



Weekly Newsletter

11—September —2024

Principal's Message

Dear DMS Families,

Thank you all for supporting your children with their transition to the new school year. As new routines and connections between students and teachers are being established, we are all enjoying being back together to lay the groundwork for a fabulous 2024-2025 school year. Our Grade 7s and 8s are demonstrating some great leadership potential and most of our newest students already seem very settled and eager to take part in all the great things that Middle School has to offer. As our partners in learning, the work that you do at home by being supportive of your child's experience at school is very appreciated by all of us. Thank you!

We hope you have a marvelous week,
Lisa Leclerc, Principal

Personal Digital Devices Reminders

As per the changes outlined on the SD62 website regarding the use of [Personal Digital Devices in Schools](#) please note the following information that is being reviewed with all students this week at school:

- * **Before School:** Students may use their personal digital devices while on school property outside of the school up to the first bell at 8:40am.
- * **Warning Bell at 8:40am:** Personal digital devices must be stowed away and turned off in their backpacks before entering the school.
- * **During School Day:** Personal digital devices must remain stowed away in backpacks in lockers for the entirety of the school day.
- * **Dismissal Bell at 2:41pm:** Students may turn their personal digital devices back on only once they exit the school building and after the dismissal bell has sounded.

Notes:

- All communication between home and school must go through the office during the school day.
- Students using assistive technology housed on cell phones will be given a school sticker to place on their phones by their teacher/case manager so that it is identifiable for staff/students.
- Individual teachers may on occasion allow students to use their personal digital devices under their direct supervision in the classroom for special projects.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 13h—Whole School BBQ
- Sept. 19th—Teacher/Parent Orientation night
- Sept. 20th — Truth And Reconciliation walk
- Sept. 23rd — Non-Instructional Day
- Sept. 27th—Pizza day
- Sept. 30th—National Day for truth and Reconciliation
- Oct. 14th—Thanksgiving day
- Oct. 24th—Photo Retake day

Student Attendance

Is your child is going to be absent, late, or signing out early?

Email Dunsmuir at dunsmuir@sd62.bc.ca as well as your student's teacher(s).

Please put on the subject line, your students' legal last name.

Please do not call in your attendance.

Please include your child's first and last name, teacher's name, date and reason for absence.

Please do not call in your attendance.



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Athletics

This is a reminder or introduction to parents new to DMS that in order to participate in Athletics (School Sports) at DMS, parents need to complete the permission form and pay athletic fees if your student is playing a fall sport including cross country, ultimate, soccer, or touch rugby,

Please fill out the Athletics Permission Form - this will be available from your student's coach. This must be completed before students are allowed to participate in any games.

Please pay the DMS Athletic Participation Fee online [School Cash Online](#).

Every school year, each student who participates on a school sports team is asked to pay a \$40 fee. This fee is paid once per year and applies regardless of if your child plays on one team or three. The purpose of the fee is to help maintain our membership with BC School Sports, LIMSSA (Lower Island Middle School Sports Association) as well as contribute to the basic cost of running an athletics program which include, fees, referee costs, uniform cost, equipment costs etc.

Sarah Grundy, teacher

<https://dunsmuir.web.sd62.bc.ca/extracurricular/athletics/fall-sports/>

Backpacks and Sling Bags To Be Stored in Lockers

For safety reasons, teachers are requesting that students store their bags in their lockers during the school day, rather than carrying them around on their backs or storing them by their desks where they become a tripping hazard. Students who have ADST during the first block will go to their lockers first to drop their bags off and then to ADST. At the end of the day, students who have ADST during the last block will return to their homeroom classroom at dismissal time to collect their bags. So far, this new system has worked well and there have been no issues with students getting to class on time at the start of the day, or to busses on time at the end of the day.

Note: Personal hygiene products will be routinely restocked in all girls' washrooms and in the universal access washrooms, and students will continue to have access to their bags during the day if/when needed.

Donations needed

Clean DONATIONS of Fabric, Thread, Stuffing and Sewing Notions are needed. PLEASE drop at the office or send to Shoni Robertson. Thank you SO much!

Dunsmuir Student Handbook and Code of Conduct

Please review the Dunsmuir Student Handbook and Middle School Code of conduct with your student. It can be found on the Dunsmuir website under Students > Code of Conduct or by clicking this link: [Student Handbook](#).

Grade 6 immunizations - October 29 & 30th

We will spend the full day immunizing on Oct 29th, returning in the morning of Oct 30th. only if required.

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Hot Lunch Program and Vending Machines

Dunsmuir Middle School provides food and snacks through the Feeding Futures fund in partnership with Flourish! School Food Society who provide fresh and healthy lunches to students who need it. Students can receive a lunch from the school meal coordinator in a barrier and stigma free manner any day at lunch recess. Please contact Alexis McKean (amckean@sd62.bc.ca) if you have any questions related to our hot lunch program.

Orange Shirt/Truth and Reconciliation Community Walk - Volunteers needed

We are looking for 6 volunteers who are willing to help by being road marshals for our staff and students' Truth and Reconciliation community walk taking place on Friday, September 20 from 10:40-11:30 am. If you are interested in helping us, would you please contact Alexis McKean (amckean@sd62.bc.ca). We will only be able to reply to the first 6 volunteers, so if you don't hear back from us, we will have enough volunteers already ☐ Thank you so much for supporting us with this important event!

Parent Hot lunch program

Welcome back Dunsmuir Parents, students and staff.

This year's PAC dunsmuir.hotlunches.net site is up and ready for you. Tuesday Lunches are waiting to be ordered. For more info, please read the attachment that has been sent out by the school and read the Full Log In page.

This is going to be an amazing year.

Candice - PAC Volunteer

Pizza orders

We will have pizza lunches every Friday that school is in session. Ordering is done through school.cash.online. Pizza is provided by Local Pizza (formerly fresh slice). We unfortunately do not have a gluten free or vegan option. No refunds on unclaimed pizza. Pizza not claimed in class will be redistributed to other student. First Pizza day is Sept. 27th.

School Cash Online

Not set up yet? Click the link [School Cash Online](http://School.Cash.Online)

Staff Parking Lot

Please note that the parking lot at the side of the school that is accessed off Painter Road is for staff use only. If you are dropping your child off at school, please kindly use the student drop-off zone located at the front of the building on Painter Road. Thank you from the DMS staff!

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