

Duchess School Newsletter

Volume 9 Issue 7 <http://duchess.grasslands.ab.ca/>

April 2016

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Please let me take this opportunity to introduce myself, Bert Scholz, as the newly appointed Principal at Duchess School. Shawn Lachapelle is the newly appointed Vice Principal and along with the staff @ Duchess School, we have been preparing for an exciting new school year. We are thrilled about all the learning and creative critical thinking that will occur over the next school year!

Duchess School is a very special place... a place where the staff and parents believe in working together to help our students achieve their personal best!

We have a dedicated Staff that always puts students first. They put their hearts into teaching and helping our students to be challenged, encouraged, and excited to learn! They work hard to make our school a warm and friendly place, while at the same time maintaining high standards for student learning and behavior.

Our goal is to help your child to be successful in school and to acquire the skills necessary to be successful in life. This goal can best be accomplished through a strong partnership between the teacher and the parent. In addition to working with your own child, we hope that you will take advantage of the many opportunities available for parents to become involved in our school. The PAC (Parent Advisory Committee) meets once a month – please join in, as it is great way to meet other parents and learn more about your child's schooling. Our PAC spends countless hours organizing activities and special events that enrich our students' school experience, as well as providing funds for field trips, and school equipment. The more parents who volunteer, the more enriching a program we are able to provide!

Last, but not least, our students are the best! They are respectful and responsible, appreciative and cooperative. We really enjoy working each day with all of our students.

Please let us know if you have questions or would like more information about our wonderful school!



Growlies

We are pleased to be able to offer a hot lunch at Growlies again this year starting Monday, September 12th. Tuesday is Tacos only for September.

We will post each weekly menu on the website as well as posting that week's menu's outside of Growlies in advance. The current schedule will be hot lunch items Monday-Thursday and pizza day will be on Fridays again.

Growlies Grub card is available for purchase online or at Growlies for \$30.00 (worth \$32) and is only valid for Mon, Wed and Thursday's lunch.

Milk Program

Our milk program is up and running as well! Thanks for Mrs Garthwaite for making sure our students have the opportunity to purchase milk at a fair price during the lunch hour. Milk prices are as follows:



Small white or chocolate milk- \$0.75

Large white or chocolate milk- \$1.50

Iced tea- \$2.25

A 10-use punch card may be purchased here or online for \$7.50.

Terry Fox Run



As September is such a busy month, Duchess School will be doing the annual run on **October 7th**. Watch the October newsletter for details.

Online School Payments (Fees/Sports/Extracurricular, Food)

We are hoping and encouraging all families to become familiar with the online school cash program. It's an easy way to look up if you have fees to pay or if you've already paid them. Another good reason for using this service is that you no longer need to send money with your students and can do it from the comfort of your own home. Please see the form that came home with this newsletter and give it a try! It's very user friendly to register. If you have any questions or concerns, please pop into the school office and we can try and assist you.

Encounters with Canada

If any students aged 14-17 are interested in attending Encounters with Canada please let the office know. This is a youth-based conference in Ottawa that offers students a chance to meet their peers from across Canada while learning more about this great country and helping students choose their career paths. The Brooks Rotary is able to sponsor one student to attend at a discounted rate. They will, however, accept as many students as they are able to depending on the chosen week. For more information, please check out their website at:

https://www.ewc-rdc.ca/pub/sites/default/files/documents/EWC_2016-2017_Brochure.pdf

For a little more information, please feel free to call the school at 378-4948 and speak with Mr. Scholz.

Volleyball



Our volleyball season has begun with practices starting this week. Please see the attached calendar for days and times. If you have a child who is still interested, please encourage them to stop by the gym and speak to Mr. McKinney. Currently we have the following teams and their league fees that can be paid by cheque, or you can go online to pay them there:

- junior girls volleyball gr 7-9 \$80
- junior boys volleyball gr 7-9 \$80
- intermediate/JV girls gr 9-10 \$100
- senior girls team. Gr 11-12 \$120

If you require assistance with the fees, please call the school and speak with Mr. Scholz or Mr. Lachapelle.

Parent Council

Are you interested in volunteering in something that makes a difference for your kids and the kids in the community? Have you wanted to be more involved in Duchess School but weren't sure how? School Council may be a fit for you! We meet once a month for an hour or two to discuss what is happening in the school and what we can do to make a difference. Come out to our first meeting Tuesday, October 4 at 7:00 pm at the school.

Little LINKS is Back!

(Little LINKS is an after school program for children in Kindergarten to grade 6.)

**Duchess Little Links is beginning
Thursday, September 15th from 3:00-4:00pm**

Please note that spots are limited (they are only taking 15 kids), and we believe they will fill up quickly. Your child must be registered prior to attending. Forms are available at the school office. There is only one leader for Little Links and that is the reason for the limited spots available.

Be Nut Aware



Duchess School is Nut Aware!

There are students in our school community with a severe allergy to nuts. For some students with severe allergies, the smell, touch, or taste of these foods can be life-threatening, even in small amounts. Strict avoidance is the only way to prevent a severe allergic reaction. Nuts and peanut/nut oil can be found in many foods, including baked goods and most chocolate candy.

We must do all that we can to provide our students with a safe learning environment. In an effort to allow all students to participate fully in classroom activities, **please do not send food for your child that contains peanuts, mixed raw nuts with peanuts, or peanut butter sandwiches.**

If you have questions, you are welcome to call the school office. We thank you for your assistance in this **important safety issue.**

Yearbook

The 2015-16 yearbook is arriving next week and will be given out according to our list of purchasers. There will be a limited amount of extra yearbooks for sale for \$25 if you'd like to purchase one upon their arrival.



