

DUFIEF PTA DRAGON'S BREATH NEWSLETTER

Parent Express



December 17, 2015

DRAGON'S BREATH

DECEMBER 2015 ISSUE

President's Letter

It's hard to believe that it's already December! Your PTA isn't slowing down - we've got lots going on - so please be sure to read this newsletter to the bottom :)

Thank you to everyone who has already become a member of the PTA and especially to those of you who have made a direct donation to the DuFief Elementary PTA. As the end of the calendar year draws near, the PTA looks to you—the parents and friends of DuFief—to make a direct donation if you have not already done so. These donations allow us to help our students and staff throughout the year in a multitude of ways. Combined, those expenses add up to an annual budget of over \$45,000. This year, in addition to our continued support of past and ongoing activities, we are also committed to supporting new programming that parents would like to see introduced.

In order to continue supporting our school community, we really need everyone - every single family - to participate in the PTA's direct donation appeal. Our suggested donation this year is \$40 per student, but we welcome any amount - no donation is too small to make a difference!

The DuFief PTA is a 501(c)3 organization, therefore all of your donations are tax deductible. Please consider sending a check to the front office labeled "PTA Direct Donation" or click on the PayPal link on the [DuFief PTA website](#).

On behalf of the entire PTA Board, I want to wish you a safe and happy holiday season! Looking forward to a fantastic 2016....

Yonat Lurie

Upcoming Events

December 17	Tri-Cluster Roundtable, 7:30-9:00 PM, Giathersburg HS
December 18	Sunshine Committee Cookie Exchange
December 24 - January 3	No School, Winter Break
January 5	Executive Committee Meeting
January 8	DuFief Spirit Day
January 8	Winter Dance, 7 PM, APR
January 18	No School, MLK Day
January 25	Professional Day
January 28	International Night, 7 PM, Gym



Get Recipes Kids Can Make Themselves



CHORE CHARTS FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES



[Why ads?](#)

Tri-cluster Roundtable

The public information meeting for the Tri-Cluster Roundtable (Magruder, Wootton, Gaithersburg Clusters) will be on **Thursday, December 17 from 7:30 to 9 pm** at the Gaithersburg High School Media Center. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

[Tri-Cluster Roundtable Flyer](#)

Sunshine Committee Cookie Exchange



Thank you to all of the parents who have already donated and will donate cookies, brownies and yummy treats galore for this Fridays Cookie Extravaganza for the teachers and staff. There is still time to donate! Goods can be dropped off on Dec 17th in the porch container at 11213 Quelway Rd. or the on table at 2 Dunleith Ct. or December 18th at those same locations until 8:15am. They can also be dropped off at school Dec 18th between 8:15 and 9:15am.

If you have any additional questions, please contact [Shannon](#) or [Olga](#).

DuFief Spirit Days

We are going to start having a spirit day on the first Friday of every month - next spirit day is **January 8th**! Kids should wear their DuFief swag or any blue/gold outfits.



Spiritwear

Are you stumped for a gift for your DuFief student? What about a DuFief T-shirt? Contact yonat.lurie@gmail.com to purchase a shirt before the holiday break!

DuFief Winter Dance



Save the date for the DuFief Winter Dance on **Friday January 8, 2016**. [Helen John Photography](#) invites our community to enjoy an evening of fun - DJ, photobooth, dancing, games, snacks and more! Fun for both kids and their parents! *All children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.*

[Winter Dance Flyer](#)

International Night

Save the date for DuFief's International Night on **Thursday January 28, 2016**. For questions regarding this event, please contact [Aashima Mehta](#).

PTA Programs

Winter Before/After School Activities

Kaizen Karate:

- o Ages: Kindergarten - 5th Grade
- o Day: Mondays
- o Time: 3:45-4:45
- o Location: Gym
- o Dates: Dec 14,21, Jan 4,11, Feb 1,8,22,29, March 7,14, Make up if req. 3/21
- o <http://kaizenkaratemd.siplay.com/site>

Zumba Kids:

Zumba Kids is back this winter on Tuesday afternoons! First class will be January 5th at 3:35pm in the Music Room. This is a very reasonably priced class - \$100 for 10 one hour classes. For more information contact the instructor, Kathya Perez at 954-257-1983 or pkathya@hotmail.com

Imagination Stage:

Please see the attached flyer for more information on winter classes.

[Winter Classes Imagination Stage](#)

Mad Science:

There are lots of interesting subjects in this session: Magnetic Magic, Lights..Color..Action!, Harnessing Heat, Sonic Sounds, Tantalizing Taste.... and more! Don't let your child miss the fun!

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, December 23rd!

Class: Sensational Science

Details: Friday, 3:30-4:30 PM 1/8/2016-3/4/2016 (No Class: 2/26)

Cost: 8 wk/\$112

To register: Go to <http://dc.madscience.org/>

Registration is done on a first-come, first-served basis, so please register early to secure your spot!

Questions? Contact:

Mad Science info@madscienceofdc.com 301-593-4777 or Agnes Chen at wingagnes@hotmail.com.

KidWrite:

Winter 2016 starting Jan 04 (Grades 1-3) and Jan 06 (Grades 4&5)

KidWrite after-school program is NOW OPEN for registration!

