

ARROWVIEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

650 Bennett Road, Qualicum Beach, BC V9K 1N1 Phone: (250) 752-3875 Fax: (250) 752-7291 Website: http://aes.sd69.bc.ca

> Principal: Mrs. Sheila Morrison Email: <u>smorrison@sd69.bc.ca</u>

Vice-Principal: Mrs. Lisa Pedersen-Skene Email: lpedersen-skene@sd69.bc.ca

April 17, 2018

Principal's Message

Last week, we hosted our first "Celebration of Learning" event, where students took a central role in reflecting on their learning journey. We were very impressed with the turnout and observed many families very engaged as they reflected and celebrated with their child. As educational researcher Anne Davies says, "When students communicate with others what they have learned, they come to better understand what they have learned and what they need to learn." We would also like to thank our AES PAC for hosting a delicious dinner for staff during the break that evening!

I wanted to share with you that there has been a change in what had been previously announced in regards to AES administrative staffing. As most of you already know, I will be moving to Errington Elementary School next year. Ms. Ixchel Bradley (who had been hired to School District 69 to be principal of AES) has rescinded her acceptance of the AES position. Ms. Autumn Taylor will now be coming to AES to be the principal next year. Some AES families may remember Ms. Taylor as she worked as a counsellor at AES a few years ago. She has currently been working as Vice-Principal at Springwood Elementary School. Prior to moving to our school district, Ms. Taylor worked as an Assistant Principal in Alberta. Lisa Pedersen-Skene will remain as Vice-Principal at AES next year.

With the last few months of the school year upon us, it is sometimes hard to keep students motivated. The article below suggests five strategies that can help increase your child's motivation to learn:

Kids who are motivated to learn are likely to be more successful in school than those who are not. To motivate your child:

- 1. **Be a learner yourself.** Let your child see you read books. Watch educational programs. Attend school functions. Try new things. Show curiosity.
- 2. Share what you learn. Talk about new ideas or scientific discoveries with your child. Discuss things you read or hear.
- 3. Show an interest in what he is learning. Ask questions simply to learn and share not to check up on your child.
- 4. Let him know you believe he can learn. If you show faith in your child's ability to learn, he will have more confidence in his ability.
- 5. **Stay positive.** If your child has problems in school, help him see that problems can be solved. Meet with the teacher to figure out ways your child can improve. Then discuss ways you can work together to help him succeed.

Source: Elementary School Parents (April 2017, Vol.28, No.8)



Families on the Move?

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. As planning is underway for next year, it is very helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending our school in September.

Planning for September

Soon we will begin developing a draft class organization for next school year. This includes projecting student enrolment and creating classes that make the most efficient use of our staff, while at the same time, observing



provincial class size limits and building classes that can work together as a team. Attached below is a letter from the Assistant Superintendent regarding class formation for September 2018. If you would like to provide input to your child's placement, please do this by **Thursday**, **April 19th**. Please note that parent input is one of a number of factors that guide us in the formation of classes. We must pay attention to the other important considerations outlined in the letter below, which contribute to an optimum learning environment for all children. While a smaller school such as ours has many benefits, we are also faced with a very limited number of classes at each grade level – which limits placement options.



SCHOOL DISTRICT No.69 (QUALICUM)

March 2018

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s):

RE: CLASS BUILDING FOR 2018-19

During the next month, staff at our schools will begin the complex process of forming classes for the upcoming school year. This work includes projecting student enrollment and creating classes that make the most effective use of our staff and most importantly, building balanced student groupings that can work together cohesively as learning communities. This is a challenging task as there are many factors that must be taken into consideration including:

- Social and emotional dynamics
- Academic strengths and needs
- Unique learning needs
- Class size goals
- Class balance

Staff take this work very seriously and collaborate extensively in order to make the best decisions about student placement. We strive to shape classes which will support the learning needs of **all** students.

There are many unknowns as we begin this task. For example:

- We are not sure who all of the teachers will be at our schools next year as the annual staffing process
 is not completed until late June
 - Some staff members may request, or be asked, to change their assignment for next year
- We are never completely clear about our enrollment until early September and so learner groupings must remain somewhat fluid

As a result, the learner groupings that we create in spring are tentative and are not finalized until early in the new school year. For this reason, class groupings will be kept confidential until they are finalized in September.

If you would like to provide staff at your child's school with input into his/her placement for next year, we encourage you to:

- 1. Talk to your child's current classroom teacher about your interests, and then;
- 2. Send a note to the school principal outlining what you see as your child's learning needs, preferred learning style or any other information you think might be relevant as staff work through the task of shaping learning environments for the upcoming year.

We ask that you <u>do not request a specific teacher</u>. Your input will be considered along with the other complex variables that go into constructing a class; however, not all recommendations can be honoured.

The deadline for submitting information regarding your child's class placement is Thursday, April 19, 2018.

