

École Dorothea Walker Elementary

Hello March, and farewell to the DWE community!

In this month's school newsletter, I share with you that I have been reassigned and will assume the role of principal of Hudson Road Elementary starting March 31. I have had the privilege to serve this amazing community for almost four years and will find it very difficult to leave. Over the past years, I have gotten to know so many of you and have been grateful for your ongoing support. You are strong and wonderful partners in education and help us provide the best experience possible for each child. I have been honoured to be given the opportunity to care for your children, and will dearly miss seeing them each day. I must take this opportunity to thank the parent volunteers and the PAC members for their ongoing dedication to our school, you make a big difference in the lives of our students. I wish you well and hope our paths cross again soon. I leave the school in great hands with Mme Hughes who has been assigned as the new principal. I could list off Mme Hughes' many wonderful attributes, but I will allow her introduce herself with her letter on page 2.

March will also feature the much anticipated Spring Break while bringing Term 2 to a close. Basketball will also wrap up and what a season we had! Grade 4, Grade 5 and Grade 6 students all had the opportunity to play! When we return for Term 3, we will be moving on to Track and Field, and running. We will conclude this term with Written Learning Updates being sent home on March 13th and one more School Spirit Day taking place on the 14th. We wish you a great month, along with a fun and restful Spring Break!

◆ Basketball Volunteers

A huge **thank you** to the following volunteers for the countless hours in the gym allowing our students to have fun while improving their basketball skills. To Ms. Newell and Ms. Fleury coaching the Grade 5 & 6 girls, to Mr. Sparrey for coaching the Grade 5 & 6 boys, and to Mrs. Bowers, along with Mr. and Mrs. Wiley for giving the Grade 4 students their turn to play every Thursday. Thank you as well to the parent drivers who made it possible for our Grade 5 & 6 teams to play away games.



◆ Welcome Mme Hughes:



Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well and that you are all gearing up for a restful and fun Spring Break. My name is Christey Hughes, and I am truly honored and excited to introduce myself as the new principal of École Dorothea Walker Elementary after Spring Break.

Joining this vibrant and welcoming community is a privilege, and I look forward to getting to know each of your amazing children. My goal is to build on the strong foundation already in place and to work collaboratively with you to ensure that every student thrives both academically and personally.

I have been a school administrator for over a decade at Arthur Hatton Elementary, École South Sa-Hali Elementary, and Valleyview Secondary School in Kamloops, and for the past six years as vice-principal at École Kelowna Secondary School. Many years ago, I attended École Dorothea Walker Elementary as a French Immersion student, and I am so pleased to be returning to DWE in my new role.

I believe that a successful school experience is built on positive partnerships between home and school. Therefore, I am committed to maintaining open lines of communication and fostering a supportive and inclusive environment for all. I look forward to working together to create the best possible educational experience for our students.

Thank you for welcoming me into your community. I am excited about the journey ahead and the opportunity to contribute to the continued success of École Dorothea Walker Elementary. **Go Wildcats!**

Warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Christey Hughes".

Christey Hughes (a.k.a. Mme Hughes)

◆ Helping Our Students Head to Camp - Return Your Empties

As you do your spring cleaning, clean out your garage, or your monthly trip to the recycling depot, please consider helping our students who will be heading to Gardom Lake Camp in May to celebrate the conclusion of their years in elementary school. We have set up an account with Return-It Express Depot. All you need to do is bring your bagged recyclable drink containers to one of the depots, print out the number of labels you need at the kiosk (one label per bag) using the school phone number 2508705138 as the account number, stick the label(s) on the bag(s), leave the bag(s) in the designated area, and the money generated by your returns will be deposited into our account. These funds will be used to help offset the costs to spend two nights and three days at camp for our senior classes. We thank you in advance for any contribution. For more details visit: <https://www.return-it.ca/express/>

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