

ARROWVIEW ELEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

Principal: Flo Wong
Vice Principal: Heather MacLeod



250-752-3875
650 Bennett Rd
Qualicum Beach, V9K 1N1

Feb 20, 2026

Land acknowledgement

We acknowledge that we live, learn, and play on the traditional territory of the Qualicum First Nation. We are grateful for their ongoing stewardship of this land and for the opportunity to learn from their knowledge, culture, and traditions.

Message from the Principal

'Uy skweyul. Good day.

We are in the seasonal moon of **MIMNE' – the Little Child Moon**, named for being the shortest month of the year. This winter has felt unusual in many ways. The warmer temperatures and early budding of some of our plants have been gentle reminders that seasons shift – sometimes sooner than we expect. There has also been joy in coming together as a country to watch the Winter Olympic Games, cheering on our athletes and feeling that shared sense of pride and connection that sport can bring. Moments like these remind us of the strength of community – how we gather, support, and lift one another up.

That spirit of coming together is something we value deeply in our school. On **Wednesday, February 25**, we will mark **Pink Shirt Day** with an assembly at **1:30pm in the gym**. Parents and families are warmly welcome to attend as we reaffirm our commitment to kindness, belonging, and standing up for one another.

At the same time, last week's tragic events in Tumbler Ridge have weighed heavily on many of us. When something serious and traumatic happens in a school community – anywhere in our province – it affects all of us. As educators, parents, and caregivers, we hold a shared sense of responsibility for the safety and well-being of children, and events like this remind us just how precious that responsibility is.

It is natural for both adults and children to experience a range of emotions – sadness, worry, confusion, or even fear – when they hear about incidents like this. Some children may have questions. Others may not mention it at all but may show their feelings in different ways. We encourage families to create space for open, calm conversations at home, reassuring children that they are safe and that the adults in their lives are there to protect and support them.

Please know that student safety remains our highest priority. We review and practice our safety procedures regularly, work closely with our district and community partners, and continuously reflect on how we can strengthen the systems that keep students safe physically and emotionally. Schools are places of learning, connection, and care – and we remain deeply committed to that work every day.

If you are looking for guidance on how to talk to children about serious or traumatic events, the following resources may be helpful:

- [Red Cross - Talking with children and youth about difficult things](#)
- [Kids Help Phone](#) – 1-800-668-6868 or text CONNECT to 686868

If your child is experiencing ongoing distress, please reach out to the school. We are here to support you and can help connect families with additional resources if needed.

As always, thank you for your partnership, your care for one another, and your commitment to keeping our school community strong.

With care,
Ms. Flo Wong
Principal

Important Dates

February

20: Hot Lunch Sushi 🍣

25: Purdy's Deadline to order for Easter 🐰

25: Pink Shirt Day

27: Hot Lunch Extreme Eats 🍷

March

5: Crazy Outfit Day

6: Hot Lunch Pizza Pizza 🍕

10: PAC MEETING @AES 6:30 Library

13: Hot Lunch Subway 🍷

15-28: Spring Break

Helping Children Build Emotional Resilience

Practice Courageous Conversations

As children grow, they will hear about unkind behaviour, safety concerns, or upsetting events. Rather than shielding them completely, we can help them build confidence by practicing small, courageous conversations at home.

Try this simple framework:

1. Ask open questions

“What have you heard?”

“How did that make you feel?”

This helps you understand their perspective before offering reassurance

2. Reinforce belonging and safety

“In our family and at school, we look out for one another.”

“Adults are working hard to keep kids safe.”

3. Practice brave responses

Role-play simple phrases they can use:

“That’s not kind.”

“Please stop.”

“I’m going to get help.”

“Do you want to come play with us?”

When children rehearse these words in calm moments, they are more likely to use them when it matters.

Pink Shirt Day reminds us that courage is not about being loud or confrontational – it’s about standing up for ourselves and others in small, steady ways. Each conversation at home builds your child’s confidence to speak up, seek help, and include others.

Over time, these small moments of practice grow into something powerful: children who feel safe, connected, and capable of making a difference.

Hul'q'umi'num Corner

Students have been learning and practicing Hul'q'umi'num greetings at school, building their understanding of the language of this territory and strengthening their connection to place. It has been wonderful to hear students confidently using these words with one another throughout the day. If you would like to practice at home, this resource includes audio files and many of the phrases your children are learning so you can listen and learn together.



