

DUFIEF PTA DRAGON'S BREATH NEWSLETTER

Parent Express



September 22, 2016

DRAGON'S BREATH

SEPTEMBER 2016 ISSUE #2

PTA Membership

You've probably already seen a few reminders to join our PTA. Joining is easy with our online form and ability to accept payment through our Paypal link – just go to www.dufiefpta.org and click on the membership banner to access our form. Once you're done with the form, don't forget to continue on to the paypal link to complete your payment. Remember that your membership dues only cover a small portion of the amount that the PTA spends on your child each year. Please consider also making a direct donation to close that gap. **This year, if you make a direct donation of any amount 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)!**



Here are a few things to remember about what our PTA does for our community and your child:

- Reimburses every grade-level team \$500 to spend in their classrooms for our students. Our 'specials' teachers (P.E., Music, Library & Art) also receive a flat amount.
- Reimburses classroom coordinators \$2/student for class Halloween and Valentine parties – a total of \$4/student.
- Fully funds 4 Cultural Arts assemblies this year – your kids LOVE these assemblies!
- Hosts several FREE community-building events each year. They include, Back-to-School Picnic, Family Fun Night, International Night, Talent Show, Bingo Night and Ice Cream Social.
- Hosts three Books and Bagels every year – come have breakfast on us while you read a favorite book with your student.
- Coordinates diverse before and after school programming for all ages throughout the year.

And there is even more...if you have questions about where your money goes, please be in touch with Nathalie Noon nathalienoon@gmail.com or Heather Handel hhandel@gmail.com, our Membership Co-Chairs.



Community Service Ideas for Students



[Why ads?](#)

PTA Membership Form 2016-17

A parent of a child attending DuFief Elementary School, please complete this form and return it to the PTA office at DuFief Elementary School, 10000 DuFief Road, DuFief, CA 94528. The form will be used to determine your eligibility for membership in the PTA. All members who make a contribution of any amount will receive a complimentary membership card. All members who do not make a contribution will receive a complimentary membership card with a \$10.00 membership fee. For more information, please contact the PTA office at DuFief Elementary School, 10000 DuFief Road, DuFief, CA 94528. Phone: (925) 462-1000. Email: pta@dufiefpta.com

Parent Information

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)

Address (Street, Apt. #)

City

State

Zip

Phone (Home)

Phone (Work)

Phone (Cell)

PTA Member Since

PTA Member Card Number

PTA Member Card Address

PTA Communications

It is crucial for our parent community to stay connected to the PTA. We distribute information in 3 ways:

1. Yahoo Group - To sign up for the first time, or to register a new email address, go to <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/dufief/> and click "Join this Group." Please specify your students' grades and classes to confirm your eligibility. You do not need to re-join if you are receiving messages. Please unsubscribe outdated email addresses.
2. Facebook - Visit <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dufiefpta/> and request membership. We'll confirm that you are a parent at DuFief and add you to the group. This is a closed group, which means that anyone can see the group and who is in it, but only members can see posts.
3. PTA newsletter – If you do not currently get our e-newsletters, please contact Siva Venkatachalam at siva9977@yahoo.com to add your name to our distribution list.

Upcoming Events

| | |
|---------|--------------------------------|
| Sept 22 | Ice Cream Social, 6:30PM, APR |
| Sept 30 | Early Release |
| Oct 3 | No School |
| Oct 4 | PTA Meeting, Media Center, 7PM |
| Oct 5 | Walk to School Day, 8:30AM |
| Oct 5 | Dining For DuFief, Ledo Pizza |
| Oct 7 | DuFief Spirit Day |
| Oct 12 | No School |
| Oct 19 | Books and Bagels, 8AM, APR |
| Oct 21 | Movie Night, 7PM |



Ice Cream Social

Come enjoy FREE ice cream TODAY! Eric Energy will be performing.

Thursday September 22, 6:30-8PM in the APR



Next PTA Meeting

Tuesday, **October 4th** 7:00-8:00 in the media center. All are welcome to join our PTA meeting! Free babysitting will be provided. From 6:30-7:00, the Wootton Cluster Security Coordinator will be speaking with us about security procedures at Dufief.



Walk to School Day

All kids are encouraged to walk or bike to school on **October 5, 2016** in celebration of Walk to School Day. Stop by the Front Entrance after walking or biking to school to pick up a small prize and to sign our event poster.

Also, don't forget to take photos of your kids walking or biking to school! To promote Walk to School Day on October 5th, Montgomery County is hosting a Safe Routes to School Walk to School Day Contest. Students can enter by going to the new [Safe Routes to School website](#). You can enter now and submit pictures from now until October 7th for the contest. Four students will win \$50 gift cards.



Dining for DuFief

Each month we host an event at a local restaurant to raise money for our PTA. It's an easy way to give back to your child's school...all you have to do is dine-in or carry-out on the date listed, mention DuFief and our school will receive a portion of the proceeds from your order!

We hope to see you at Ledo Pizza in October!

- Where: Ledo Pizza - Travilah
- When: **October 5th, 5 pm to Close**
- What: Dine-in or Carry-Out and Don't forget to mention Dufief!

Our school will receive 20% of all proceeds from ALL dine - in customers from 5 pm to close, so please spread the word to family and friends. For carry-out orders, please remember to mention Dufief!

