

## **Dorothy Dalgliesh School**

May 2018

## lessage from the Principal

## Word of the Month HONESTY

## Dates for your Calendar!

- May 2 Hot Lunch—Kosters
- May 4 Assembly—Gr. 6
- May 8 Gr. 6 LA PAT Part A
- May 9 JR ATB Banking Day
- May 9 M/W Kindergarten Hot Dog Day
- May 10 K-6 Hot Dog Day
- May 11 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day
- May 14 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS
- May 15 Farm Safety Presentation
- May 16 Gr. 5 Immunization
- May 16 Hot Lunch—Hamburgers
- May 18 Tue/Thu Kindergarten Day
- May 18 Assembly
- May 21 HOLIDAY—NO SCHOOL
- May 22 PD Day—No school for Students
- May 23 JR ATB Banking Day
- May 23 M/W Kindergarten Hot Dog Day
- May 24 K-6 Hot Dog Day
- May 24 Family Activity—Flower Delivery
- May 25 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day
- May 25 Assembly
- May 28 FSLC Presentation—HONESTY
- May 30 Hot Lunch—Pizza Hut

JUNE 6 JR ATB Banking Day

## When in doubt, tell the TRUTH. Mark Twain

I cannot believe we have only two short months until summer break – we still have so much work to do! May and June are going to be busy months with field trips, Track and Field Day, our annual community flower delivery, 2 Farm Safety Days, final assessments, and Provincial Achievement Tests for grade 6, also known as PATs.



If you have, or have had, a grade 6 student you probably are familiar with PATs, but even if not, it affects all our kids, K-6. There is a lot of pressure to prepare kids for PATs every year, not just in grade 6 but in all the years leading up to grade 6 (BTW, PATs will happen again when your child is in grade 9). Teachers spend guite a bit of time analyzing data around PATs in order to improve.

It got me to musing, however, about the dangers of focusing too much on data – what harm can there be? Research

implies that while data can help inform teachers' instruction, too much focus on data and results can be detrimental to school culture and to the students.

My two biggest concerns about focusing too much on data are:

- 1. Causing students, and let's face it, parents a lot of unneeded anxiety; and
- 2. Missing what data *can't measure*

I can assure you we take the PATs seriously, but I can also assure you with great confidence, that it is balanced very solidly with DDS Staff seeing your child as the wonderful and unique person he or she is – not as a number, or a grade, or a percentage, but as a unique, charming person with unique skills, talents and interests.

Yes, we want our kids to find success, and a part of that includes data and grades and percentages. HOWEVER, the most important part to us at DDS, is developing your child, in partnership with you, to create kind, caring, resilient adults who will make a difference in the world - however that looks.

As always, pop by to see me if you have any questions or concerns about anything to do with your child and his or her education.

Best regards, Ms. Rogerson

### Kindergarten News

April Showers bring May Flowers!

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.

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

In Social we are learning about being a good citizen and how we can help others.

In Science we will be completing our spring trees and investigating bugs. We will also be having a presentation called Bugs from Scientist in the Schools on May 7 and May 31.

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

## **UP-COMING EVENTS:**

Mother's Day Tea: Monday- Wednesday class is on Wednesday, May 16, at 2:00.

Tuesday-Thursday class is on Thursday, May 17, at 2:00.

Just a reminder our extra Fridays for the Monday-Wednesday class are May 4, May 11 and May 25, and the **Tuesday- Thursday** class it is May 18.

Thank you to Teacher Tara for donating craft supplies to Kindergarten!

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

Mrs. Grandmont





	Kinderga <mark>rte</mark> n	Lili
	Kindergarten	Autumn
	Grade 1	Reeve
	Grade 1	Payton
	Grade 1	Gracie
	Grade 2	Jonah
N	Grade 3	Xzander
1	Grade 4	Angelina
LI STE	Grade 4	Colby
10	Grade 4	Damien
11	Grade 5	Olivia
A. H. C.	Grade 6	Kenny
	Grade 6	Missy

## Grade 1N News

I cannot believe we are into May!

