

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 1 0

# DPAC NEWS

DONCASTER'S PARENT COMMUNITY WORKING TO ENHANCE OUR KIDS' SCHOOL EXPERIENCE.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to all the new families and staff that have joined our Doncaster community this year! I look forward to meeting all of you in the coming months. Remember: every parent in the school is a member of DPAC and we would love to see you at any of our meetings and events. This newsletter is full of ways for you to get involved: please let us know what skills and interests you have. Get a pen and be ready to mark your calendar: next week, we have organized Stream of Dreams to come in and work with the kids—check out [www.streamofdreams.org](http://www.streamofdreams.org) or our May newsletter for details. Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup> is a double-header with the walk to school day celebration at drop-off time in the morning and the PAC meeting at 7pm in the library. Get those hot lunch forms back so your kids can participate in Subway lunch on October 13<sup>th</sup> and pizza day on October 27<sup>th</sup>. We will have a movie night in the gym on October 21<sup>st</sup> so plan to bring your kids, their pillows and sleeping bags and settle in for some fun. Our next newsletter will come home on October 25<sup>th</sup>—send your submissions to [dpac.doncaster@gmail.com](mailto:dpac.doncaster@gmail.com) by Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions or want to get involved, drop us a line or give any executive member a call.

We're off to a great start...hope you have an amazing year!

~Laura Kaiser, President

## DID YOU KNOW?

CPF (Canadian Parents for French) is a parent-led organization that provides resources for parents, hosts French events and advocates for French second language programs. Memberships are \$25 per year or \$60 for three years. If you buy or renew your membership now (by October 31), you can win prizes. As well, most of your membership price will come back to our school for French resources. Last year, we earned \$280 through membership purchases. To learn more about CPF, the local chapter and upcoming events, visit [www.cpf.bc.ca/victoria](http://www.cpf.bc.ca/victoria)

For info, contact Audrey Panter, Co-Chair of the Victoria Chapter and a parent at our school at [audrey@panter.com](mailto:audrey@panter.com)



# Please...

## CLASS REPS

We are looking for parents from the following classes to create a class list and forward emails to parents in the class. Please contact Shannon at [shannon@yesmag.ca](mailto:shannon@yesmag.ca) if you can help with one of the following classes: Mr. Strickland (Div. 4), Mr. Masuch (Div. 7) and Mme. Sanderson (Div. 8).

## STREAM OF DREAMS

On Thursday, September 30<sup>th</sup> we need volunteers to install the Stream of Dreams fish on the fence. The work will run from 9 am to 2:50 pm. Can you spare a couple hours or more to help? Contact Sheena at [SheenaD@shaw.ca](mailto:SheenaD@shaw.ca) or 250 721-4142.

## CRAFT CLUB HELPERS

We have a very popular craft club that runs at lunchtime on Mondays. We're always looking for new ideas and hands-on help! If you can join the kids for crafting fun some Mondays at lunch, or would like to teach a craft to the children, contact Lee-Ann at [swinton1@telus.net](mailto:swinton1@telus.net) or 250 595-3240.

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

Please return your Entertainment Book order forms by September 30<sup>th</sup>. There is no obligation to buy; but if you do not wish to purchase the sample book that was sent home, please return it to the school ASAP (in its bag). Questions? Contact Irene at [47363gregory@gmail.com](mailto:47363gregory@gmail.com) or see Margo in the office.

## MAGAZINE DRIVE

Please return your magazine orders to the school by October 1<sup>st</sup>. Remember, you can order magazines on-line anytime from during the drive until the end of June and the school will get credit for your orders! Use group #3375. For info: Sheena at [SheenaD@shaw.ca](mailto:SheenaD@shaw.ca) or 250 721-4142.

# Thanks!

## EMERGENCY KIOSKS

Thanks to Irene and Kevin Gregory who have put a lot of thought and effort into getting appropriate food and water into the emergency kiosks so they are all stocked up for the year.

## COBS BREAD

Thanks to Cobs Bread for the delicious treats they sent to our September PAC meeting! Don't forget to participate in their Dough Raisers Program: when you're shopping at the Shelbourne St. Cobs, please let them know you're from Doncaster school and they'll give us 5% of your purchase price.

## WELCOME BACK DINNER

A million thanks to Michelle Cowan for organizing this fantastic event and to the whole team of helpers who made the evening such a success! That was some welcome back!

## ISLAND FARMS & CAMPBELL'S

Thanks to Shauna Miller for counting up all our Island Farms UPCs from last year and sending them in for cash and for taking on the Campbell's Labels for Education counting this year too. Make sure to keep sending her little bits of paper to count (check our Web site for details): she says she finds it therapeutic!

# DPAC NEEDS YOUR HELP!

In addition to the usual requests for helpers we put out every month, we need people with the following skills to ensure all the activities and events we have planned this year can run. Please have a look at the list, check off the things you can do and return this sheet to the school (or email us) as soon as you can. There is lots of guidance and support available from people who have done these jobs before. If you have new projects you'd like to take on, let us know about those too!