Sincerely,

Gillian Wilson Assistant Superintendent of Schools

GW/hc

PO Box 430, 100 Jensen Ave. East, Parksville, B.C. V9P 2G5 Phone (250) 248-4241 Fax (250) 248-5767 www.sd69.bc.ca

AES Garden Project

It is gardening season and time to get our AES Garden to a stage where we can start planting! We will be having a work party on **Saturday**, **April 21**st after the Maker Faire to finish spreading gravel so we can build our raised bed planters. If you are able to help, we would really appreciate it. Even if you are only able to help out for a half hour or a few wheelbarrow loads of gravel, it would make a difference. Many helping hands makes less work for all. Soon you will notice a very creative gate installed at the entry to the garden. We would like to thank AES parent Mark Falvai for building the gate for us!



Criminal Record Checks

We value parent helpers and other volunteers who support with various different activities at AES. We want to remind you that it is mandatory to have a



Criminal Record Check completed prior to taking part in volunteer activities (classroom activities, school activities, field trips, etc.). We keep these on file for the years that your child is at AES, so you do not need to do it every year. With so many field trips and special activities coming up, we wanted to remind you of this expectation. We do have a letter available at the AES office for you to get so that you don't have to pay the usual fee for getting this done. The RCMP have advised us that there is at least a two-week timeline to complete the process, but it could take longer during peak times. Please note that due to privacy regulations, organizations cannot share this type of information, so you need a separate Criminal Record Check completed for each organization you volunteer with. If you are not sure you have completed a criminal record check for AES please ask the office.



POPCORN SALES

We are excited to announce that popcorn sales will begin! **Every Thursday, at lunch recess**, the Learning Services team and some helpful students will be selling popcorn for **\$2.00**. There will be four kinds to choose from and they are all nut-free and gluten-free! If you forget, don't worry because sales will be every week!

Recognizing our Pillars of Social Responsibility

We use the term "pillars" as a way of emphasizing to students that they are the foundation of social responsibility. Our pillars at AES are:

- We are **SAFE**
- We are **RESPECTFUL**
- We are **RESPONSIBLE**
- We are **KIND**

If students are demonstrating those four pillars, they will help continue to make our school a positive place to learn, grow, and play. When we notice students demonstrating those pillars in classrooms, around the school, and outside on the playground, we fill out a slip of paper and place it on our pillar wall. Students go to that wall often and take note of what their peers have been doing to receive that recognition. Students who received recognition in February and March were Koel G., Clara, Mateya, Harley, Finn, Gibson, Eloise, Sacha, and Dominique, Enzo, Quinn, and Emerson.



Day of Mourning

Our flags will be lowered to "half-mast" on Friday, April 27th. This is to recognize April 28th as a "Day of Mourning" – an opportunity to stand together with the world's workers to remember those who have died on the job, and to reflect on what needs to be done to prevent more deaths and injuries. More information can be found on our website.

Information from Room #10: A letter that Mrs. Macmillan sent out to her class:

We have an exciting opportunity to offer the students in the classroom. As some of you may be aware, when I am not teaching your children at school, I am a volunteer raiser of service dogs through the Pacific Assistance Dogs Society (PADS). I have brought two of these service dogs to school for a morning visit to our classroom.



From mid-March to mid-May I have the opportunity to raise a new service puppy – from age 8-16 or so weeks. We call this Puppy Kindergarten! It is my firm belief that service puppies-intraining provide wonderful benefits to the students in my classroom, as there is wonderful opportunities for teaching students about the learning process, self-regulation, empathy and kindness to others.

The puppy-in-training will only be in our classroom on Fridays, from 8:30 am until 10:30 am. We may do some presentations in other classes after the recess break, when Mr. Fraser is teaching our class. The puppy will always be in a PADS vest, and under my direct control, unless in its sleeping spot.

Common Questions:

Q: Have you brought service puppies to a classroom before?

A: Yes, in fact this puppy's mother, PADS Cadence, came to my K/1 classroom twice a week, all day for 5 months. The students found her to be a calming presence, and they learned about how they could help train her (mostly by exposing her to noise and food!) The Vice Principal was so impressed by how PADS Cadence created a positive classroom environment, she started to raise a PADS puppy too!

Q: Will the puppy be identified?

A: Yes, PADS is an internationally accredited service dog organization, and as such, all puppies come with a PADS vest, which both identifies the dog, and teaches the dog that it is working. The puppy also comes with a license from the BC Ministry of Justice allowing it to enter businesses and public spaces. Visit pads.ca for more information.

Q: May I pat the puppy?

A: Yes, you or your family members may ask me to greet the puppy. As this is a service dogin-training, these are viewed as important training opportunities, but they do have some protocol surrounding the greetings – for example, I need to ask the puppy to sit, not others.

Q: How do you give the puppy up?