[Hul'q'umi'num' Daily Phrases and Greetings](#)



AES Grade 6/7 Capernwray Camping Trip

DEADLINE **FEBRUARY 25, 2026**

FEBRUARY 6-25
PICK-UP MARCH 11 AT AES



Scan this QR code
or enter this link:

<https://fundraising.purdys.com/campaign/000020723>

Shop your Easter goodies!



JOIN OUR COMMUNITY READERS!

We are looking for volunteers from our community to help our students become confident readers.

Volunteers will have the opportunity to listen to children read, play literacy games, and support their love of reading.

If you're interested, we will pair you with a classroom teacher. A valid criminal record check is required to participate. Your time and support can make a real difference in a child's literacy journey. Come be a part of our community of readers!

Send us an email to participate at arrowview@sd69.bc.ca



A poster for a Family Movie Night event. The background is a light beige color with various movie-related illustrations: a tiger mascot in a red cape at the top right, a bowl of popcorn on the left, a film reel on the right, a clapperboard on the left, and stars and wavy lines at the bottom. The title "Family MOVIE NIGHT" is prominently displayed in the center. The word "Family" is in a blue script font, while "MOVIE" and "NIGHT" are in large, orange, dotted block letters. Below the title, a paragraph of text describes the event. At the bottom, a dark blue rounded rectangle contains the date, time, and location in white text.

Family
MOVIE
NIGHT

Bring your pillows, sleeping bags, blankets and lawn chairs and settle in for a fun-filled Family Movie Night! Enjoy a cozy evening with friends and family as we watch a great family-friendly film together. This event is proudly sponsored by the PAC and is free to attend. Snacks and drinks will be available for purchase with cash or bring your own snacks. Excited to see you there!

Friday, February 27th
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Arrowview School Gym





PINK SHIRT DAY



CHOOSE KINDNESS

25 FEBRUARY



Kindergarten 2026 Registration is OPEN

Online Kindergarten registration (through MyEdBC) for the 2026-2027 school year is currently OPEN. To qualify for Kindergarten enrolment in September 2026, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2026. Proof of Age for a student includes a birth certificate or passport. Check out the School District website registration page to see what else you need to know.

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

The District will offer a “Pre-Kindergarten” program in April and May. Incoming Kindergarten students must be registered at their catchment school in order to apply to participate in this program. If you have registered your child by Thursday, March 12th you will be sent an application via email and those who register for Kindergarten after that date will be considered based on available space.





PETE THE CAT

FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL FAIR

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

5:00PM - 7:00PM

OCEANSIDE PLACE ARENA
830 WEST ISLAND HWY, PARKSVILLE

**BOOK YOUR
SPOT!**



- Meet Pete the Cat
- Climb aboard a school bus
- Free fun activities
- Parent resources
- and lots more...

Registration is appreciated but
drop-ins are welcome!

www.oblt.ca



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care

CRAZY OUTFIT

DaY

Thursday, March 5

Come to school wearing your
craziest, silliest, most colourful
outfit you can imagine!

- *mismatched clothes
- *bright colours
- *backwards outfits
- *silly hats or funky socks



West Coast Weather Reminder

The west coast weather has arrived; rain, wind, and all! Please ensure your child comes to school each day prepared for the elements. We go outside for recess and lunch **rain or shine**, so waterproof jackets, boots, and warm layers make a big difference in keeping everyone comfortable and ready to play.

A little preparation goes a long way toward making outdoor time fun for everyone, no matter what the forecast brings!



Walk Your Wheels

A friendly reminder that for everyone's safety, students are not permitted to ride bikes, scooters, or other wheeled devices on school property. With active traffic during arrival and dismissal times, it's important that all students *dismount* once they reach school grounds and *walk their wheels* to the designated parking areas. The same applies at the end of the day—students must walk their bikes or scooters off school property before riding. Thank you for helping us keep our school community safe!

DISMOUNT



ZONE

PROPOSED SCHOOL BOUNDARY CHANGES – JOIN THE CONVERSATION!



On January 14th, the Board of Education held a [Virtual Town Hall](#) regarding potential changes to the boundaries impacting local schools intended to relieve enrollment pressure on Springwood Elementary and École Ballenas Secondary Schools. If you were unable to participate that evening, you can view the recording [HERE](#).



Once you have viewed the recording, the Board of Education invites you to share your feedback on the proposed changes. The link to the survey can be found [HERE](#) and it will remain open into February 2026.

Reminders From the Office

Lost & Found Reminder

🔔 Please remember to label all items, especially hoodies, jackets, water bottles, and lunch kits. A name inside makes it so much easier for us to return belongings quickly.

Did you know? You can view our lost and found items on Facebook! <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61574771672785>. You

don't need a Facebook account to view. Thank you for helping us reunite students with their belongings!



