



École Doncaster Elementary School Newsletter



June 23, 2011

NOTES FROM THE PRINCIPAL:



I am writing this on the longest day of the year, watching the sun slowly sink down over Doncaster hill, trying to think of a way to characterize the past year in a couple of short paragraphs. This is a great school, and it has been a wonderful year. The reason is clear enough – it is the staff and students and families. I hope it is not too soon to look forward to next year (there is, after all, still one incredibly busy week left). And while I fully expect next year will be good too, it will not be the same because of the many terrific people to whom we are saying good bye.

To Manon Levesque, I will remember our conversation early in the fall, as you described what made Doncaster such a strong school. We wish you the best of luck as you head north! To Kay Marshall, we are fortunate to see the results of your work for the next five years as your Kindergarten students will grow up and then move on themselves. To Shelby Vollo, thank you for coming in part way through the year and making such a difference in our children’s lives. We also say good bye to a number of teachers whom, if luck favours us, we may see again back at Doncaster someday. To Francis Bucher, thank you and good luck at Willows next year. To Rosina Werk, thank you for the difference you have made for our grade fours.

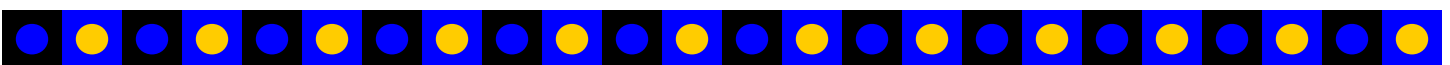
Of course, we are saying good bye to a wonderful group of grade five students. Thank you for sharing with us this big part of your childhood. It has been wonderful to watch you grow and get ready to take on the world. We also say good bye to the parents of these children, who have been a key part of this school for many years. You have left an indelible mark on the school and you will be a part of it long after you have stopped coming in Doncaster’s doors.

Finally, I would like to say good bye to a wonderful vice-principal and a great person, Laurie Cairns. Laurie, your hard work, your insights and the care you have shown for our staff, students and their families have been a huge help to me in my first year as principal. Thank you. I would not be nearly so coherent or sane at the end of this year without you.

And now, as the last of the light is fading, it is time for me to wish you all a great summer and we look forward to seeing all the students and families returning to Doncaster in the fall!

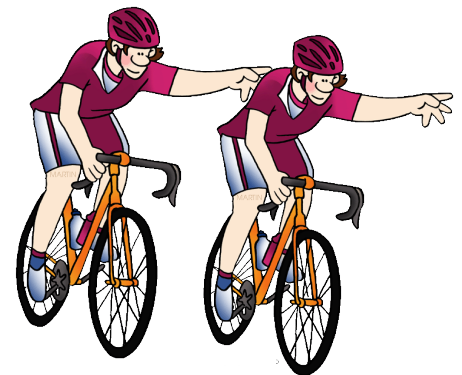
- June 28 Fun Day
- June 29 Final Assembly 10:45 a.m.
Last Day for Students
- Attachments: September Calendar

Quick Notes



WAY TO GO SPRING CHALLENGE RESULTS: HOW I TRAVELLED TO SCHOOL

	April '11	June '11
Auto	55%	43%
Park & Walk	5%	9%
Bus	3%	0%
Ride Share	8%	4%
Bike	7%	12%
Walk	23%	32%



Many thanks to Lana Taves for organizing our Spring Challenge with our staff. These are impressive results in encouraging students, families and staff in looking at their choices in how we travel to and from school. On June 8th we had a very successful Principal's walk to school as over 50 parents and student's walked with Mr. Hansen from Wetherby Park to school.

In the spirit of the golden Shoe award, we would also like to acknowledge Divisions 11 and 12 for the highest participation over the six weeks.