We are raising service dogs, not adopting a pet for life. It is actually a lot like being a teacher; you get super attached, but you know that they are going on to bigger and better things. It also helps listening to clients talk about how their service dog completely changed their life. But it is still hard to say good-bye!

Q: Can you train my dog?

No, I am not a certified dog trainer, but I have been trained by PADS to help train service dogs, and that means very different things than training a pet.





AES Calendar of Events			
April	17	Class Photos	
	19	"Pete the Cat" Event at Oceanside Place (for 2018-19 Kindergarten Families)	
	21	AES PAC "I Made It" Market and AES Garden Work Party	
	27	Conferencing Adjustment Day - No School	
May	18	Professional Development Day – No School	
	21	VICTORIA DAY – No School	
	28	Grade 6 Immunizations	
June	6-25	Grade 3 Swim Program	
	28	Last day of sessions, school ends 3 hours early (11:45)	
	Ple	ease note the above calendar will be updated as new events occur	

OYSS Spring Soccer Registration Now Open

Spring Soccer Registration is now OPEN. For a fun spring season (April 14 to June 16) of soccer for 5-12 year old boys and girls register online at OceansideYouthSoccer.com. Late fees apply after March 15, 2018.

Teams will be made up of similar aged players as best as possible given the numbers of players. All games will be held locally within Oceanside. Exact times and fields remain to be determined but games will be held Saturday mornings from 9-12.

For more information: <u>http://www.oceansideyouthsoccer.com</u>





Host Families Needed

The Qualicum International Student Program (District 69) is currently looking for host families in the District 69 Area to host international students from around the globe. We are looking for short-term homes (1 week to 8 week programs) as well as long-term homes (5—10 months) and summer homes. You must be able to provide a warm and welcoming home environment, a private bedroom (which includes a bed, dresser, desk, chair, and proper lighting) and three meals per day with snacks also provided. Some transportation will be required and students must have total inclusion in the family as would be granted a family member.

Hosting an international student will provide you with the opportunity to make new friends from around the world and can be an exciting cultural experience to share with your family! There is financial compensation to cover the costs of hosting an international student. Participating in the program can be a life changing experience for both students and their host families.

Get involved today!

If you are interested in hosting an international student please call Sandie or Jenny at 250-951-0857 or email us at homestay@sd69.bc.ca Families will be financially compensated. More information and registration is also available on our website at www.schoolincanada.ca/live-here/homestay/become-homestay-family/







emergency PREPAREDNESS **EXP02018**

SATURDAY APRIL 28 9 am to 4 pm QUALICUM BEACH CIVIC CENTRE

Be Aware • Plan • Prepare • Survive!

Emergencies can happen at any time and your best defense is to be prepared. Expo 2018 is a fun, informative way to learn about being prepared and about the many resources available to Oceanside residents.

Check out the displays, demonstrations and workshops. Local first responders, government agencies, emergency supply vendors, utilities and emergency partners will host a variety of activities to help emphasize the importance of taking steps to improve emergency preparedness and response. Everyone welcome!

FREE ADMISSION

SEE emergency response equipment, displays and demonstrations.

LEARN about preparing for an emergency at home, work or school.

TALK to professionals about careers in emergency response.



The Parksville/Qualicum Shrine Club will have food services available on site.

We're prepared. Are you?



10 to 11 am	Fire Safety for
11:30 am to 12:30pm	Adventure Sm
1 to 2 pm	Home Insuran
2:30 to 3:30 pm	Age and Healt

Homeowners art: Stay Safe on the Trails ce 101 h Factors for Preparedness



(Pre-registration emergencyservices@rdn.bc.ca or 250 390-6759

9 am to noon 1 to 4 pm

Post-Earthquake Rapid Damage Assessment **Disaster! Surviving the First Few Hours**



9 am-4 pm

Experience what it's like to go through a major earthquake. The ultimate earthquake simulator

Shake Zone shakes home the importance of being prepared.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OCEANSIDE

qualicumbeach.com

City of Parksville Town of Qualicum Beach

Regional District of Nanaimo rdn.bc.ca



14-17 yrs

SHE'S IN NATURE YOUTH

Find Yourself in Nature

Females only

\$25/4

Being active in nature is great for your physical, and mental health. Learn the skills needed to safely explore our parks and trails and develop confidence hiking as a group.

W Apr 11-May 2 3:15-5:15pm

Registration includes four guided hikes.

DISTRICT

OF NANAIMO



REGIONAL **Register at** rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Ravensong Aquatic Centre 737 Jones St, Qualicum Beach 250-752-5014

Oceanside Place Arena 830 W Island Hwy, Parksville 250-248-3252



8-13YRS

DODGEBALL

Oceanside Place Arena

Tuesdays 4:00-5:00 pm Apr 24 - May 15 \$20/4

Pre-registration required





Ravensong Aquatic Centre 737 Jones St, Qualicum Beach 250-752-5014

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