We were very sad to say goodbye to Mr. M (Mucciarone) towards the end of April. He taught us so much about outer space and plants and animals! We will miss him in our class.

In Literacy, so far, we have been focusing on the letters 'I, m and n'. We have also been working on the long and short sounds of the vowels 'a, e, and i'. We also learned new word families (-y, -ake, and -ip). We are continuing to practice our rhyming with these word families. The students are now knowing MORE words in our Tongue Twister Phonics than we don't know! What a change from the beginning of the year!

In writing, we are continuing to become better writers and are still working on telling about small moments in our lives. We are also continuing to work on polishing our writing to make it the very best that it can possibly be! The students are trying really hard to remember their capitals and end punctuation, this is a very slow process in Grade 1. However, I do not believe I have ever had a class that writes so much and so well at this point in Grade 1!

In Math, we are finishing up our unit on 'Comparing Numbers', and we will move into 'Estimating', and 'Addition and Subtraction'.

In Science we have begun our unit on "Our 5 Senses".

In Social we will soon be finishing up our unit on "Responsible Citizenship" and what it takes to be a good citizen in our

community and in our world. We are learning about perseverance

and sportsmanship. We will be wrapping up this unit soon with a unit assessment.

We would also like to thank our School Council for all of the things they do to help keep DDS being the BEST! It sounds like our Movie Night was fantastic!

We celebrated Mrs. Stauth during Administrative Assistant Week last week! She is truly incredible and keeps our school and our staff humming along! Thank you Mrs. Stauth!! We couldn't manage without you!

We are also so very THANKFUL for Ms. Rogerson! She keeps our school running and being the best it can be! She is quality leadership at its very best! Thank you for all you do Ms. Rogerson! You are still the BEST there is!

Grade 1 would also like to thank Mrs. Bowden and Mrs. Fremstad for always coming in and helping out in our classrooms when teachers have to be away or have meetings! You ladies ROCK!!

I know that now that the weather is nicer, there are more activities going on at night. Please try to ensure that your child is continuing to read each night when possible. Please ensure that your child continues their practicing of their sight words also. These words are so crucial to their reading success.

Thank you for sharing your amazing children with me! Have an marvelous May everyone!

Mrs. Nish





### Grade 1D News

I cannot believe that I am writing the May newsletter already! However, you know what they say -"Time flies when you're having fun."; and we are certainly having a lot of fun in Grade One!



At the beginning of May, we will be finishing up our unit on animals. The students will be creating animal information books. I cannot wait to see the finished books - I know they will be beautiful! Once our information books are complete, we will take a brief look at plants, and investigate what they need to grow, and the important roles that they have in nature. We will also start a new storytime theme unit by

reading comics and a short chapter book. These forms of literature will provide us with many exciting examples of interesting characters and dialogue. We will apply what we know to our own creative writing.

We will complete a creative writing task this month by writing a class play together. We will also go through our science unit for building, as we will build a set for our play, as well. Once the play is ready, we will put on a few performances for other classes at the school. If you would like to join us during this time, please let me know - we would love to have you in the audience.

In social studies, we are learning about different traditions that we celebrate in our families, and throughout Canada. This unit is very interesting, as it gives us opportunities to learn about other cultures and to gain appreciation for the diversity that surrounds us in Canada. The students have shown a great deal of enthusiasm for this unit already and I look forward to our fantastic discussions each class.

Please continue to practice sight words and read at home! As always, if you have any questions or would like to say, "Hello!" I would love to hear from you!

Mrs. Dato



Grade 4B was the winner of the "DDS SPIRIT CUP" For the most DDS Blue

at Assembly



### 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 class has enjoyed our unit on Hot and Cold temperatures and we will be having our unit review soon.

In Social Studies we have been discussing what "tourism" looks like in our 3 Canadian cities and will make brochures to celebrate the "Town of Picture Butte."