Upcoming Dining for Dufief events:

- November 10th: Zoe's Kitchen (Kentlands)
- December 7th: Chick-fil-A (Kentlands)

Questions? Contact [Shelley McGinness](#)

DuFief Spirit Days

The first Friday of every month is DuFief Spirit Day. Remind your students to wear their Dufief T-shirts! If you would like to arrange the purchase of a t-shirt, please contact James Noon jamesnoon@gmail.com. All t-shirts are \$10.



Books & Bagels

The entire DuFief community is invited to join the PTA for a FREE bagel breakfast! Please bring a favorite book to read with your kids. Please remember your child must be accompanied by an adult. We hope to see you there.

Date: **Wednesday, October 19th**

Time: 8:00am

Location: Dufief's APR

Questions? Contact Marcy Waxman at marcywaxmanrealty@gmail.com

Before and After School Programs

Chess Club

Check out the [Chess Club Flyer](#) for more information about this program.

Questions? Contact Nataliya Podlesny npodlesny@gmail.com

FLES - Chinese and Spanish

Dufief is offering after-school programs this fall in Chinese (Tuesdays) and Spanish (Thursdays) through FLES. Classes will start on September 20 (Chinese) and September 22 (Spanish).

Check out the [FLES DuFief Fall Flyer](#) for more information.

Questions? Contact Jill Lin jill_aalsmeer@yahoo.com

Dragons on the Run

Dragons on the Run is a before school running program. It is open to all grades, K-2 will need an adult 'buddy' to participate alongside them. The fall session will meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 8:15-8:45 starting September 14th and ending November 16th. There is a \$20/child suggested donation.

Questions? Contact Kim Brock kim.merrifield@gmail.com

[*Dragons on the Run Flyer*](#)

[*Family Waiver*](#)

PTA Programs

Painless Fundraising



The easiest fundraising we have is through our grocery partners. PLEASE link your Giant Bonus card and Harris Teeter VIC cards to Dufief. This money makes a HUGE difference! Click [here](#) for easy steps on how to help – please take a few moments to follow through on this!

Kids Helping Kids Food Drive



It's time for Manna Food Center's 2016 Kids Helping Kids Food Drive! Poverty in Montgomery County has been on the rise among schoolchildren, and this Food Drive gives us all a chance to assist our neighbors in need. Last year Dufief collected 352 pounds of food. Let's aim for 400 pounds this year! Manna's wish list of food can be found at <http://www.mannafood.org/give-food/most-needed-foods-list/>. **Collection boxes will be set up in front of the office from October 3 to October 28**. Thank you for helping to fight hunger in our County!

Questions? Contact [Aarti Savani](#) at aartisavani@yahoo.com

Dragon Guides



Thank you so much to all of the families who have become Dragon Guides this year! The DuFief E.S. community is a great network of caring people! It is fun to make new connections and welcome brand new families to the community.

We are still seeking Dragon Guides for this school year as people are still contacting us for matches, and there may be families that transfer in throughout the year. So please let [Eve Nunes](#) know if you would like to be a Dragon Guide for any grade.

Also, something to think about--Families who are new this year: Would you consider being a Dragon Guide **next** year, 2017-2018? You will be a pro by then and would be able to help our program grow next year to be able to serve as Dragon Guides for our new kindergarteners and new families.

[Dragon Guides Flyer](#)

[Dragon Guides Handout](#)

Yearbook



At the end of each year, one of our kids' favorite things is to get their yearbook!

In order to make this happen each year it takes a team of parents to take photos, upload photos, organize photos, and design pages, etc.

To start off, we need a volunteer from each grade level to be a 'photo coordinator' for that grade. This person would be responsible for taking (or ensuring others take) high-resolution photos of their grade level at all events, uploading those photos to our backend system (training provided) and doing the necessary tagging for those photos. These responsibilities extend from now through Spring 2017.

Wondering how you get your kids' faces in the yearbook? YOU UPLOAD YOUR PHOTOS!

Here is how...

To submit your photos using the Yearbook Snap app:

1. Download the mobile app from the App Store or Google Play
2. Enter the access code: DuFief
3. Upload your photos

To submit photos online:

1. Go to

yearbookforever.com

and enter our school name

2. Click on Community Upload and enter the access code: Dufief

3. Upload your photos

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more, please comment below or email me at yonat.lurie@gmail.com.

Box Tops for Education

Did you know that every box top is worth 10 cents for our school? Be sure to follow these steps, and turn in your box tops by the first Tuesday of every month!

1. For a complete list of products with Box Tops labels on them, [click here](#).
2. Ask your family and friends to help save box tops.
3. Please make sure each box top is cleanly cut, not expired or torn.
4. Write your child's first and last name on the back of each box top.
5. Place box tops in a ziploc bag and turn the bag in by the first Tuesday of every month.
6. Each month, a winner will be chosen from all of the box tops for a \$5 Target gift card.

Questions? Contact Bethany Dame at 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

1st VP – Educational Programs : Jennifer Nakashima jtnakashima@gmail.com

2nd VP– Community Resources: Leilani Micalizzi leilanik@gmail.com

3rd VP – Social Events: Aashima Mehta aashima_mehta@hotmail.com

Treasurer : Rob Kemp mkemp3@hotmail.com

Secretary – Corresponding : Malik Rao raosvm@gmail.com

Secretary – Recording : Danielle Carrick 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.