



DURHAM ELEMENTARY TIGER NEWS

"Every Student Learns Every Day"

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Shirley J. Williams, Principal

Visit our website ~ www.durhamunified.org/des/

January
2018

Principal's Post

Did you know that the word January comes from the Latin word *ianua* which means "doors"? I always thought it was named after Janus, the Roman god of transitions, but apparently that's not the case. When I think about doors and how they are a path or a passage way, it really does make sense. We greet the new year with hope for adventures, resolutions to do better, challenges for ourselves, and all of this involves the opening of new doors along with the closing of others. Both are equally important to our success in moving forward. This month some folks at school were asking if we should be locking our doors while others were saying that we need to leave them open to welcome our parents and volunteers into our classrooms. Both come from a place of deep care for our students as we desire to balance this concern with our desire to be inclusive and welcoming. Yet isn't this how we live our lives not only at school but also at home. We protect all that is precious to us but we also open our hearts to new people and new adventures. We never did come to a consensus about the doors but that just means we have different ideas of how best to care of each other. So for now, our doors and hearts are open and ready for 2018 to come on in!

Miss Williams, Principal

Events In January

- 8 First day back to school
- 12 Math-A-Thon kick off
Assembly
PTS Meeting 9:00 AM in the
Multi-Purpose-Room
- 15 No School—Martin Luther
King Day
- 19 9 AM Kindergarten
Registration for the 2018-
2019 School Year
- 22 Math-A-Thon envelopes due
- 26 100th Day Of School
Math-A-Thon tests given
today

Mark Your Calendar Upcoming Events

- February
- 2nd —9am PTS meeting, Multi-Purpose
room
- 16th & 19th—No School
Presidents Weekend
- 21st—End of 2nd Trimester
—School Site Council Meeting 3:15

Kindergarten and Transitional Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2018-2019 school year begins on
January 19, 2018 at 9:00 AM.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years old on or before
September 1, 2018.

**Transitional Kindergarten students must turn five on
or after September 2, 2018 and must be 5 by or on
December 2, 2018. Please bring with you your child's birth
certificate, current immunizations record and proof of
residency such as a PG&E bill or something with your
physical address on it and from the last month. A PO Box
is not acceptable.**



It's Math-A-Thon Time!



This is the DES's major fundraiser for the year! Money raised is used for class fieldtrips, school assemblies, and other student based activities. Pledge sheets will be coming home on January 12th and students will be taking their math tests on the 100th day of school, January 26th.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

GALA TICKETS NOW ON SALE!



Mark your calendars and get your tickets for our
Technology fundraiser, Friday, March 23, 2018 in the Sierra Nevada Big
Room! Dance, dine, and bid on some fantastic items donated by many of
our local businesses and families during the live and silent auctions.

Tickets are only \$50 per person and includes your meal and dancing.

Tickets are on sale now at

<https://2018durhamgala.eventbrite.com>

YEARBOOKS!



2017-2018 Year-
books are now on
sale. The price is
currently \$25.00. Yearbooks
are limited, be sure to secure
your copy! Forms were sent
home with your student, but
are also available in the school
office!



Durham Recreation & Park District Programs



WINTER BREAK DAY CAMP OFFERED

Join your friends, and your favorite ASP staff, for Winter Break fun!

Activities will include gym time, fun tournaments, crazy crafts, silly projects, team challenges, music, video games, movies and more. Program will be offered Dec. 27 - 29 and Jan. 3 - 5. Space is limited so sign up today.



ARE YOU BRAVE ENOUGH TO TAKE THE PLUNGE?

Join your family, friends and community as we celebrate the New Year with a fun and fast plunge into the Durham Community Pool. After you've taken the plunge, chill out and warm up with a hot beverage and a bite to eat. January 1, 2018.

Gates open at 10:30a. Plunge is at 11:00a. Participation in the Polar Plunge is FREE!



ROOKIE AND ELEMENTARY BASKETBALL

DRPD is excited to be offering an 8 week youth basketball skills program Saturday mornings beginning Jan. 13. Participants will get direct instruction on the fundamentals of basketball including: ball handling skills, shooting, passing, defense, sportsmanship and leadership.

Sign up today online at www.durhamrec.com or in person at the District Office.



TINY HOOPSTERS

This program is designed to introduce and teach the game of basketball and basketball skills to children ages 3-5, through fun drills and modified game play.