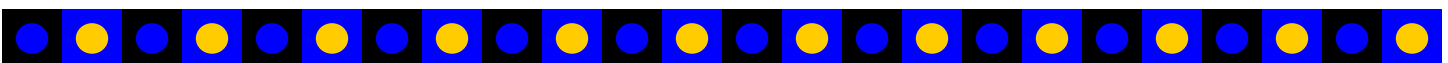


TRACK

Congratulations to all participants in track this year! Well done on your commitment to the training. We had a great team effort at the zone meet. Samantha C, Takeshi C. Jonathan A, Ry N. Graham G, Tanner G., Erica T, Nathan V, Kona M all made it to the city finals in the individual events as did our 8 year-old, girls A, 9 year-old girls A and B, 9 year-old boys A and B and 10 year-old boys A and B relay teams. **Way to go!!** And thank you to Coaches Mr. Strickland and Mme. Cairns for leading Doncaster runners!



We look forward to Fun Day which will be held on Tuesday, June 28th, starting around 1:05 p.m., students will be involved in a host of physical activities in and around the school. If you have time, come out and enjoy Fun Day with us!



STAR SEARCH

Congratulations to all the performers in the June 1st Star Search. We would also like to say a giant thank you to Ms. Wendorf who works in the Provincial Integrated Support Program (P.I.S.P) housed here at Doncaster. Ms. Wendorf has been leading us in Star Search for almost twenty years. P.I.S.P is moving to Lakehill School next year and we will miss Ms. Wendorf and the rest of the staff.



Thank you. Ms. Wendorf for all your work on Star Search through the years!

We would also like to say goodbye to Ms. Lozupone and all the other staff at P.I.S.P. We will miss you.

PARENT APPRECIATION

On June 2, we were pleased to welcome a large number of our parent volunteers for an assembly and social. After a few student performances in the gym, parents were invited to the library for social time and refreshments. It was a small gesture to show how much of a difference parents make to our school. If you were not able to make it, please know that you are a crucial part of what makes Doncaster such a great place for your kids to learn. Without your hard work and volunteering, it just wouldn't be the same!



LINING-UP



We are eagerly looking forward to four full day kindergarten classes next year. To support this large number of new students who will now be attending full day requires some adjustments in our daily procedures, including how we come into the school. Starting in the fall, all of our students will be lining up at specific doors and will wait to come in until the bell.



TO KEEP IN MIND FOR SEPTEMBER



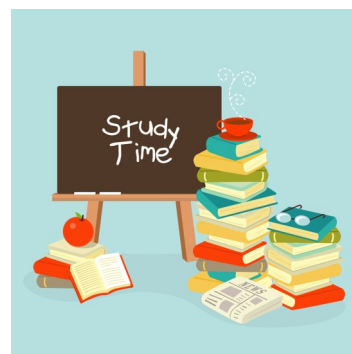
Looking ahead to September, school will be back in session for everyone on Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Students will meet in the gym with the class they were with last year and spend most of the first week reconnecting with friends and reviewing curriculum that gets them off to a good start until new classes are confirmed. Students new to the school will join their grade peers on the first day. Usually by Friday of the first week of school, all students will move into their new classes for the school year. Short notices will be coming home that first week keeping you informed of classroom happenings. **Registration Week: August 30 - September 3; 9:00 - 1:00 pm.**

Regular school hours, 8:42 a.m. to 2:50 p.m., begin on September 7th - a school supply list will come home with report cards. This is a generic grade list and some particular requests may be forthcoming from your child's new teacher. This will happen once classes are established for the school year.

Please Note: At this time, our Kindergarten students will check in on September 7th, in the gym, at 9:00 a.m. Kindergarten begins on **Friday, September 9th, 2011.**

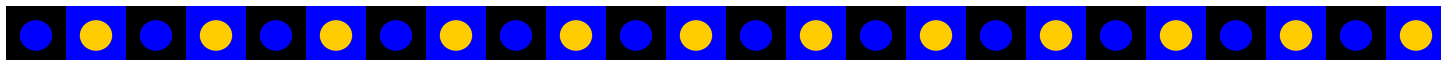
SCHOOL TIMETABLE

Start:	8:42 am
Recess:	10:14 am – 10:34 am
Lunch:	11:53 am – 12:48 pm (Monday only 11:51am – 12:48 pm)
End:	2:50 pm



STUDENTS NUMBERS: 2011-2012

If you know that your K-4 children will NOT be returning to École Doncaster Elementary in September and have not already informed the office, please contact us so we can make the necessary registration adjustments.



