

Duffield Drop Newsletter

September 16, 2024

September Fun and Learning!

September brings such a sense of community to our classrooms and our whole school. Teachers and support staff are learning so much about students, their academics, their wonderful personalities, and what everyone needs to feel successful, supported, and happy at school. Teachers have been busy assessing skills in literacy and numeracy so that they can program effectively for each student and I am so incredibly grateful for the teaching staff here because I know your children are in such good hands for learning and wellness. We are also thrilled to have a bit more time with our School Counselor, Mrs. Owen, this year. She will be in our school, supporting students on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays. Enjoy this beautiful fall weather and I look forward to connecting with many of you this month!

Cherie Lovsund

School Fees

As you know, it is the time of year in which we need to collect school fees! Our school website has a detailed description of fees, by Grade level, but I have also included the list below. I know that the amount of money needed to run our school activities seems a lot but know that we do what we can to minimize costs to our families. And know that in order to attend field trips and school cultural events, we do need these costs to have been paid in advance. If it is easier to pay the fees in smaller increments, our school secretary, Ms. Shave, can help you with the process. Thank you so much for paying your child's school fees for the year.

Duffield School Fee Schedule 2024-2025

Please call the school office with any questions about school fees.

Choose Kindness!

Our first assembly is on Friday, September 27!

This year, as a community, we are going to focus on the importance of kindness!! Every month we will acknowledge students who are embodying our Seven Sacred Teachings which include Truth, Courage, Humility, Love, Respect, Wisdom and Honesty! If your child is being honoured at this assembly, we will be calling home on Friday, Sept. 20 but we invite all families to our first assembly.

Caught Being Kind	
Name _____	Grade _____
Reason _____	

Thank you!!

We would like to extend a huge thank you to all of the parents who volunteered their time to renovate our school gazebo. It was a really big project but Brandon Scheuerman shared his expertise and time to fix our structure and then so many parents came to paint and “beautify” our gazebo. The students spend so much time in the gazebo and we are all so grateful for your commitment!



Terry Fox Run

We will be hosting our Terry Fox Run on Monday, September 23 at 1:15. We will have an assembly followed by a run for Terry Fox!! We are hoping to raise a lot of money to support cancer research and we encourage students to bring in "Toonies for Terry" with the class that brings in the most money earning the fun of "Sliming" Mrs. Lovsund!! Our goal for this year is to raise \$700!!





Cell Phone and Mobile Technology Use in Schools

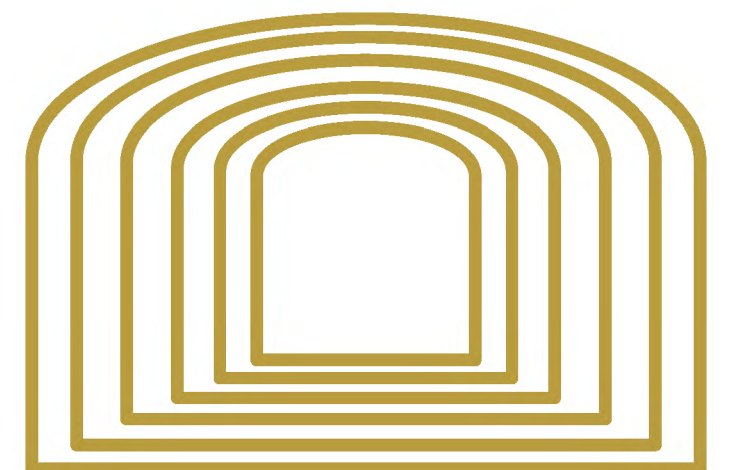
You may be aware that in June 2024 the Minister of Education, Dr. Demetrios Nicolaides issued the Ministerial Order on [Standards for the Use of Personal Mobile Devices and Social Media in Schools](#). In brief, the order prohibits the use of mobile devices including cell phones, personal computers, tablets, and smartwatches (and other similar devices) during instructional (classroom) time and prohibits access of social media platforms using school networks and devices. The order allows for the use of these devices for medical reasons or to support special learning needs at the discretion of the principal.

