

# David Cameron Elementary School Parent Advisory Council Newsletter

**“Support - Listen - Nurture - Advise”**



**March 2011**

## **PRESIDENT’S PEN**



Balance! What does that word mean to you? To me, as a mom, it means continuously trying to achieve equilibrium in my children’s lives, in our home, and in my relationships with friends, family, and work. It means trying to make decisions that will help my family be happy, healthy, and well-rounded. As PAC President, it means virtually the same thing, but now I must help make decisions that will provide opportunities for 340 students.

Four years ago, Mr. Stinson asked the PAC, “What does your PAC look like to you?” That question spurred many discussions, and in the end, the concept of finding a balance between fundraising and building a school community was created. During the February PAC meeting, a large portion of the meeting’s discussion centered on this very notion. Our school community has grown so much in the last four years, both in numbers as well as in heart. With the growth of both our population and enthusiasm in our school, striking a balance between these two idealisms has been both challenging and rewarding. Parents/guardians fill out the fundraising forms, send in their money, and trust their child will benefit from their donation in some way. In turn, the PAC conscientiously determines how those much needed donations are spent, as well as providing free family events such as the DC Coffee House, movie night, and the DC Family Dance. These free family events help to build our school community and bring the school community together so we all get to know each other better.

The Funfair is a great example of how both of these fundamental concepts merge as one and create balance between the two. The Funfair is by far the largest DC PAC fundraiser, as well as the school’s largest family event. For the Funfair to successfully raise funds for the DCPAC’s annual budget of \$20,000.00 (only \$7,800.00 has been raised so far this year) it needs the generosity of the parents, community businesses and volunteers. Last year, roughly \$5,800.00 was raised at the Funfair. To match or exceed this amount (Happy Valley’s Funfair raised \$11,000.00) as well as provide a fun evening out for the whole family to enjoy, over 500 volunteer hours are needed, even before the first bouncy castle is inflated.

In the very near future, notices will be coming home, asking DC families who own their own business or are affiliated with a business (whether it’s an accounting firm, hairdressing, plumbing, landscaping, hauling, etc.) for donations of goods and/services to put up for the silent auction at the Funfair. The items donated for the silent auction greatly increase the funds raised at the Funfair. For example, if you are a plumber, we would love for you to donate an hour or two of your time for the silent auction. I know I would bid to have a few plumbing jobs done around my house! As you can see, all types of services, materials, and goods can be donated to make the auction successful and add to the fun. Those who have participated in silent auctions know what I am talking about.

There is also an enormous need for volunteers before and on the day of the Funfair. Over 250 volunteers are required the night of the Funfair. I understand that not every parent has the opportunity to volunteer at activities and events during the school year. However, in order to make this a successful event for all the students, we need you to volunteer for as little as one 30 minute shift, between 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm, on Friday, April 29. Your time and effort will be greatly appreciated by all, especially the students. A small Funfair committee of four to six parents plan and organize this exciting night, but the manpower of 250 volunteers is necessary to ensure the Funfair is a success both from a financial and community-building perspective. When the Funfair notices come home, in the backpack express, please take a minute to read them and see how you can contribute to the Funfair either by donating goods/service or by volunteering.

I often find myself bragging about our school community; I know it is not nice to brag, but I cannot help doing so. When I am asked “Kim - how is this done at David Cameron?” my pride of our students, my respect for our teachers, staff, and administration and my gratitude for the support of our parents shines through and I cannot help but boast about what a wonderful school we have. It is very rewarding to know our school community is striving for and achieving a balance between the need to provide monetary funds which enhance our students’ elementary school years and the desire to give back so we can grow as a community.

Sincerely,  
Kim Campbell  
DCPAC President



**Quote of the Month: “You have to balance reason with passion; reason keeps you open, passion keeps your adrenaline going.” Author unknown**



## Fun Fair

Put the date on your calendar! The David Cameron 2011 Fun Fair has been scheduled for Friday, April 29. We will be sending plenty of information home through March and April. As always, we will need everyone's help to make the fun fair a huge success. Stay tuned to a backpack near you for important details.