A minimum of 8 sign ups is needed. Parent participation is welcome and encouraged.

Program meets once a week on Saturday mornings at 9:00a



VOLLEYBALL SKILLS & DRILLS

In an effort to provide continued opportunity for skills development during the off-season, DRPD will be offering an 8 week "skills&drills" workshop. This series of events will be available for players in grades 5th through 8th. Skills will be presented to players with variations based on player experience and ability, with introductory variations for newer players, and more challenging variations for the more experienced players. The program will include skills instruction, drill progressions and modified game play. Sessions will be held one afternoon /evening and Saturday mornings.

Contact the District Office at 345-1921 for more information.

(Non School Sponsored Events)



Support Our School...BUY SCRIP!

Durham Elementary School PTS is partnering with a company called UnitedScrip to create an easy way to earn money for our school.

UnitedScrip contracts with over 250 National Retailers and receives a discount for volume purchases. They offer these Gift Cards to us at discounts from 1.5%-20%. Our members and supporters pay face value for the Gift Cards and our group pays the discounted amount. The difference is instant revenue for our Group!

What this means for you:

By purchasing gift cards to stores that you already shop at daily, weekly, monthly (or even annually), our school will automatically get a percentage of the purchase. **It doesn't cost you anything extra!**

Some examples of stores you may already be frequenting are: Safeway, Raley's, Wal-Mart, FoodMaxx, Target, TJMaxx, plus many more!



There are also several local restaurant gift cards available, such as, Starbucks, Outback, Logan's, Great Harvest, Chili's, Chipotle, and more...



Additionally, there are several online retailers such as Amazon and iTunes.



How to purchase:

DES families are able to purchase these gift cards online and have them shipped directly to you, or you can download an e-certificate to use immediately when you go to the grocery store or get gas, things we all need daily.

PTS will also be keeping an assortment of cards in stock regularly for your convenience. There will be an established day weekly that PTS will have a table set up before and after school.

Please visit www.scripzone.com for list of the available retailers as well as instructions on how to create an account.

Thank you for your continued support! With your help, PTS is able to do so many amazing things for our school and for our students. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to ask us via our Facebook page, facebook.com/DESPTS or email Debbie Ilukowicz at debmarler@gmail.com.



YOUR MEMBERSHIP MATTERS!!!

Join DES PTS Today!

**The Durham Elementary Parent Teacher Student (PTS)
Organization needs you!**



The DES PTS is every mom, dad, grandparent and guardian of every child at Durham Elementary. In partnership with the school's principal, teachers and staff/leaders, we strive to make Durham Elementary the very best school possible for our children. The PTS is for everyone and benefits all our students!

Help Durham PTS reach its goal of 100% participation by becoming a member today. Annual membership dues are only \$10.00 per family and all members receive a Tiger Paw vehicle magnet. If you have children at other schools in Durham Unified School District then your annual dues will grant you membership to each school's PTS.

Joining the PTS does not require a lot of time. At the very least, fill out the membership form, write a check and keep updated by "liking" the DES PTS Facebook page. If you want to get involved we'd love to have you – there are a number of events and programs that need committee support. Just let us know what you're interested in and we'll find a way for you to get involved!

DES PTS is responsible for many popular and important programs and events each school year. Funds are raised primarily through Cookie Dough Sales, Scrip Gift Card Sales and from Direct Donations and allows DES PTS to do the following:

- ⇒ Back to School Popsicles & Kindergarten Snacks
- ⇒ Kindergarten Parent Coffee Chat
- ⇒ Muffins for Mom/Donuts for Dad
- ⇒ Grandparents' Day
- ⇒ Art Docent Program
- ⇒ School Garden Project
- ⇒ Purchase of Prizes for Attendance Assembly & Reading Incentives
- ⇒ Back to School & End of Year Teacher/Staff Luncheons
- ⇒ Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week & Retiree Gifts
- ⇒ Teacher Grants for Classroom Resources
- ⇒ Purchase of Hydration Stations, Benches & Tables
- ⇒ Courtyard & Grounds gardening/landscaping
- ⇒ Coordination of Tiger Gear Purchase

DES PTS meets the first Friday of each month at 8:45 a.m. in the Staff Room. Because of Winter Break, the next meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 12. For more information contact DESPTS@gmail.com or by sending a message via Facebook.