Upcoming Events/Guests: We are in the process of planning our end-of-the-year field trip to the Prairie Tractor Club (June 11), Wear M' Out and Coaldale Spray park. More details will be sent out as soon as possible.

## Thank you's:

-to all parents who continue to sign agendas daily and read with their children. I truly appreciate all of your support!

-to Mrs. Olsen for being there for all of our students and for helping with Recipe day

-to Mrs. Pittman, Mrs. Stauth, Ms. Rogerson and Mrs. Liptak for helping out in our classroom in a variety of ways.

Mrs. Gibson





Eye See . . . Eye Learn is a program for kindergarten-aged children. Any child who has a comprehensive eye exam by a doctor of optometry and requires eye glasses will be provided with a free pair.

No forms are necessary, just book an appointment with your optometrist and tell them you would like to take part in Eye See ... Eye Learn.

https://www.optometrists.ab.ca/web/



### Grade 3 News

We are finally enjoying some beautiful spring weather!

In Language Learning, students have been writing fairvtale adaptations and they have been having a lot of fun with them! We started with students taking the familiar stories of The Three Billy Goats Gruff or Little Red Riding Hood, and making some changes to the original stories. I have been impressed with the ideas and creativity that students have shown and we have all enjoyed reading each other's work. In the next bend of the unit, students will choose any fairytale that they are familiar with and will be practicing the techniques of "fracturing" the story. I can't wait to see what they produce!

Our current math unit is division and students need to know their quotients that correspond with the multiplication facts to 5X5. So far,

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students have been understanding this concept and 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 data.

We will be wrapping up our science unit on Building Things and will end our school year with Animal Life Cycles. The next unit is 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 Naomi and Valeria, who got 100%, five times in a row on their spelling tests! As a result, they have "bumped up" to a more challenging group! Super job, Naomi and Valeria!

Thanks to all parents who encourage their children to read daily and to 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

CHEERS







### Grade 4 News

Scientists in the Schools will join us on the morning of May 17 to present Plants Do Amazing Things Topic E: Plant Growth and Changes. This botanical adventure will explore how a plant breathes, grows and stores its food. We will examine leaf characteristics, explore plant adaptations and make our own recycled paper. We will use a CO2 indicator to investigate what leaves need for photosynthesis.



We are in need of 4 parent volunteers to help with these activities. Please send a note in the agenda, if you are able to attend this hands-on, fun and engaging session. Thank you.

We are sharing our field trip to the Bellevue Mine and Frank Slide with grade 3 on June 21st. Stay tuned for details.

Our read aloud for May and June is the "City of Ember" by Jeanne DuPrau. The story is about Ember, an **underground** city threatened by aging infrastructure. The young protagonist, Lina Mayfleet, and her friend, Doon Harrow (the second protagonist), follow clues left behind by the original builders of the City of Ember, to safety in the outside world.

In May, students will learn about Alberta's First Nations and the fur trade. An archaeologist will visit our classroom to present information about aboriginal archaeological finds from Southern Alberta.

In literacy this month, students will continue reading in small groups at their own reading levels. In math, children will continue to work on multi-digit multiplication with one multiplier.

## Thank yous:

Thank you to parents for bringing in treats for our Easter celebration.

Thank you to Kiara and Trinity, work experience students from the High School, for assisting in our classroom.

Thank you to parents for practising times table facts and spelling words.

Thank you to the grade 4B class for helping organize running club.

Thank you to our Junior ATB students and our sponsors from the Alberta Treasury Branch in Picture Butte.

Mrs. Jane Boras & Ms. Samantha Dennahower



Congratulations to these students! They were big winners for opening up new bank accounts though Jr. ATB.

Jr. ATB next deposit days are;

May 9th May 23rd June 6th

Open an account and start saving!

#### Grade 5 News

For the month of May our focus reading comprehension strategy will be Evaluating. Students will read the book, "Cats in Krasinski Square" as a class - a short story about the Resistance fighters in

the Warsaw ghetto during World War Two. Students will focus on building their comprehension by forming opinions, critiquing the author's craft, and examining different perspectives.

