

École Dorothea Walker Elementary

Welcome Fall!

We are all once again very grateful for the wonderful weather that we have been able to enjoy while out on the playground, and we hope you have been able to do the same at home. We wish all our families a wonderful Thanksgiving and a fabulous long weekend!

We've had a busy month since our Terry Fox event and fundraiser. We had our photos taken, and some classes ventured out on their first field trip of the year. We also had the opportunity to do some learning about **Truth and Reconciliation** during the week leading up to Orange Shirt Day. Throughout the last six weeks of school, we also spent time building community and establishing routines and expectations that will serve us all year long. Finally, this past week, we had the opportunity to welcome Ms. Siemens to our school team as our school counsellor. She will be visiting classes in the coming weeks and getting to know students.



Over the next few weeks, intermediate students will be invited to the first **Battle of the Books'** meeting. Battle of the Books is a friendly competition amongst students of the same grade who are interested in reading a pre-selected list of books. Students will get together regularly and test their knowledge and understanding by identifying facts from the books they read. It is not too late to join, but students cannot join mid-year as it will then be too late to get caught up on the reading. If you have a child who loves to read, perhaps this would be an extra curricular activity that they would enjoy. Encourage them to listen to the announcements for the invitation to the first meeting. There will also be an invitation to join **volleyball club** for our older students in the next few weeks (grades to be determined based on availability of coaches and student interest).

Lastly, students are currently busy creating beautiful art work for our PAC's **Art Card Fundraiser**. Look for your child's art and order form in the backpack the week of October 21.



Helping Hands

Being a small school, we are often looking for parent helpers. The PAC is currently looking for some help with hot lunch on hot lunch days ([click here](#)), and we could use a few parents to help with volleyball (contact the office if

you can help). As well, Ms. Ball is starting a guitar unit with some classes and would appreciate a hand with tuning our collection of acoustic guitars. If you are available to assist with tuning, please contact Ms. Ball at joanna.ball@sd23.bc.ca.

Important Dates

October

- 14 - Thanksgiving - No School
- 17 & 18 - Early Dismissal at 12:25 p.m. for conferences with parents & guardians
- 18 - School Spirit Day - wear blue/grey
- 25 - Pro-D - Day for teachers - No school

November

- 5 - PAC Meeting at 6:30 p.m.



Halloween at DWE

On Thursday October 31st, students will be allowed to wear costumes to school. Some classes will allow students to wear costumes all day, others may request that they are worn for the afternoon only. Please make sure that students do not bring/wear:

- pretend-weapons of any kind (and of course no real ones either!), even if they are part of their costume
- no blood or gore
- no Halloween masks (as they restrict vision and create hazards)
- no excessively frightening or revealing costumes



Students will hopefully have the opportunity to show off their costume to the entire school during a fun assembly.

Finally, it is always nice if you pay close attention during the days following Halloween to make sure the sandwich-made-with-love is not swimming in a lunch box filled with, if not entirely replaced by, chocolates and candies.





Partners for inclusive Education (PIE) is a welcoming online space committed to supporting parents/guardians to learn more about the how students with neurodiversity, disability, support needs and/or diverse abilities are supported in their neighborhood school.

PIE is a space where parents/guardians, staff and community come together as partners to champion inclusive education by learning and supporting each other as we navigate the school years together. We connect virtually five times a year offering workshops, speakers, and opportunities to connect with other parents/guardians.

The purpose of Partners for Inclusive Education can be found on the School District website under Parent Resources

Next Event Date:

The next Partners for Inclusive Education meeting is scheduled for:

Date: September 17, 2024

Time: 6:30 pm

Topic: "Your Child's Team...Who is Who?" "The first few weeks of school." "How to Prepare for your Child's IEP."

Location: Zoom: <https://sd23.zoom.us/j/8569391842>