We are reaching an understanding of the properties of air, and the four forces of flight: lift, thrust, weight and drag. Our parachute building project allowed students the opportunity to experiment with air resistance and drag.



****Encourage your child to read at home for 30 minutes everyday, and by initiating conversations about the books they are reading.**

Ms. Milne



Music Class News

Where has January gone? I can hardly believe we are nearing Groundhog Day and the anticipation that winter will soon give way to warmer temperatures and an early spring! I hope that everyone was able to enjoy a relaxing break and spend meaningful time with family and friends! Thank you again for braving the frigid temperatures and coming out to support your child(ren) at the Winter Concert. Little did I think when I was planning that the theme might become a reality. 😊

In January, Kindergarten has been focusing on keeping a steady beat to music with a partner song as well as with learning about and playing the boomwhackers for the song Snowman Joe. Our gym time incorporated lots of parachute fun while we learned how to make a bubble, what was inside the bubble, how we could go under the bubble and pretend we were camping, and how to make lots of waves. We also learned about working together as a team to stay safe while using the parachute.

The Grade 1 class is learning specific instrument names and “timbres” (sounds) through the orchestrated narrative of “Peter and the Wolf” where each character is assigned a different instrument and theme. We will culminate our learning with a listening party for this masterpiece by Sergei Prokofiev.

Grade 2 has been learning a musical accompaniment for the story “Mortimer” by Robert Munsch. We are having a lot of fun making sounds that fit with the story and look forward to performing for the Grade 1 class.

In Grade 3 & 4, we began our recorder unit and your children have been encouraged to bring home their recorders to practice and have parents initial their “Practice Bug” for each 10 minutes of practice in a day.

The Grade 5 & 6 students have explored form in music using the “Finale” from Rossini’s famous William Tell Overture by playing instruments and learning cup passing patterns for the different sections. Ask your child where this piece of music has been used in television shows or advertising. 😊

*Please note that choir will resume in February on Thursday at noon recess for Grades 1 - 6. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Keep Singing!
Mrs. Neufeld



DDS Community Walk



SPLASH AWARD

Paige—Grade 2



CONGRATULATIONS!



Student of the Week

January 27, 2023

Grade 6	Lukus
Grade 5	Mark
Grade 4	Luke
Grade 3	Chloe
Grade 2	Jaxten
Grade 1	Finley
Kindergarten	Sophia
Kindergarten	Jillian



GOOD JOB!



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

FEBRUARY 2023

Random Acts of Kindness Calendar

KINDNESS IS FREE TO GIVE, BUT PRICELESS TO RECEIVE" -
RAKTIVIST



5
Play a game with a family member



6
Smile at someone today!



7
Pick up garbage or litter



8
Say some kind words to a teacher



9
Thank your bus driver



10
Let a friend know what you like about them



11
Help wash the dishes today.



12
Walk your dog



13
Compliment someone



14
Hold the door open for someone



15
Clean your room



16
Include others in a game at recess



17
Learn something new and share it



18
Learn to say 'Hi' in another language.



25
Help make a meal



25
Tell a family member 3 things you love about them



25
Write a thank you note to someone



26
Donate something you don't use



27
Do something that brings you joy!



28
Call a family member you haven't talked to in a while