Check here	Project	What's Required	What if it Doesn't Get Done?
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Craft Fair Concession Co-Coordinator</b>	Paula co-led it last year and she needs a co-coordinator for this year. You'll help order supplies ahead of time and run the concession at the craft fair (Nov. 27 <sup>th</sup> ).	Revenues drop and we disappoint crafters and visitors at our biggest fundraising and community event.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Craft Fair Volunteer Coordinator</b>	Request volunteers, build a schedule, send emails. <b>This can be done at home in the evenings.</b>	Without volunteers we can't run the craft fair.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Craft Fair Sign Coordinator</b>	Make directional signs out of corrugated plastic, post them in the streets around the school one week before the fair and take them down afterwards. <b>This is another evening and weekends job.</b>	Without good signage, our crafters' sales suffer and they will stop being in our craft fair. Major revenue loss.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Research and apply for grants.</b>	There are grants out there for playground equipment (the playground suppliers know about lots of them) and we need a team to research, apply and follow up on these. <b>This team can meet whenever it works for members' schedules.</b>	If we're not ready when the District decides to remove our wooden equipment, the kids will go without playground equipment for a few years.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Make "wings" for our new portable stage.</b>	Building frames with PVC pipes and sewing fairly lightweight fabric. <b>Other than measuring, you can do this whenever you want.</b>	No wings = no drama for performances. You can see all the backstage action.
<input type="checkbox"/> I can help!	<b>Lead chess club</b>	We have the sets and the kids: we just need an adult to show them how and play with them one day a week at lunch for 8-10 weeks.	No lunchtime chess club.

Please fill in and return this form or email [dpac.doncaster@gmail.com](mailto:dpac.doncaster@gmail.com) to let us know how you can help!

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Email:** \_\_\_\_\_



## International Walk to School

### October is International Walk to School Month

Hundreds of BC schools with some 90,000 students and millions of schoolchildren from 40 countries around the world will be participating in this year's event to promote and celebrate the many benefits of walking.

**Ecole Doncaster School is celebrating *iwalk* on Thursday October 7<sup>th</sup> morning in front of the beautiful new front entrance with our traditional "Bagel Station" offering fresh bagels and yummy toppings for all students! Stickers too! Plan to arrive early to enjoy the snack and visit with friends.**

All Doncaster families are encouraged to participate on *iwalk* day, for the week (Oct 4-8), or even better—throughout the month of October.

Walking promotes:

- Daily physical activity for our children—and ourselves

- Teaching safe walking and traffic skills to children
- Reducing traffic congestion, pollution and speed near schools
- Awareness of how walkable a community is and where improvements can be made
- Taking back neighbourhoods for people on foot
- **Having fun!** and sharing family time by simply walking to school—the easiest way to stay healthy.

If you do not regularly walk to school you might be interested in the Best Walking Routes to Doncaster map. The safest route to walk to school may not be the same one as you drive! View it online at [http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/doncaster/pdf/best\\_walking\\_routes\\_all.pdf](http://www.sd61.bc.ca/school/doncaster/pdf/best_walking_routes_all.pdf)

If it is not possible for your child to walk or bike all the way to school, do not despair! You can still:

- ☞ Drive or bus part way to school, then walk the rest of the way with your children. Check the Best Walking Routes to Doncaster map for recommended alternate drop-off locations.
- ☞ Arrange to drop off your child at a friend's house who is walking to school.

If you would like to get involved with other events throughout the year or if you have road safety concerns, consider joining the Active & Safe Routes to School Committee. Contact Lana Taves [ljtaves@shaw.ca](mailto:ljtaves@shaw.ca) or 250 388-0144.

**"A Walking School Bus is just like a regular school bus, but without the walls and seats, and instead of wheels, we use our feet."**

A walking school bus runs weekly in the Playfair Park/King's Pond area (view route map at <http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=10961038183730232650>)

If you would like to join in for *iwalk* or another time, or would like more information about starting a walking school bus in your neighbourhood, contact Lana Taves at [ljtaves@shaw.ca](mailto:ljtaves@shaw.ca) or 250 388-0144.

## MIGHTY MOMS INDOOR SOCCER

Interested in getting out with other women once a week to play soccer for fun? Join us Wednesdays 8-9:30 pm at Ecole Margaret Jenkins School 1824 Fairfield Road. No experience required. Shin pads are recommended, otherwise all you need is runners, shorts and a t-shirt. Cost: \$125 for the season Sept 15 (now) to mid-April. Contact Lana at 250 388-0144.

**NEXT NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup>.**

**SUBMISSIONS DUE OCTOBER 14<sup>TH</sup>.**

**EMAIL DPAC.DONCASTER@GMAIL.COM**



## Contact Your Executive

Laura Kaiser, President	389-2292	<a href="mailto:laura.kaiser@shaw.ca">laura.kaiser@shaw.ca</a>
Charene Cranston, Vice-President	380-0371	<a href="mailto:dcranston@shaw.ca">dcranston@shaw.ca</a>
Cheryl Rothnie, Treasurer	920-9013	<a href="mailto:ecrothnie@shaw.ca">ecrothnie@shaw.ca</a>
Kate O'Regan, Secretary	298-1207	<a href="mailto:dkoregan@googlemail.com">dkoregan@googlemail.com</a>
<b>Members at Large</b>		
Kathy Alexander	480-0138	<a href="mailto:kathy@the5alexanders.com">kathy@the5alexanders.com</a>
Tina Barnswell	382-0909	<a href="mailto:barnswell@shaw.ca">barnswell@shaw.ca</a>
Sheena Dumitrescu	721-4142	<a href="mailto:sheenad@shaw.ca">sheenad@shaw.ca</a>
Kathy Logan	388-6376	<a href="mailto:kathy_logan@telus.net">kathy_logan@telus.net</a>
Tammy MacKenzie	370-0520	<a href="mailto:mackenzies@shaw.ca">mackenzies@shaw.ca</a>
Audrey Panter	475-6977	<a href="mailto:audrey@panter.com">audrey@panter.com</a>
Suzanne Sherman	592-1913	<a href="mailto:shermies@telus.net">shermies@telus.net</a>
Karen Stevenson	475-6999	<a href="mailto:karen.stevenson@telus.net">karen.stevenson@telus.net</a>

Newsletter Editor: Charene Cranston