Absences

☹️🙄 To report a student absence, please use the [School Messenger App](#).

If it's been three days of consecutive absences, the app will not let you enter a fourth. You can either call the school to report the absence or email attendance@sd69.bc.ca

Personal Items

We kindly ask families to help us discourage students from bringing personal items to school, such as high-value makeup, Pokémon cards, electronic toys, and other special belongings. These items can be distracting in the learning environment and, unfortunately, we are not responsible for any personal items that are lost, stolen, or damaged. To avoid disappointment, please remind your child to keep these treasures at home. Thank you for your support!

Extra Change of Clothes

👕🧥 Please ensure your kids have a change of clothes to keep in their classroom/backpack for any emergencies, as we make our way through a La Nina fall and winter season.

School Volunteers and Criminal Record Checks

👮🏻👮🏻 School volunteers need a Criminal Record Check completed:

<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/criminalrecordcheck> Access Code: **2NCAZFWAWT**

Student Phone

📞 Reminder that kids are not permitted to make playdate plans from the student phone in the office. We ask that if they want to make social plans that they first go home after school and then make their arrangements. If you do receive a call from your child trying to lay out a social plan, please remind them of this rule.

You might remember Diane from Kids Club. She is now a certified yoga instructor and is volunteering to provide this lovely, calm start to the day for our students.

Kids Yoga With Diane

Wednesday mornings
8-8:45am
Starts January 28, 2026
AES Gym



There is space for 20, first come, first served. Do not drive away until you are sure your child got in.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Ready, Set, Learn!

Qualicum Beach Elementary – Feb. 2nd & 23rd @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Springwood Elementary – Feb. 6th & 20th @ 9:30am – 10:30am
Bowser Elementary – Feb. 9th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Errington Elementary – Feb. 9th & 23rd @ 1pm – 2pm
Arrowview Elementary – Feb. 11th & 25th @ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
Ecole Oceanside Elementary – Feb. 17th & 24th @ 9:10am – 10:10am
Nanose Bay Elementary – Feb. 27th @ 10:30am – 11:30am

Ready, Set, Learn is a free drop-in program for children
from birth to kindergarten age and their
parents/caregivers with the intent of supporting
children's transitions into school.

Check out our website
to book your spot:
www.oblt.ca





Climb Aboard the WOW Bus!

- Coombs Fairgrounds** – Feb. 4th @ 10am – 11:30am
- Springwood Park** – Feb. 5th @ 1:15pm – 2:45pm
- Qualicum Beach (4 Poles)** – Feb. 11th @ 10am – 11:30am
- Nanoose Place Community Centre** – Feb. 12th @ 2pm – 3:30pm
- Family Day Event @ Coombs Fairgrounds** – Feb. 16th @ 1pm – 4pm
- Errington Community Park** – Feb. 18th @ 10:15am – 11:30am
- Oceanside Community Church** – Feb. 19th @ 2:30pm – 4pm
- Meadowood Community Park** – Feb. 25th @ 10am – 11:30am

WOW Bus is a free drop-in outreach program for children from birth to kindergarten age and their adult. Families are invited to climb aboard the WOW Bus and join us for healthy snacks, playtime, songs, and stories.

Check out our website for more details about the WOW Bus and other free early years programs: www.oblt.ca





THE POWER OF Stewardship

Celebrate local stewards and the knowledge of our diverse communities this International Mother Language Day!

Saturday Feb 21, 2026 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

9:00 am - Doors Open

9:30 am - "Importance of understanding the connections between history and language in relationship to place." Jesse Recalma Qualicum First Nations

10:45am - "Leaving a Legacy for Nature" Nancy Randall will work through all the stages and 14 different ways you can leave a legacy for nature.

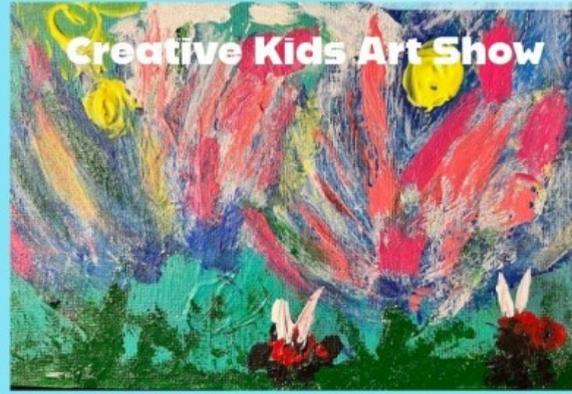
- Celebrate International Mother Language Day
- Participate in interactive Q&A sessions
- Meet local stewardship organizations and sign up for memberships
- Learn about the Mid Island Stewardship Caucus www.mabr.ca/misc
- Discover ongoing and upcoming projects and how to get involved



Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region
124 West 2nd Ave Qualicum Beach
250-594-0405
www.mabr.ca



In the Nemeth Gallery
at The MAC



Artwork by Mirren McLean

UNFILTERED EXPRESSION

Feb 2nd- Mar 1st 2026
Opening Reception Sat Feb 7, 1pm

A collection of artworks by young artists
from around the community

creativekids.mac@gmail.com



McMillan Arts Centre (MAC)
133 McMillan Street, Upper Level
Parksville, BC V9P 2H5
(250)248-8185
www.mcmillanartscentre.com
Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11am to 3pm



parent workshop

Inclusive Classrooms

What They Are, Why They're
Complex, and How Families
Can Support Them



This parent-friendly workshop helps families better understand inclusive classrooms, why they can feel challenging at times, and how families can support inclusion in meaningful, realistic ways.

Sunday, March 8

4:00- 5:30 pm

In this session, parents will:

- A clearer understanding of what inclusive classrooms are and why complexity is part of the reality
- Insight into how inclusive classrooms impact students, peers, educators, and families
- Practical ways families can support inclusion through conversations at home and respectful school partnerships

Facilitated by Carly Eirikson
Inclusive education & school leadership

This session is intended to be informative and supportive of inclusive education. It does not provide guidance on individual student situations or specific school-based decisions.

Hosted by your DPAC



KIDOVATE

Youth Entrepreneurship Experience

Earn Your Own Money

In grade 6 or above?
Join Kidovate Market Day
Sell products you make,
repurpose or buy

April 18th, 2026
Nanaimo North Town Centre Mall

It's free! Learn more at

www.kidovate.ca



@Kidovate_Nanaimo



KidovateNanaimo



Gustavson
School of Business
University of Victoria



**Community
Futures**

Mindfulness in May

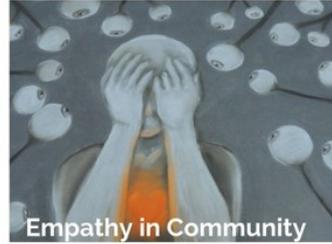
The Art of Empathy and Kindness 2026

Open Call to Youth for Submissions

Grades 5-12 in SD 69 and Surrounding Area
Including Home Learners



Kindness for Nature



Empathy in Community

EARLY SUBMISSIONS BY **FEBRUARY 14TH** FOR A CHANCE TO BE
FEATURED ON THE EXHIBIT POSTERS AND WIN EXTRA PRIZES

Visual Art: drawing, fabric art, painting, mixed media, sculpture.
Literary Art: poetry, song, music. **Photography:** digital, and print.

ALL WORKS DUE BY MARCH 13TH

Submissions will be displayed at the Qualicum Library
during BC Youth Week and National Mental Health Week

SUBMIT ONLINE HERE:

<https://mindfulmay.artistquarter.com/>



Sponsored By:



EXHIBITION: APRIL 28TH - MAY 10TH

For questions or more info, contact Diane at moraninthemoon@gmail.com



TUESDAYS
JAN 20 - APR 21, 2026
6:30pm - 8:00pm



**FREE
DROP-IN
YOUTH
BASKETBALL**

**AGES
11-15**

**All levels welcome! Come build skills,
shoot hoops, play games and have
fun!**

More information

<https://arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes>

COOMBS FAIRGROUNDS GYMNASIUM
1014 FORD ROAD, COOMBS, BC



Kristine Stephenson: stephenson@live.ca or 250-927-3985
Tracy Cargo-White: tracy.cargo@outlook.com or 250-947-5272



Ages 8 - 99+

Join Sensei Brian Purves for this introduction to martial arts, which will focus on basic Karate and self-defense techniques in a fun and safe environment. Gain strength and confidence.

Register:

\$100 per 8 sessions

arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes

Coombs Fairgrounds Gymnasium
1014 Ford Rd, Coombs

Sandra Poelzer: sandrapoelzer@yahoo.com or 250-802-1308
Kristine Stephenson: stephenson@live.ca or 250-927-3985

CREATIVE Writing Contest

KIDS WRITE 4KIDS

CALL FOR ENTRIES
FOR GRADES 4-8
DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2026

 **RIPPLE** FOUNDATION Educational Charity
ripplefoundation.ca/contest



Arrowview Elementary School

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/AES/Pages/default.aspx#/=>

Contact

