

# DUFIEF PTA DRAGON'S BREATH NEWSLETTER

Parent Express



November 17, 2016

## DRAGON'S BREATH

NOVEMBER 2016 ISSUE

### President's Letter

It's hard to believe that the first quarter is over and that Thanksgiving is already next week!

The PTA has had a busy few months! Already this year we've hosted our annual **Back-to-School Picnic**, **Ice Cream Social** with entertainment by Eric Energy, community breakfast at **Books & Bagels**, **Walk to School Day**, **Apple Field Trip** for Kindergarteners, **Birdhouse Activity** for our 1st graders, **Family Movie Night** featuring Zootopia, sponsored **Red Ribbon Week** with a **School-Wide Assembly** of the Maryland Ravens Wheelchair Basketball Team, reimbursed our teachers for their **Classroom Funds**, helped to fund **Halloween Parties** and co-sponsored a new **Little Free Library** in front of our school. Additionally, our Sunshine Committee has sponsored 'thank you' events for our teachers and our Executive Committee has already allocated nearly \$500 of mini-grants to our classroom teachers!

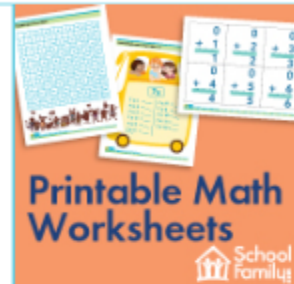
In addition to the events and activities we've already sponsored, we are planning several community-wide events in the coming months - two more breakfasts for **Books & Bagels**, **International Night**, funding assistance for **Valentine's Day Parties**, **Silent Auction**, **Talent Show**, **Science Fair**, **Bingo Night**, **DragonFest** and several **Memories & Dreams** activities for our graduating fifth grade class!

We would not have been able to fund our past or upcoming activities without your financial support. *The PTA's largest fundraising stream is from our Direct Donations - we ask for a suggested donation of \$40/child, which still does not cover the total amount we spend on each child!*

Please join the PTA and make a direct donation here:

JOIN NOW: <http://tinyurl.com/dufiefmembership>

For all memberships and direct donations made through November, you will receive a DuFief ES car magnet (valued at \$5 each)! For every \$40 donation made you will receive a DuFief ES travel coffee mug (valued at \$10 each)!



## Community Service Ideas for Students



[Why ads?](#)

Do you have more questions about how your membership dues and donations are used? Please ask! Contact Toby Salahuddin at [tobysalahuddin@gmail.com](mailto:tobysalahuddin@gmail.com) with your membership questions or contact me directly.

Thank you again for your support,

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## Upcoming Events

November 18	Career Day
November 22	Little Free Library Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
November 23	Early Release
November 24 & 25	No School, Thanksgiving Holiday
December 2	Spirit Day
December 6	PTA Meeting, 7pm, Media Center
December 7	Dining for DuFief - Chick-fil-A Kentlands
December 10	Barnes and Noble Book Fair, 12-4PM
December 26-January 2	No School, Winter Break

### Little Free Library



Join us on **Tuesday, November 22 at 11AM** as our third grade students participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Little Free Library in the front of the school where the LFL will be installed. Because there is limited space in the front walkway of the school, the other grade levels will watch the ceremony in their classrooms as we will live stream the event.

Every student at DuFief will also have his or her thumbprint and name on the Library as it is certainly intended to be used by all students and families. For more information about little free libraries check out: <https://littlefreelibrary.org/faqs/>

A special thank you goes out to the Eppard family for thinking of the idea of the LFL and for donating resources, and to the **DuFief PTA for generously contributing to the purchase of the library**. Thank you also to the third grade teachers for their hard work in making the LFL happen as well as to the third grade students for researching the impacts of the LFL on the community.

Questions? Contact the school

### DuFief Spirit Days

The first Friday of EVERY MONTH is a DuFief Spirit Day! Have your kids wear all their DuFief swag or blue & yellow!

Need to purchase a \$10 DuFief Tshirt? Contact James Noon at [jamesnoon@gmail.com](mailto:jamesnoon@gmail.com) to set up a time to purchase.



### Next PTA Meeting

Tuesday, **December 6th** 7:00-8:00PM in the media center. All are welcome to join our PTA meeting! Free babysitting will be provided.

## Dining for DuFief



Please join us for dinner at our next Dining for Dufief event on **December 7th** at Chick-fil-A in the Kentlands

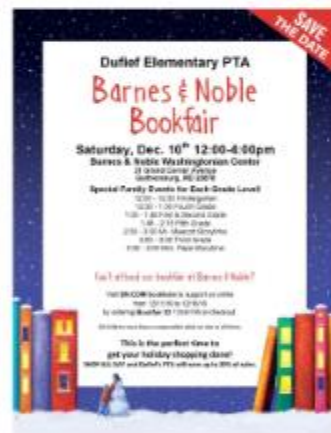
Have a suggestion for a future Dining for Dufief restaurant? Please send it to Shelley McGinness at [shelleymcginness@gmail.com](mailto:shelleymcginness@gmail.com)

## Barnes & Noble Bookfair



36 days until the start of Chanukah and Christmas! Plan to do your holiday shopping at our upcoming fair on **Saturday, December 10th from 12-4pm** (though you could shop all day in the store with code 12046769). We will also have an online book fair from **December 11-15th**, so please consider sending a 'wishlist' of gifts to friends and family with our code during those dates. Contact [yonat.lurie@gmail.com](mailto:yonat.lurie@gmail.com) or [runako.allsopp@gmail.com](mailto:runako.allsopp@gmail.com) with questions.

