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What's Up DVG?

(Info for DVG
parents and students)

September

Principal's Blog



Important Dates

- **Terry Fox Run (Friday, Sept 11, 11:00 am start)**
- School Council AGM (Sept 14, 7 pm)
- **Homework Club (after school tutoring starts Monday Sept 14, 3:15-4:15 pm M-F)**
- Grade 6-12 Canoe trips (Sept 14&15)
- **No School (Wednesday Sept 16 and Friday Oct 2)**
- High School REM in Dawson (Sept 21-26)

Welcome back to our returning families and an especially warm welcome to our new families. If you haven't had a chance to drop into the office and to say hi yet, please do come in. I would love to touch base and/or get to know you better. Coffee is always on!

We have a number of extra-curricular activities planned for this year and will be working with the Rec Centre to try and maximize access for students, while avoiding scheduling conflicts with Rec programs. These are some of the clubs and activities planned: science club, crafting, school council, movie nights, canoe trips, lunchtime Gr 6-12 basketball and badminton, recreational Gr 6-12 mixed team volleyball, recycling club, winter outdoors club (ski and snowshoe), and drama. Please stay tuned for times these activities will be available to students.

A reminder from the office that we are still looking to get the signed student forms back from parents. If you have any questions regarding these forms, please don't hesitate to call the office. We are also now collecting the \$20 per student fee in the office. This will go towards field trips, food programs, and other activities.

Next Friday we are holding our Annual Terry Fox Run at 11:00 am. This is a fundraiser to support cancer research in Canada. Students will be bringing home pledge sheets with more information today. Parents and community members who would like to volunteer chaperone or to run, are invited to contact the office (994-2760) or contact the event organizer (Frank de Jong: frank.dejong@yesnet.yk.ca) directly.

I've been told now that "most likely" the main part of the new playground will be here by the end of September (originally I

was told August). One large piece (a separate spinning climbing structure) won't be here until the Spring. This is disappointing news and I have indicated my displeasure to the people involved! I'm sure they are feeling appropriately chastised! Roar!

Parents and visitors are reminded that the school is housed in a private, not public building. Schools are classified in this way to better control adult access to children. As children and staff are deserving of a safe environment, we ask all visitors to conduct themselves respectfully and to use polite language in or around the school. Visitors are also asked to refrain from smoking within 5 meters of our school building. Due to several staff and students with allergies and sensitivities to strong smells, we also reserve the right to ask people smelling strongly of tobacco, perfumes, or noxious odors to leave the building. Please don't take it personally if we can't handle your perfume!

After school homework club is starting up on Monday September 14 and will be run by our EA, Maribel Gabat, who is also a certified teacher. At homework club, students are given the opportunity to work on school work in a supervised setting. Free tutoring for all subject areas up to Grade 8 can also be provided (depending on how many students are present). Children may also gain access to educational websites for online learning. Parents who wish to have their children stay for homework club are invited to have their child drop in.

For more important notices, please see the next page!

Best regards to all of you, and here's hoping for a fruitful and successful school year.

Angela Magon

Notices

- The school library hours are Tuesday mornings and all day Wednesday.
- Substitute teachers are still needed. If you would like the opportunity to have occasional work in the school, please call us at the office (994-2760) to get more information on how to apply. You can also google substitute teaching in the Yukon or go to: http://www.education.gov.yk.ca/employment/substitute_teaching.html
- Normally we host a family BBQ in September to celebrate the beginning of the school year. However, due to the large amount of rainy weather this September, we have decided to hold a yearend BBQ instead.
- As the cold weather starts to set in, wouldn't you like a medium weight DVG toque with the Falcon logo for yourself and each of your kids? \$12 including tax in the office!
- Please read the Student Manual for more information about the school, especially school rules and policies. It can also be found on the school website: <http://dvg.yukonschools.ca/>
- There has also been a calendar date change that affects all children and parents. Our original PD date of September 18th had to be moved to September 16th (a Wednesday!), due to a scheduling conflict at Yukon Education. This means that there is **no school on Wednesday September 16.**

Our Success Story

If you haven't read our 2014 School Review, I invite parents and community to access it from the new school website (<http://dvg.yukonschools.ca/>). But here are a few reasons why we believe DVG is the best rural school in the Yukon:

- 100% of our students have graduated and been accepted to post-secondary programs (most with scholarship money) over the past 5 years
- All of our high school provincial exam results have been far higher than the territorial averages—typically 10-20% higher!
- We are a technology-enabled school. All students have access to iPads, smart boards, Mac computers, and interactive online programs. High school students also have access to laptops. We use a combination of online blended learning and innovative teaching practices to offer an impressive array of courses in our high school.
- Our class sizes are small and with our Educational Assistant support workers, we are averaging 4 or 5 students to one adult
- We offer a broad range of experiences for our learners—including an academic learning environment, experiential and engaging learning programs, leadership and service opportunities, athletics, extra-curricular activities, a dual credit college program and an expansive arts program. It's like a mini private school—but we are free!
- We have caring, talented and highly-experienced staff members who put the needs of your children first
- We have a very large and well-resourced facility
- Our staff and students are friendly, welcoming and kind; Your child's learning environment is safe and nurturing.
- We have the support of an amazing parent and town community. Thank you all!

From the Office

- Don't forget to let us know who is allowed to pick up your child from school and any changes in the normal routine. Your child's safety is our first concern, and we will not release primary aged children to anyone that you haven't cleared.
- Please make sure the school office is notified if your child/children will be away from school . Parents/Guardians need to call to excuse students from school on the day or days he/she will be away due to illness, vacation, etc. Otherwise, students will be marked absent on the attendance register.
- We are looking for a nice picture of DVG from the outside as the one we typically use looks dark and cloudy. If you have a picture that makes the school look bright and colourful, could you send it to us?
- \$20 student fees (per child) to cover extra costs (ex. busing to field trips, entrance fees, food activities, crafting, and miscellaneous other things.) can be given directly to the office. Pay once, not many times, and save! This also helps us say "yes" more often to programs for kids.

Del Van Gorder School Song

**Del Van Gorder is the very best school
The teachers and students are very cool
We love to learn
We work real hard
In the classroom and the school yard
We listen and learn
Share with each other
We're a community of sisters and brothers
We don't allow bullies
We all feel safe
Cause Del Van Gorder is a special place
DVG, in Faro YT
Del Van Gorder takes care of me
Del Van Gorder School
Del Van Gorder School**