Run Club Grades 3-6

Running is beneficial. Not only does it strengthen your heart and lungs, it's also proven to reduce stress and make you happy. We are here to help you build confidence and endurance. This club will start with small steps and work up to a 3km run!

It will be held every Tuesday and Thursday at lunch time. All Mrs. Schottenbauer requires is that you have comfortable clothes, good running shoes and a positive attitude. If you are interested please fill out the forms that were sent home by your home room teacher. Please get the forms in as soon as possible as they are starting on Thursday, September 15th.

Junior and Senior High Run Club

Our older students are also invited to come out for run club on Tuesday and Thursday's after school. This program is also designed for those students looking to move more, concentrate better and just feel better overall. Thanks to Mr. Roth (teacher) and Mr. Morgan (counsellor) for donating their time. Same rules as above are applied to this group. Be prepared for the weather with appropriate clothing and a good running shoe.

GRADUATION/ COMMENCEMENT 2017

The 2017 graduation date has been set for Saturday, May 13th. Mark the date!!

Student Support Services- Fair Notice

Grasslands Public Schools are committed to providing the best possible programs and services to all students. We have an extensive network of professional services available to all students including Family School Liaison workers, Psychologists, Behavior Consultants, Occupational Therapists, Speech Language Pathologists, Physical Therapists and consultants of literacy and innovation/technology. These professionals are in our schools providing ongoing consultation and support to teachers, admin and assistants. Your child/student may see different members of this team in their classrooms at various times working with school based staff. If, at any time, it is felt that support from one of these professionals would be beneficial to your child specifically, you will be contacted by the school to discuss the services recommended. If you have questions, please feel free to contact either school administrator.

September 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>** Remember to check the website and watch the hallways for signs for weekly lunch specials</p> <p>4</p>	<p>Sandwiches will be available every day if specials run out.</p> <p>5</p>	<p>6 Tacos 1/\$3, 2/\$5</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>1</p> <p>8</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9 Pizza-\$2.50</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10</p>
<p>11</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> <p>This week's menu</p>  </div>	<p>12 Chicken fingers with veggies-\$4</p> <p>Jr/JV girls vb practice 3:30 Sr girls vb 4:30-6:30</p>	<p>13 Tacos 1/\$3, 2/\$5</p> <p>Sr girls VB Practice 6:30-8:30</p>	<p>14 Pulled pork and coleslaw \$4</p> <p>Jr boys vb 5-6:30</p>	<p>15 Baked Mac and cheese \$4</p> <p>Jr/JV girls 3:30 Jr Boys 4:30</p>	<p>16 Picture Day Don't forget your smile!!</p>  <p>Pizza-\$2.50 Sr girls 4:00</p>	<p>17 Jr girls VB Tourney at BJHS</p> 
<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20 Tacos 1/\$3, 2/\$5 Magazine Kickoff</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 Eagles-Wear your green and gold!!</p> <p>Fall Begins</p>	<p>23 Pizza-\$2.50</p>	<p>24</p>
<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27 Tacos 1/\$3, 2/\$5</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Pizza-\$2.50</p>	

DUCHESS SCHOOL FEES

Please return this form along with your payment on or before October 28, 2016. All fees include the whole school year (not just one semester.) The fees requested below are for options and supplies.

Please make cheques payable to GRASSLANDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS. A receipt will be issued upon payment. If you have any questions please call the school at 378-4948.

If it is impossible to pay fees by this time please make other arrangements by contacting the principal, Mr Scholz at 378-4948.

STUDENT'S NAME (S): _____

ECS (Kindergarten), Grade1, Grade 2

\$25.00 common school supplies were provided at cost. **Total \$25.00/student = \$**_____

Grade 3-6 No fee

Jr. High (Grade 7-9)

\$10.00 Student Union fee
\$30.00 Option fee for 1 year

Total \$40.00/student

#of students__x \$40.00= \$_____

Sr. High (Grade 10-12)

\$10.00 Student Union fee
\$40.00 option fee for 1 year

Total \$50.00/student

#of students__x \$50.00= \$_____

*Jr/Sr high **shop** option **may** require additional fees depending on their chosen project.

Pre-Ordered Yearbook (optional) \$ 25.00 \$ _____

Community Calendar (Optional) \$ 10.00 \$ _____

Grand Total \$ _____

Students are expected to return rented materials (textbooks, etc.) in the same condition they received them (allowing for reasonable wear during the course of the year.) It will be the responsibility of students to pay for lost or damaged texts and/or materials. Special events and field trips may require fees as they come up.



If you are purchasing a calendar, please return to Duchess School by October 28,2016. We need to update our files (birthdays/anniversaries) each year, so please take a minute and record your loved ones birthdays and anniversaries.

Family Name: _____

Delivery Address: _____ **Town:** _____

Province: _____ **Postal Code:** _____

of calendars _____ @ \$10.00 each Total:\$ _____

Calendar Information (if new, or different from last year)

Names (please print clearly)	Date(Month/Day)
Anniversary: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____
Birthday: _____	_____

Our awards program is completely funded by your subscription!

DUCHESS SCHOOL STAFF & STUDENTS THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!!!

Please either drop this form off or mail in to the school - Box 119, Duchess AB TOJ OZO.
 If you have any questions regarding our calendar, or wish to place an advertisement, please give Mrs. Morey or Mrs. Van De Kraats a call at the school- 378-4948.