

# DIXON DRAGONS

# THE WEEK AHEAD

FEB 12-16

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## What's going on this week?

**Feb 12 and 14:** Saleema Noon Body Science

**Feb 15:** Hot Lunch – Pizza Day

**Feb 15:** Grade 7 Parent Info Night at **McMath** @ 6pm

**Feb 16:** Pro D Day – No School for Students



## Farewell and Good Luck

We are bidding a fond farewell to Mme Law as Mme Stroh will be returning from her maternity leave on April 2. Mme Law has been at Dixon since September 2022, and we are sorry to see her leave. We would like to extend a huge thank you and merci to Mme Law for her dedication to our learners. Mme Law will continue to come to Dixon as a TTOC after Spring Break.

Mr. Tasaka, one of our amazing Educational Assistants, is going on leave beginning March 5th and will not be returning to Dixon. Mr. Tasaka has been part of the Dixon Community since September 2020. Mr. Tasaka has supported all of our Dragons over the years, and we are sorry to see him go. However, we wish him much luck in his next endeavour.



**Make sure to check out our resources on the upcoming Body Science Presentation!**



## Parent and Caregiver Workshop

**Alert!!!** Establishing Safe, Caring, and Respectful Digital Communities. Everyone Welcome on February 28. **Register HERE!**

If you're a parent of a student in division 3, 8, or 9 – be sure to check out **the blog** that follows their learning with Andrea from the *Engaging Artists in the Community*. These divisions are part of a long term project on Richmond's Flood Protection program.



## PINK SHIRT DAY

In 2007, Berwick Nova Scotia, after a new student at their school was bullied for wearing a pink shirt, two grade 12 students bought 50 pink shirts and encouraged their classmates to wear pink. The next day they went to distribute the shirts and to their surprise the majority of students arrived wearing pink! With that act of kindness, Pink Shirt Day was born.

In recognition of the Berwick event, Nova Scotia proclaimed the second Thursday of September "Stand Up Against Bullying Day." In 2008, British Columbia proclaimed February 27th to be the provincial anti-bullying day, and the movement has continued to grow. In 2012, the United Nations declared May 4 as Anti-Bullying Day, and now the last Wednesday each February is Canada's national Pink Shirt/anti-bullying day.

Many countries now recognize specific days for raising awareness about the prevention of bullying and promoting kindness and inclusion. In Canada, many students have heard the Pink Shirt Day message from kindergarten through to their high school graduation.

The movement continues to grow.



Dear Parents and Guardians,

There has been a lot of attention in the media regarding cell phones in schools over the past few weeks. At Dixon, we have the following guidelines in place:

**We recommend that cell phones**

**be kept at home;** we have phones here for students to contact their families. Students are not required to have a cell phone at school. Cell phones are valuable and should be kept at home.

**If a student chooses to bring a cell phone to school, we expect that it remains in their bag from 8:45m to 2:45pm.**

Cell phones are only allowed access or use during school time if a teacher is present to be part of the communication between school and home. Sometimes, we find students carrying their phones in their pockets; in these situations, we direct the students to please store their phones in their backpacks.



Dixon staff actively teaches digital citizenship. We have conversations about consent and encourage students daily to be kind and thoughtful. We have invited several experts to present to our students about internet safety in the past including the RCMP and *Safer Schools*, grades 4 –7 (*Safer Schools* is coming back in April!). If a social media issue comes to our attention, we try to solve the problem and continue to teach good digital citizenship along the way. We contact parents to share what we have learned. We encourage our students to solve problems in person rather than through messaging or by using social media. The intent of a typed message is often misunderstood with the absence of a real voice.

If your child has a cell phone, we have found the following guidelines very helpful in teaching our children how to navigate these **devices that are designed for adults**:

1. Remember, the phone belongs to the parent. Parents should know all the passwords to the phone and to any apps. Check the apps regularly for content.
2. Many service providers have tools for parents to monitor cell phone usage or limit WiFi access at home. Check out the Telus or Shaw App.
3. Always charge cell phones in a common area like the kitchen, and keep all devices, including iPads, out of the bedroom. This ensures our student's sleep is not interrupted.
4. Please note most apps have an age requirement; many are 13+; please be aware of what apps your child is using. The age limits are in place as the apps are designed for older users.
5. Review security settings on your child's phone and on the apps your child is using. Some apps have an option for private or public accounts; always choose private.
6. Check your child's phone regularly and insist that any content on their phones –messages or pictures – be sharable with parents.
7. Review what consent means with your child. Consent means a healthy yes. Sharing content messages or pictures must have the consent of the individual who created the content. Screen shotting and forward pictures or messages without the consent of the creator is problematic.
8. Set time limits on phone/iPad/computer/any screen time, and have screen-free time.

Navigating the Internet, using cell phones and social media are complex, and children need the guidance of their parents. Strive to keep conversations open and encourage your child to share problems so you can help solve these problems. Cell phones are part of our daily lives, and our children need support to learn how to use their devices in productive, healthy ways. Children also need to know they can share roadblocks or problems with their trusted adults.

For more information, please register for the Feb. 28th online workshop or attend our PAC-sponsored Safer Schools Online workshop on April 22nd at 6pm.

–Ms. Wallace

# Important Dates Ahead



- **Feb 12:** Body Science with Saleema Noon (for students)
- **Feb 15:** McMath Grade 7 Parent Information Night 6 pm
- **Feb 14:** Body Science with Saleema Noon (for students)
- **Feb 16: District Pro D Day – No School for Students**
- **Feb 19: Family Day (School Closed)**
- **Feb 20:** 100 Day – dress like you are 100 years old OR wear a collection of 100!
- **Feb 20–23:** Toonie Talent Show (in person & virtual)
- **Feb 21–28:** Kindness Week
- **Mar 1:** Family Literacy with divisions 5, 6, 12, 13, 14 and 15 @ **8:45am–9:45am**
- **March 6–7:** Grade 7 Feeder Tournament McMath
- **Mar 7:** Learning Update #3 Conferences – Early Dismissal at 12pm
- **Mar 8:** Spirit Day – Dress Like a Teacher Day
- **Mar 14:** Spirit Day – Pajama Day
- **Mar 15–28 (inclusive): Spring Break**
- **Mar 29: Good Friday (School Closed)**
- **Apr 1: Easter Monday (School Closed)**
- **Apr 15–19:** Spirit Week
- **May 21: McRoberts Grade 7 Orientation Day**
- **May 24:** Spirit Day – Superhero Day
- **May 31: McMath Grade 7 Orientation Day**
- **June 3–5:** Spirit Week
  - **Jun 3** – Rainbow Day
  - **Jun 4** – Tacky Tuesday
  - **Jun 5** – Crazy Hair/Hat Day
  - **Jun 6** – Dixon Day

## 2024 Munchalunch Dates

Feb 15  
Feb 29  
Mar 14  
Apr 4  
Apr 18  
Apr 25  
May 2  
May 16  
May 30  
Jun 6  
Jun 20



## PAC Meetings

### Where?

Dixon Library

### When? 6:30pm

Feb 26  
Apr 22  
May 27  
Jun 17



## Equity, Diversity & Inclusion Dates

### February is...

#### Black History Month

**Feb 10:** Lunar New Year  
**Feb 14:** Vasant Panchami  
**Feb 14:** Ash Wednesday  
**Feb 15:** Nirvana Day  
**Feb 19:** Family Day  
**Feb 20:** World Day of Social Justice  
**Feb 21:** Int'l Mother Language Day  
**Feb 24:** Lantern Festival  
**Feb 24:** Magha Puja Day  
**Feb 28:** Pink Shirt Day