Community News

SUMMER BOOK CLOSET CLEAN OUT



Thanks to all of you for making the *Success by Six 1000 books by Age 5* such a success. So far, you have donated over 4000 books for babies and toddlers to this ongoing project. Retired teachers have sorted these books into gift bags for delivery to Strong Start Centres where they go directly into home libraries. **We need more books for babies and toddlers for the summer months.** Drop your gently used picture books into the bin at school and they will be sent on.

Thanks for helping others in your community with the gift of reading.

Annual Aboriginal Back to School Picnic

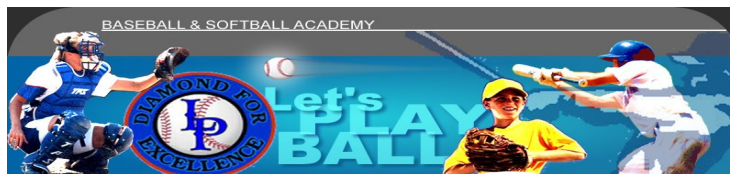
August 13, 2011

11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

231 Regina Avenue

(Victoria Native Friendship Centre & Hampton Park)

*Application Deadline: July 8, 2011



**Lambrick Park's Diamond for Excellence
Baseball/Softball Summer Camps
For Ages: 8-12 Boys and Girls**

TWO SESSIONS

July 18th - 22nd

August 8th - 12th

COST:

\$90.00 (includes T shirt) make cheques payable to Lambrick Park Secondary School.

To reserve a spot call: (250)812-5438, Matt Zupanc or (778)977-5517, Kelly Murray

DONCASTER AFTERSCHOOL CARE

Donaster Afterschool Care is offering a preschool program starting September 2011.

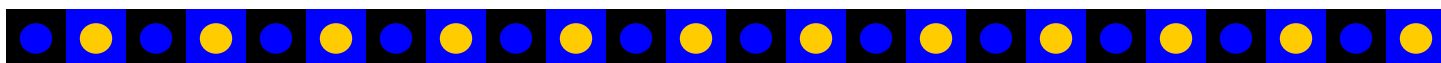
We will be operating out of Room 20.

We are offering a 3 year old program on Tuesday and Thursdays

4 Year old Program on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays

Both Sessions run from 9:00—11:30 a.m.

For more information call 250 370-9110 or email childrenrus@shaw.ca



École Doncaster Calendar for 2011-2012 School Year

The School Calendar for the 2011/2012 school year is as follows:

188 days in session
181 days of instruction

Schools open on Tuesday, September 6, 2011
 Thanksgiving is Monday, October 10, 2011
 Remembrance Day is Friday, November 11, 2011
 Last day prior to Winter Break Friday, December 16, 2011
 Schools re-open on Tuesday, January 3, 2012
 Last day prior to Spring Vacation, Friday, March 9, 2012
 Schools re-open on Monday, March 26, 2012
 Good Friday is Friday, April 6, 2012
 Easter Monday is Monday, April 9, 2012
 Victoria Day is Monday, May 21, 2012
 Thursday, June 28, 2012 is the **last day of school for students**
 Friday, June 29, 2012 is an Administrative Day, then schools close.

6 non-instructional days

Monday, September 19, 2011 (district)
 Friday, October 21, 2011 (province wide)
 Monday, November 21, 2011 (district)
 Friday, February 17, 2011 (district)
 Friday, May 18, 2012 (district)

Important Dates

to Note



Good-bye to the following families

Bojanich	Johnson	Kim	Mahanaga	Margison
Ng	Song	Anderson	Bishop	Ma
Lam	Devlin	Gregory	Kaiser	Mackenzie
Mueller	Nesbitt	Phosy	Schupbach	Mahbobi
Stefani	Teame	Trani	von Hagen	
Ward				