CLASS INFO:

Class: KidWrite (Grades 1-3, Grades 4&5)

Details:

1. Class Grades 1-3

- Cost: 9 week / \$175 (includes a \$10 materials fee)

- Schedule: Monday 3:35-4:35pm Jan 04, 11; Feb 01, 08, 22, 29; Mar 07, 14, 21. (No class Jan 18, 25, Feb 15)

2. Class Grades 4&5

- Cost: 11 week / \$215 (includes a \$10 materials fee)
- Schedule: Wednesday 3:35-4:35pm Jan 06, 13, 20, 27; Feb 03, 10, 17, 24; Mar 02, 09, 16

TO REGISTER:

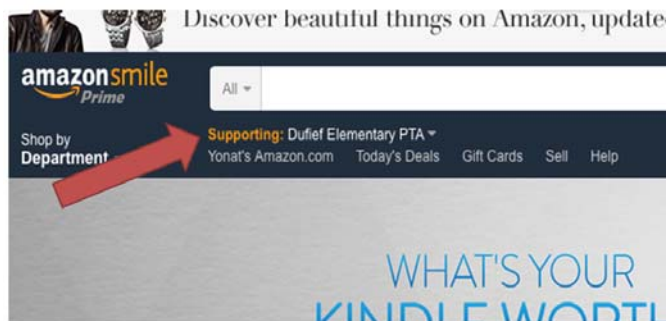
Class Grades 1-3: Go to <http://www.kidwriteonline.com/register-winter-dufief-1-3/> and select 2016WinterDufief1-3.

Class Grades 4&5: Go to <http://www.kidwriteonline.com/register-2016-dufief-45/> and select 2016WinterDufief45.

Questions? Gina Hagler 301-762-0387. KidWrite@gmail.com

Holiday Shopping on Amazon.com

As you're doing your holiday shopping, don't forget to go through [AmazonSmile](#) when you shop on Amazon - support 'Dufief Elementary PTA' and we will earn a percentage of your sales! Please follow this [link](#) and make sure that the next time you shop on Amazon, you enter through our portal.



Silent Auction

Anyone interested in donating any services, goods, gift cards or anyone interested in helping solicit area business for the Silent Auction, please contact [Lauren Su](#) at poohlo11@yahoo.com.

Teacher Spotlight

Mrs. Annette Peretzman Nominated for the 2015-2016 Shirley J. Lowrie "Thank You for Teaching" Award

Reminder that we are putting together a 'parent letter' for the nomination of Mrs. Annette Peretzman for the 2015-2016 [Shirley J. Lowrie "Thank You for Teaching" Award](#). If you are interested in contributing, please email a statement or anecdote (specific stories would be great!) to yonat.lurie@gmail.com by **Friday, December 18th**. If you send me a

statement, you will be listed as having contributed to the letter.

Yearbook

SHARE your photos!

Each parent in our community is able to upload high-quality photos to our yearbook database. Upload photos using your computer or download Walsworth Yearbook's app in order to add photos.

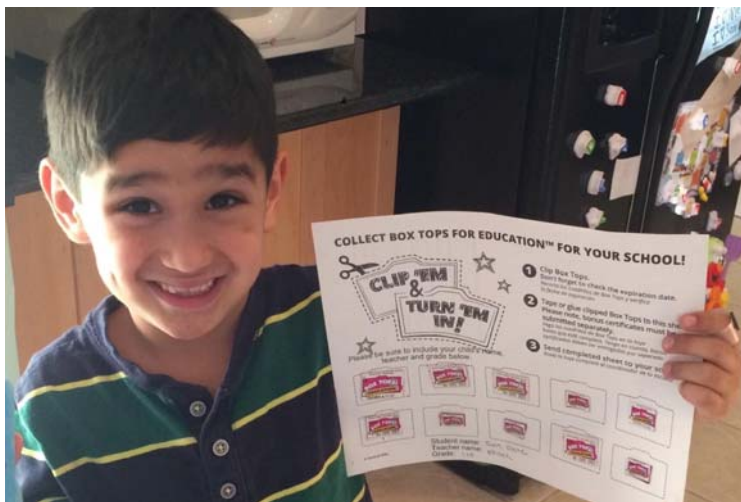
1. On your computer go to: <http://yearbookforever.com>
 1. Type in our school name
 2. click on 'DuFief Elementary School'
 3. click 'Community Upload'
 4. Enter access code "Dufief"
 5. Add photos!
2. On your phone download the app 'Yearbook Snap' by Walsworth yearbooks and follow similar steps!

Please see the attached flyer for more information and please contact Hui Shang at shang_huijun02@yahoo.com with any questions or if you are interested in helping out with the yearbook.

[Yearbook Flyer](#)

Box Tops for Education

We're doing a class competition! The classes with the most sheets turned in by January 8th will receive a popsicle party. Fill out as many sheets as you can and turn them in as you go! Need more sheets? It will be posted on our website ([Collection Sheet](#)) and there are copies outside the front office. Contact Bethany Dame bethdame@gmail.com with questions.



Volunteer Corner

Congratulations to our **November Volunteer of the Month**, Flor Clark! Flor volunteers for Girls on the Run, as well as many other activities at Dufief. She was selected through a random drawing to receive a \$10 Gift Card to Target. ***Please remember to log your hours every time you volunteer.***

Thanks again to all of our November volunteers! We hope you all enjoy your winter break and look forward to seeing you in January.

Wendy Rodriguez, Volunteer Coordinator

Questions?

Have questions regarding this newsletter or want to submit something for the next newsletter? Please contact [Siva Venkatachalam](mailto:Siva.Venkatachalam) at siva9977@yahoo.com.