Hello all Opera Club members,

Wow, what a show La Bohème turned out to be! The tenor, Luc Robert, came down with illness on the day of the dress rehearsal and they had to substitute at the last second – not with one person but two! That was a neat trick. It was interesting to see how they had to ‘problem solve’ at the last second. The director announced that this was a **first** for the Pacific Opera Victoria – they had never had this happen before. I understand that they had to fly in a tenor, Gerard Power, from New York to cover for the opening night and the Saturday shows until Luc Robert was well enough to get back in action for the remaining shows.

There is one more opera left in the 2011 Pacific Opera Victoria season. Mark your calendars for the last opera dress rehearsal, Vanessa, on Tuesday, April 26th. If you haven't been to one yet, be sure to talk to one of the students who has attended one of these fabulous events. It's a wonderful opportunity to experience seeing at least one show. Ticket purchasing and confirmation usually takes place about two weeks before the show. Watch for details on the DC school website and notices from Mrs. Garry.

CIAO TUTTI, Swati

## Staples Canada - Recycle for Education

David Cameron is registered for Staples' ink and toner recycling program called Recycle For Education. Every Staples store location across Canada has a recycle bin near the ink and toner cartridge area where customers, students, parents, teachers and small businesses can drop off their empty ink and toner cartridges. You don't have to label the empty cartridges or fill out any forms. Or bring them into the school and we will deliver them to Staples for you. It will benefit both the environment and our school.

## Head Lice Check Program

Volunteers are needed to check for head lice. Also, I will be leaving the school at the end of this school year, so the school will need a new lice checker. It is easy to do, and I am happy to teach you how. Please contact me at Valerie's Hair Studio @250-391-1998.

For more information, contact your pharmacist, or go to [\\*http://www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles/index.stm](http://www.bchealthguide.org/healthfiles/index.stm)

To report head lice, contact David Cameron School at 250-478-7621



Thank you - Valerie Wilde



## Car Wash and Barbecue

Saturday, March 5  
at the Langford Rona store  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm



To raise money to help Luc Savage and family.

David Cameron raffle tickets will also be sold at this event.



## Metal Supermarkets (Vancouver Island)

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## Build Community While Building Your Business

David Cameron PAC has a unique advertising opportunity: Buy a business card-size ad in our newsletter and let other families in the school know where they can turn locally when they need a service or product. Your business will be recognized as a supporter of our school, and only businesses run by David Cameron families are being offered this opportunity to reach more than 280 avid readers. The cost is \$10 per issue. Please complete the advertising form and provide us with a copy of your business card, which will be scanned. Return the form, the cheque and the business card to the school by March 21 for inclusion in the April PAC Newsletter (your child's teacher will leave the package in the PAC mailbox.)

**Advertising deadline for March issue: March 21**

### David Cameron Newsletter Advertising Order Form

- **Please make cheques payable to DCPAC**
- **Please send the following items together to the school: your business card, your cheque and your order form. (Your child's teacher will leave the package in the PAC mailbox.)**
- **Send an electronic copy of your business card to [secretary@dcpac.ca](mailto:secretary@dcpac.ca) if you wish**

<b>Student's Name</b>	
<b>Teacher's Name</b>	
<b>Business Name, Your Name, Phone Number and Email</b>	

### Thrifty Foods Smile Cards

We're registered again for the Thrifty Foods Smile Cards program! For those of you that still have your Smile Cards from previous years, please feel free to start using them again. You load your Smile Card with any dollar amount at the cashier using cash or credit card BEFORE your order is rung through, and then use your Smile Card to pay for your grocery order after it's been rung through. Five percent of all purchases go to David Cameron PAC. If you don't have your Smile Card from previous years, or are new to the program, please email us at [fundraising@dcpac.ca](mailto:fundraising@dcpac.ca) to ask for a card, or fill out the form below. Be sure to ask for additional cards for other family members too.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Smile Cards requested: \_\_\_\_\_





## Hanging Baskets

The PAC will be selling hanging baskets during the month of March, for delivery in May (in time for Mother's Day). Please look for order forms and more information coming home soon in a back-pack near you.