At the Book Fair, we will be having grade-specific activities and a scavenger hunt. When the scavenger hunt is complete, please return the sheet to our bookfair volunteers and your child's name will be automatically entered into a raffle to win a **FREE** DuFief Elementary School travel mug! We are raffling off a mug for **EACH** grade - so there are lots of opportunities to win!



## PTA Programs

### Shop for the Holidays!

We have many opportunities coming up to shop for the holidays AND support DuFief Elementary's PTA:

#### ORIGINAL WORKS FUNDRAISER:

The online gallery is UP! Your child should have brought home their individual codes to purchase their artwork on fantastic products like mugs, mouse pads, travel mugs, note

cards, etc. A percentage of sales will go to the school.

You can order your personalized gifts online at: [www.originalworks.com/store/Duf](http://www.originalworks.com/store/Duf)

School code: Duf

Order deadline is **November 23rd** and products will arrive in time for the holidays.

Questions? Contact Leilani Micalizzi at [Leilanik@gmail.com](mailto:Leilanik@gmail.com)

#### SPIRITWEAR

You can purchase Dufief t-shirts and sweatshirts by contacting James Noon at [jamesnoon@gmail.com](mailto:jamesnoon@gmail.com)



#### BARNES AND NOBLE BOOKFAIR

Books and gifts from Barnes & Noble Bookfair at the Washingtonian Center on December 10th from 12-4PM. See the flyer above for more details.

## Student Directories

If you've joined the PTA, you should have received our new 2016-2017 student directory in your youngest's backpack. If you didn't receive it, are you sure you joined the PTA?

[www.tinyurl.com/dufiefmembership](http://www.tinyurl.com/dufiefmembership)

THANK YOU to [Subha Jamburajan](#) for coordinating the creation of the directory, [Masha Maslennikov](#) for the design of our new cover and [Heather Kent Handel](#) for getting them into backpacks!



## Shopping Dollars

[How to Earn \\$ for DuFief Without Spending a Dime!](#)

**Harris Teeter** <https://www.harristeeter.com/user/#/app/user/login>

Have you linked your Harris Teeter VIC card to Dufief Elementary yet? PLEASE DO! Even if you don't shop at HT, we get entered into various promotions that they run based on the number of cards we have linked - right now we only have 57 cards linked. WE CAN DO BETTER! Please link your card today (and link your co-workers, grandparents, aunts, neighbors, friends, etc!)

**Giant Food** - <http://giantfood.com/aplus/register-card/>

We've already earned over \$500, but with our holiday shopping trips approaching, we want to be sure that ALL of our cards are linked so that we continue to earn!! Please link your card!

## Silent Auction



Our Silent Auction is fast-approaching and WE NEED YOUR HELP! Volunteers are needed to walk around to their favorite shopping center and solicit donations. A script for you and an official letter for the business will be provided. This is work that can be done on your schedule, but donations must be secured by the end of January.

If you would like to learn more or are ready to help, please contact Lauren Su at [poohlo11@yahoo.com](mailto:poohlo11@yahoo.com).

## Box Tops for Education

Congrats to Ellie Z. in Ms. Wolski's class for winning the October

box

tops

other competition! Ellie gets a \$5 Target gift card. Thanks to Ellie and all of the

box

tops

contributors in October. The next drawing will be Tuesday, December 6.

Questions? Contact Bethany Dame at [bethdame@gmail.com](mailto:bethdame@gmail.com). Let's earn as much money as we can for Dufief this year!



## Volunteer Corner



Would you like to become more involved in the PTA? Perhaps start by taking a look at the wide variety of PTA volunteer opportunities [here](#) or contact [Debora Brakarz](#), our Volunteer Coordinator, with questions.

## PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD

President : Yonat Lurie [yonat.lurie@gmail.com](mailto:yonat.lurie@gmail.com)

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Educational Programs : Jennifer Nakashima [jtnakashima@gmail.com](mailto:jtnakashima@gmail.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> VP– Community Resources: Leilani Micalizzi [leilanik@gmail.com](mailto:leilanik@gmail.com)

3<sup>rd</sup> VP – Social Events: Aashima Mehta [aashima\\_mehta@hotmail.com](mailto:aashima_mehta@hotmail.com)

Treasurer : Rob Kemp [rkemp3@hotmail.com](mailto:rkemp3@hotmail.com)

Secretary – Corresponding : Malik Rao [raosvm@gmail.com](mailto:raosvm@gmail.com)

Secretary – Recording : Danielle Carrick [danielle.carrick@gmail.com](mailto:danielle.carrick@gmail.com)

*For more information check out our website at:*

<http://dufiefpta.org/>

## Questions?

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