

Welcome Back STUDENTS!



Del Van Gorder School Newsletter

Principal's Message

It has been a wonderful start to the school year. I was very pleased to have been given the opportunity to be the principal of Del Van Gorder School this year. I am looking forward to getting to know all of the students and parents this year.

Aside from myself, we have only one new staff member, Alysha Coates. She will be teaching the grade 6/7. I have been to all of the classrooms, and I must say that I am impressed with the dedication and hard work of all of our staff members. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and stable staff.

We have many exciting educational activities planned this year that will extend beyond the classroom walls. We will be having five PD days this year where we will examine the new BC curriculum. The new curriculum emphasizes the concept of experiential learning. From what I have observed and from conversations with staff, we are already doing many of these things as a matter of course.

Another area that I would like to explore is developing a First Nations component. This is also part of the new curriculum initiatives. I have begun dialogue with the principal of Ross River School; and it is my hope that we can work together to bring in some relevant First Nations cultural activities to our school.

Finally, I would like to thank all of our parents. You should give yourselves a collective pat on the back because you have raised some amazing students!

Picture Day

I understand it's been difficult getting someone to do the school pictures since Ron Wilson cancelled taking school pictures in the communities. Good news; we have someone in the community that can take our students' pictures. Her name is Taunis Christinger. We have set the date of September 26 for picture day.



Self Portraits:

If you are in the school; come and take a look at our self-portraits on our front bulletin board. The staff and students at DVG have created portraits of themselves. It looks like we have some budding artists in the school!



Cold Weather:

I know it's a bit early, but the cold weather will soon be upon us. With that in mind, we need to be proactive in making sure that our children are properly dressed for the weather. If we were to have an emergency in the winter time, the children would not have enough time to grab their coats before heading outside; so it is important that they at least have a long sleeved shirt or sweater. Murphy's Law tells us that if we were to have a real emergency in winter, it would probably happen on the coldest day of



the year! In a real emergency, the students would have to walk to the town office.



Winter Bus:

We have three staff members that have their class four license, and all three have agreed to drive the school bus to pick up students during the winter months. Similar to last year, the bus will pick up students from the lower and upper benches. The three staff members that have agreed to drive the bus are Frank de Jong, Alysha Coates & Rachel Rodnunsky.



Community BBQ:

The Del Van Gorder School Council & staff would like to invite the community to a welcome BBQ. This year, we thought it would be good to have the BBQ at lunch time. The date and time will be Monday, September 25 from 11:30-1:00.



So come out, bring your appetites and enjoy our gourmet burgers and hot dogs! Let's cross our fingers for a nice sunny day!!

The Yukon Physical Literacy Program:

This is a resource that supports the implementation of the new K-9 Physical Education curriculum, has been created by the Sport & Recreation Branch of the Yukon Government and is fully



endorsed by Yukon Education. This program was successfully piloted last year with Tantalus, Eliza van Bibber, and St. Elias Schools, and it now ready to be expanded to Del Van Gorder and Ross River Schools too.

As such, we are supporting and promoting the Sport Yukon training plan for rural community schools, as attached. Jeremy McCulloch, Physical Literacy Coordinator for Sport Yukon, is hoping to make several visits to your schools this Fall to work directly with teachers as they deliver their PE classes.

His first visit here is scheduled for: Thursday 14th September; with subsequent visits scheduled for September 28 and October 18. Jeremy works directly with your teachers as they teach their PE classes; therefore, no substitute teachers are generally required.

Developmental Stages Reading Workshop

I will be conducting a workshop for parents, grandparents and teachers on October 19 @7:00 p.m. that explores what reading is all about. Come and learn about how young children go through the various stages as they learn to read; as well as how to encourage older children to not only read but to discover the joy of reading. Come out and take part in some fun activities that explores the wonderful world of reading.

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 11	PD Day, no school
September 12	Terry Fox Assembly, 11:00 am
September 14	Yukon Physical Literacy Program
September 18	Terry Fox Run
September 18-22	Senior REM
September 25	Welcome BBQ lunch, 11:30-1:00
September 26	Picture day
September 28	Yukon Physical Literacy Program
September 29	Orange shirt Day
October 9	Thanksgiving, no school
October 12 & 13	PD days, no school
October 18	Yukon Physical Literacy Program
October 19	Developmental Stages of Reading workshop for parents and staff 7:00 pm (Pat Berrel Presenting)
November 10	Remembrance Day service, 11:00 am
November 13	Remembrance Day, no school
November 24	PD day, no school
December 14	Christmas Concert @7:00 p.m.
Dec. 20 – Jan 2, 2018	Christmas Break
February 12	PD Day, no school
February 23	Heritage Day, no school
March 19 – 29	Spring Break, no school
March 30	Good Friday, no school
April 2	Easter Monday, no school
May 21	Victoria Day, no school
June 8	Last day of School



Fun things happening at DVG!!!

Ms. Coates and Ms. Morrissey's classes began working on Destination Imagination today! Both classes will work together on D.I. projects every Friday morning. D.I. is creative and teamwork oriented, with a focus on hands-on learning. Congratulations on a great start with D.I. at D.V.G.!