## Ongoing/Year-round Fundraisers

**Cobs Bread** - We are involved in Cobs Bread's "Dough Raiser Program" at Millstream and Westshore locations. Remember to say "David Cameron" when you purchase your baked goods at either Cobs Bread location.



**Co-Op** - Our membership number is 56855. Mention our membership number, or just say "David Cameron" when buying anything from the Co-Op.

**Campbell's Soup** - Save all labels/UPCs from participating Campbell's Soup products, including Goldfish crackers and V8 juices (see <http://www.labelsforeducation.ca/english/eligible.asp> for a list of participating products).

**Island Farms** - Cut out the UPCs from all of your favourite Island Farms products and bring them to the school. We receive 3¢ from every UPC saved.



**Canadian Tire** - We save Canadian Tire money and use it to cover some of our expenses for the Fun Fair.



## Healthy Living - Healthy Families



Many of you may know that March is celebrated as National Nutrition Month. This year's theme is **Celebrate Food . . . from field to table!**

There is lots of great information at the following sites covering all areas of interest including ideas to eat healthier, tips for preparing and cooking food, celebrating Canadian food, finding and connecting with dietitians, and finding activities and resources in your area.

Check out these sites:

<http://www.dietitians.ca/Your-Health/Nutrition-Month/Nutrition-Month-2011.aspx>

Interactive website about food in Canada:

<http://www.celebratefood.ca/en>

Key Nutrition Month Handouts:

[http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11\\_FS\\_Home-Grown-Canada.aspx](http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11_FS_Home-Grown-Canada.aspx)

[http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11\\_FS-Cook-together.aspx](http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11_FS-Cook-together.aspx)

[http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11\\_FS-Select-recipes-with-care.aspx](http://www.dietitians.ca/Downloadable-Content/Public/NM11_FS-Select-recipes-with-care.aspx)



Happy Nutrition Month,  
Swati

## The Scholastic Book Fair is coming again soon!!!



The fair is arriving Wednesday, March 2 and will be open from Thursday, March 3 to Tuesday, March 15. I need a great deal of help this term as it is such a long fair. Quite the change from last term's three days! Anyone with a couple of hours to spare on Thursday, March 3rd, or a little over one hour on any of the other days, and willing to work in the fun atmosphere of the book fair, please drop me a note at [dwthgreen@shaw.ca](mailto:dwthgreen@shaw.ca). We are only open from 2:15 until 3:30 every day except March 3, so if one hour is all you can spare, that would be perfect. On the 3rd, I will need more volunteers and any time you can give me would be appreciated! We are open that day from 11:30 to approx. 7:00.

I am also looking for someone who is interested in taking over the job as Scholastic Book Fair coordinator since I am leaving the school at the end of the year. If you would like to try this job, it is actually very easy and incredibly FUN! I would be absolutely thrilled to help you learn this rewarding job! Book fairs are a fantastic way to raise money and valuable resources for the school. Scholastic has a great contact person who will walk you through ANY aspect you are unsure of and I will happily pass on any tips I have learned. You can email me if this sounds like something you would be interested in.

Tracy Green  
Scholastic Book Fair Coordinator  
[dwthgreen@shaw.ca](mailto:dwthgreen@shaw.ca)



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Cell: (250) 208-2371  
Phone: **(250) 478-7603**  
Fax: (250) 478-7288

Good business has many rewards.



Vote for those that care about family.

We all know it, we say it all the time... family is everything. But just saying it doesn't make it any easier for those raising a child. Let's face it, in today's busy and challenging world, young families need all the help they can get.