At Duffield, we have current procedures related to mobile devices and have updated these to align both with the Ministerial Order and our neighboring K-9 PSD schools.

- ◆ The **Duffield Code of Conduct** can be viewed in the attached link and it highlights the Cell Phone Policy as well as all of our school expectations!!

Please note that even with the updated cell phone policy for Duffield School, families are always encouraged to call the school in the event they need to speak to their child and students will have access to the office phone if necessary. Our secretaries will be happy to pass on any messages you may have.

Thank you for reviewing this policy with your child and supporting these adjustments. Additional information for parents regarding these changes may be found in [this letter](#) from the Minister of Education. The letter includes informative research pertaining to student focus and mental well-being regarding mobile devices and social media use in schools.



“Get the Scoop”

A huge thank you to all of our families for joining us at our Meet the Teacher, “Get the Scoop” evening on Sept. 5. It was a fantastic turn out, and we loved meeting families and sharing beautiful classroom spaces with all of you!



Grouse Nest Cross Country Running Event!!

We are very excited to be hosting a Parkland School Division Cross Country Running Event at Grouse Nest Golf Course on September 26! A huge thank you to the Madsen family for supporting our school and opening their golf course for approximately 600 students from all over PSD!



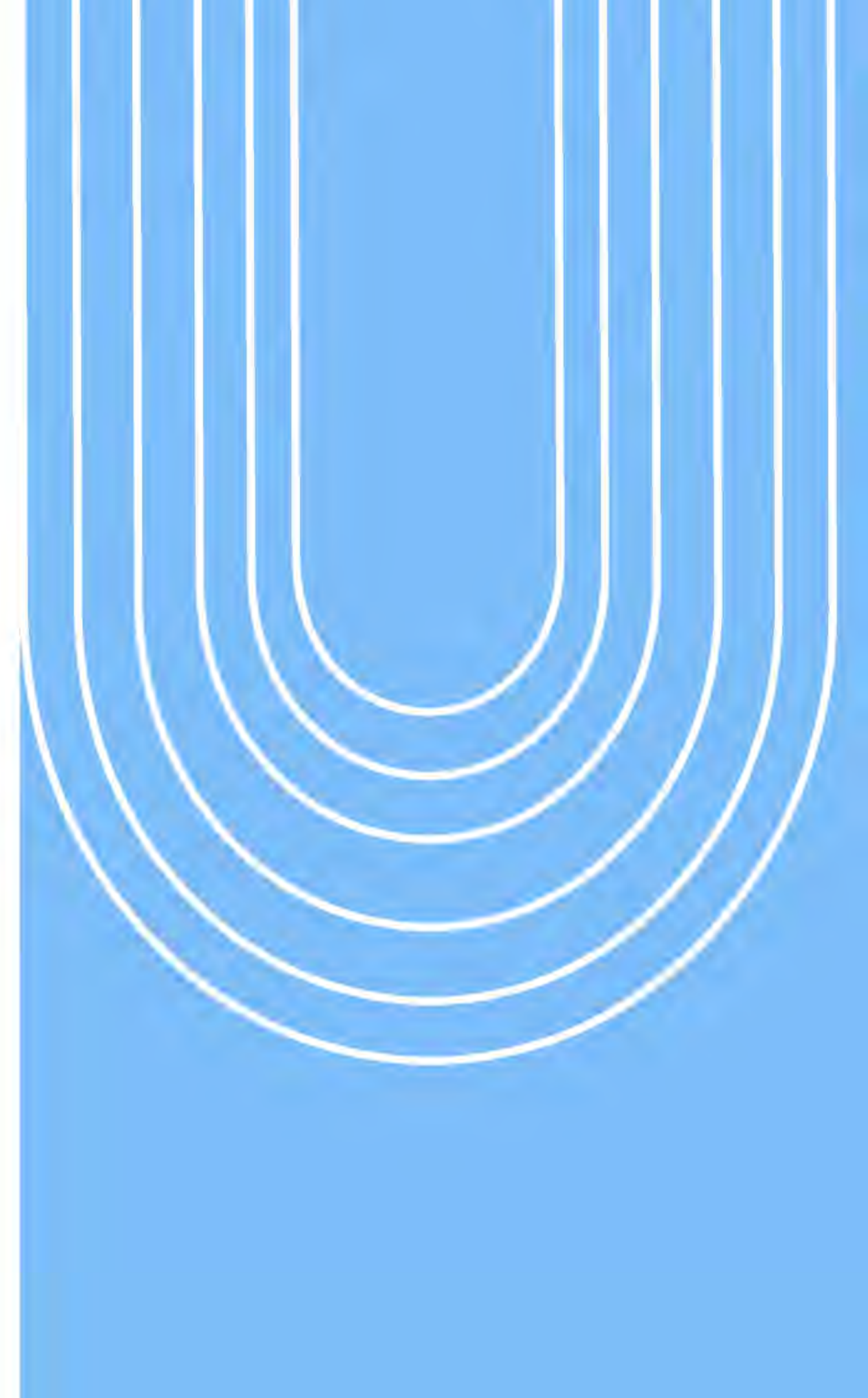
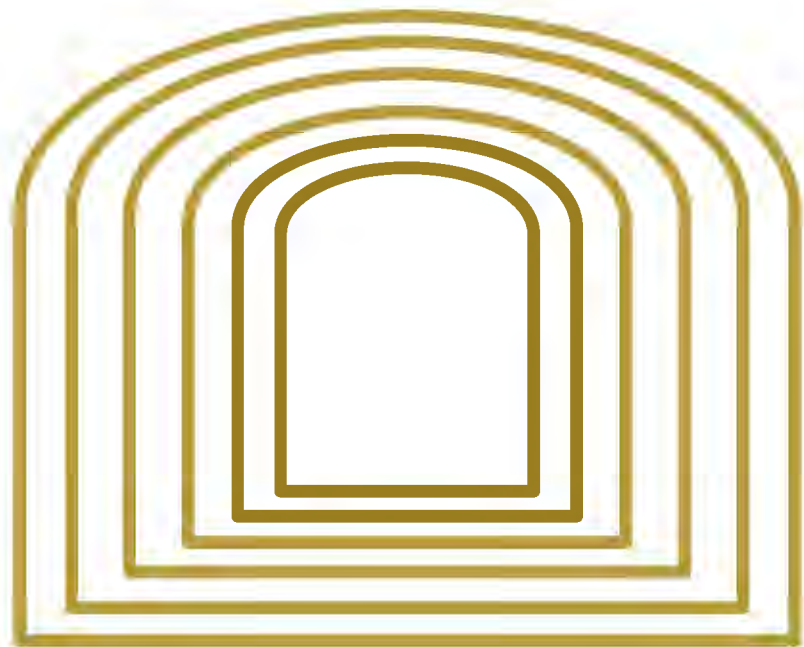
Out of School Care