In math we have begun adding and subtracting review as well as adding and subtracting with decimals to the thousands. We will continue to review place value by looking at different ways to represent a number, including expanded form, standard form, word word, and with base ten blocks or





drawings. We will be creating our own imaginary restaurants with student created menus as a project to wrap-up our study of decimals.

In Weather Watch we've learned about air movement and the part that the wind plays in the weather. The class has looked at different types of precipitation, ways to measure them, and the ways in which cloud types can help us to predict changes in the weather. Alongside this we have also been studying various vocabulary terms that are important to the unit.

In social we've looked closer at Confederation including the main players, who was included in the early stages and more importantly who was left out of the process and decision making. Students have also learned about the importance of the railway to Canada's history and we will move into a study of the Famous Five shortly.



Ms. Mohrmann





The Kindergarten Class hosted the Assembly on April 13th. Here they entertain the staff and students with their talents.

## Grade 6 News

Let the warm weather and the time outside begin! I'm so excited about spring!

Here is what we have been up to in our subject area:

LA - in reading, we are working in predicting and inferring. Students are currently reading a book at their own reading level to practice these concepts. In writing, we are busy preparing for our LA: Part A (Writing) Provincial Achievement Test, which will be on May 8!

Math - We are currently working on understanding decimals, fractions, and percents.

Social - We are busy building a town in Minecraft to practice learning about Local Governments! (You should probably ask your child about it!)

Science - We just started our unit on Air and Aerodynamics.

Please keep an eye on your child's agenda, as I will be sending details about the Edmonton Trip home this week. Just a reminder - if you plan on coming, you must have a valid criminal record check on file at the school, and it needs to be as of this school year.

## I have a notes that I would like to extend:

- Thanks to Mrs. Olsen, who donated to our bake sale, and also donated a bike!
- Thanks again to Kiara Ylioja, who continues to make a difference volunteering in our school.
- Thanks again, also, to Mrs. Kelly McLeod, who has dutifully volunteered in our classroom all year.
- Thanks to Mrs. Gibson for running the hot dog sales this year.
- Thanks to all the grade sixes for their awesome volunteerism!
- Thanks to everyone who supported our spring flowers fundraiser.

I can't believe this year is already coming to an end. What a special group of young people I have had the privilege to spend time with. Thanks to you, the parents for your ongoing support. Just a reminder, if you have any questions or concerns, please drop by the school, send me an e-mail, or text me.



Thanks! Have a great (and hopefully warm) month!

Mr. Van Dyk





## **Education Week April 30 - May 4**



EDUCATION WEEK Students reflect on and <u>celebrate</u> what they have learned throughout the year









they do to better our school and support our students and staff. You are an amazing group!

Thank you for the wonderful lunch you treated the staff to, it was delicious!

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Thank You!

DDS WORD OF THE MONTH

# MAY 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 "Hats ON for Mental Health" Hot Lunch	3	4 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day Assembly MAY THE "FOURTH"	5
			Kosters		BE WITH YOU	
6	7	8 Grade 6 LA PAT (Part A)	9 <u>M/W ECS ONLY</u> <u>Hot Dog Day</u> JR ATB BANKING	10 K-6 Hot Dog Day	11 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day	12
13	14 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	15 Farm Safety Presentation	16 Gr.5 Immunization Hot Lunch Hamburgers	17	18 Tue/Thu Kindergarten Day Assembly	19
20	21 HOLIDAY No School for Staff & Students	22 NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS	23 M/W ECS ONLY Hot Dog Day JR ATB BANKING	24 K-6 Hot Dog Day Family Activity Flower Delivery	25 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day	26
27	28 FSLC Presentation HONESTY	29	30 Hot Lunch Pizza Hut	31	JUNE 01 Mon/Wed Kindergarten Day Assembly FREAKY FRIDAY	