The Early Years Awards celebrates the businesses and organizations that make a difference in the lives of families with children. Whether it be a safer park, a child friendly office or simply a more tolerant attitude, if you know of a particular place or location that supports families in our community, nominate your choice for an Early Years Award. It's easy. It's free. And it's the right thing to do.

\* Deadline for nominations – March 15th, 2011 \*

Awards Celebration April 13th, 2011

**CAST YOUR VOTE TODAY AND WIN!**

Win a family vacation at the Westerly Hotel in Courtney including an exciting family caving expedition at the Horne Lake Caves or one of our fabulous weekly prizes!

TO VOTE VISIT: [www.earlyyearsawards.com](http://www.earlyyearsawards.com)

THE  
**Early Years**  
AWARDS **2011**

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## Sports and Entertainment Raffle



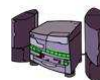
Tickets are on sale from February 14, 2011 – March 8, 2011

The draw will be held on March 11, 2011 at 9:00 am in the David Cameron Elementary School office. Winners will be contacted. (It's not necessary to be present at the time of the draw to claim your prize.)

Prizes are:



- 1st prize: 42" Sharp Aquos LCD flat screen TV
- 2nd prize: LG Micro Hi-Fi Stereo System
- 3rd prize: 2 tickets to Canucks hockey game March 31
- 4th prize: 4 passes Ozone Tubing @ Mt Washington Alpine Resort (expire April 2011)
- 5th prize: 2 tickets to Salmon Kings hockey game March 16
- 6th prize: 4 tickets to Shamrocks' Lacrosse 2011 regular season home game(s)



There are a total of 5,000 tickets for sale at a price of \$2.00 per ticket. The DC PAC will be donating an amount equal to 50% of the raffle proceeds to the Luc Savage Trust Fund.

Please return all sold or unsold tickets on or before Tuesday, March 8, 2011. If you sell all of your tickets before March 8, please return the book of stubs and money earned to the school so that we have time to separate the stubs and be organized for the draw date. Alternatively, if you have sold all the tickets you can (Grandma and Grandpa can only buy so many after all!) and still have some tickets remaining in the book, please return all books and any money earned, including any unsold tickets, so that we can redistribute the unsold tickets to those still able to sell.

As always, if you have any questions, please send an email to [fundraising@dcpac.ca](mailto:fundraising@dcpac.ca). Thank you for your support.

The DCPAC would like to thank the following businesses for donating the wonderful prizes for the DCPAC sports and entertainment raffle. Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the David Cameron school community.

*Effective Benefits Solution Inc.*  
*Green Shield Canada*  
*Benefits By Design Inc.*  
*Empire Life*  
*The Salmon Kings*  
*Mt. Washington Ski Resort*  
*The Shamrocks.*



Mt. Washington  
Ski Resort



GREEN SHIELD  
CANADA



### David Cameron Coffee House

(for parents and guardians of DC students)

**When:** Friday, March 11, 2011  
8:50 - 10:15 am

**Where:** Multipurpose room across from the office and down the hall.

**What:** Free coffee, tea, snack and good conversations are on the menu.

**Why:** Because we all deserve a good cup of coffee and an opportunity to meet new friends.







# March 2011



Safe Arrival 478-4363

DCPAC Website: [www.dcpac.ca](http://www.dcpac.ca)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Assembly 12:50 pm	2	3 - No Kindergarten - Grade 1-6 - dismissal at 11:50	4 Non- Instructional Day	5
		----- Student Conferences -----				
6	7	8 Last Day to buy ticket for raffle 	9	10	11 Raffle draw 9:00am - Coffee house 8:50 - 10:15	12
	----- Scholastic Book Fair -----					
13	14	15 PAC Meeting - 7:00 pm	16	17 <i>Raptor Report</i> 	18 -Foodfest - Subway -Report Cards -Jump Rope Assembly 1:00	19
	----- Scholastic Book Fair -----					
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	----- Spring Break -----					
27	28 First day back	29 Day of Drumming 	30	31  Jump Rope For Heart		



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