We are looking forward to welcoming an Out of School Child Care Provider to Duffield School. We have heard from our families that there is a need for care outside of school hours and this OSC program allows students to remain at the school until 6:00pm, and care is also provided on PD Days, as well as during Spring Break. If you are interested in the program for your Kindergarten aged-Grade 6 aged student, please fill in the Google form below but know that we had a great response for Out of School Care so our expected start date will be November 1!!!

[Out Of School Care](#)

School Council Meeting

- September 24
- 6:00-7:00
- Duffield School or Online
- We would love to see new faces
at our meetings!



Allergies!



As a school, we want to ensure all our students are safe. We have students/staff in our building who are allergic to nuts. Please take time to read this important letter about not being able to have nuts or nut products in our school. Thank you! [Peanut/Nut Allergies at Duffield School](#)

Cross Country Running Club

Thank you to our staff
volunteers for offering
their time to support
Cross Country
Running this year!
Your child may be
coming home with a
permission form for
our upcoming races!



September 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Labour Day	3	4	5 Get the Scoop 5-6:30	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 PD Day -No School for Students	21
22	23	24 First School Council Meeting 6:00	25	26	27 Truth and Reconciliation Assembly 1:45	28
29	30 Truth and Reconciliation Day **No School					



It's going to be a
fantastic school year!

We look forward to welcoming all of our families into
the school!!!