



# ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

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June 24, 2020

## Principal's Message

As this will be the last formal newsletter of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for a wonderful year at Errington Elementary School. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and your children. I feel very fortunate to be part of this school community and look forward to continuing next year.

We are concluding a most historical end to the school year, full of uncertainty and uncharted territory. I would like to thank you for navigating this global pandemic alongside us. We sincerely hope that you and your family continue to stay safe and healthy throughout the summer. While things still remain uncertain for September, we do know that summer is a time for us all to take a much deserved break from the formal setting of school (whether it be in a school or home setting); however, learning doesn't need to stop! We are so lucky to live in one of the most desired places in the world and there is so much to see and do over the summer, with many opportunities for learning and playing. It is very important to provide children with activities that will help maintain the gains they have made over the school year. Later in this newsletter, you will find two articles that suggest some educational field trips and fun activities to do over the summer. Have a wonderful, active, and safe summer!

As the school year draws to a close, the following article suggests ways to review the school year with your child and set new goals:

It's nearing the end of a busy school year. Your child has learned a lot. She's read new books and she's mastered new skills. Now is the perfect time to talk about all of the lessons she's learned.

Find a time when you can have a relaxing chat about school. You might even plan something special, such as going out for a treat or making a favorite meal together. During your talk:

- **Take a look back.** What was your child's favorite project this year? In what subject did she improve the most? Which book that the class read was her favorite? Which of her goals did she accomplish? As she talks about these positive things, help her see the ways she has grown. "You really worked hard to master division this year. You can do hard things when you put your mind to it!"
- **Take a look forward.** What is your child looking forward to this summer? What is she excited about for next year? Is there a subject or an area she'd like to improve in next year? Are there books she would like to read?
- **Discuss how learning** doesn't stop at the end of the school year. One of the great things about the summer is the opportunity to learn things that aren't directly related to school. Help your child think about something she'd like to learn this summer. Would she like to learn a new sport? Would she like to teach herself how to paint? Would she like to learn a new language? Together, make a plan to help her achieve her goal.

*Source: Elementary School Parents (May 2015, Vol.26, No.9)*



## Families on the Move?

If you will be moving out of the area over the summer or have a change of plans in regards to school attendance, please let us know so we can keep our student enrolment records current. You can call and leave a message on our school phone (250-248-8446) or an email to our general mailbox ([errington@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:errington@sd69.bc.ca)).



## Communication During Summer Months

As we are not sure what September will look like in regards to returning to school, it is CRITICAL to have your CURRENT contact information so we can keep you informed. If your information has changed or changes over the summer, please feel free to contact our general mailbox (for emails and phone messages at **250-248-8446** and [errington@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:errington@sd69.bc.ca)). We will check for messages periodically over the summer.

If not receiving our online newsletters already, we HIGHLY recommend that you set this up as soon as possible. This is the way we will communicate with families as information emerges. Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is very simple.

Sign up through the Errington Elementary School website (<http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>) by entering your email address in the area "Sign up for our newsletter & keep in touch" found near the bottom of the home page. After you enter your email and click on "GO" an email will be sent to your email address. **You must respond to the email to become a verified member to receive newsletters.** There is an option to "Unsubscribe" at any time you choose.



We are still accepting Kindergarten registrations for the 2020-2021 school year! If you know of any families who will need to be aware of this information, we ask you to please pass this along to them. Parents/Guardians who would like to register a child for Kindergarten can call the main office (250-248-8446) and leave a message in the general mailbox OR email our general e-mailbox at [errington@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:errington@sd69.bc.ca)

## EES PAC Appreciation

We would like to recognize our very committed 2019-2020 PAC, who have supported our school and generously offered assistance and leadership on so many occasions. The teamwork they and the rest of the parent community display is very impressive! It is because of these people that our students are able to enjoy many enriching experiences that go well beyond the classroom. Although there are many who contribute to the efforts of our PAC, we would like to thank the following EES PAC Executive for their work this school year:

Beverley Craig (Chair)  
Laura James (Co-Chair)  
Michelle Keddy (Treasurer)  
Jodi Pay (Secretary)



## Thank you to Volunteers!

As the end of the school comes to a close, it is time to show gratitude to the many people who have supported our school community in various ways. The gift of time is one of the most generous things you can share and we sincerely appreciate all that you do to enrich the students' experience at Errington Elementary School!

## Six educational field trips to take with your child:

"I'm bored!" Do you dread hearing this phase over the summer? Then start planning now! In addition to stockpiling supplies, such as books, recipes and games, schedule a few field trips. Local educational destinations are often free – and fun- to visit! Consider going to:

1. **Museums.** Call or go online to check upcoming exhibits. Which would your child like to see most? Add them to your summer calendar.
2. **An arboretum.** Kids love walking through gardens, admiring flowers and learning about habitats. Bring a camera or sketchbook to capture the plants and animals.
3. **The zoo.** This trip is almost always a hit with kids. Before leaving, you might read about the animals you'll see. Talk about what they eat and how they spend their time.
4. **A fire station.** Call ahead to see if a summer "open house" is planned. If not, request permission for a special visit.
5. **An airport.** Simply driving by the airport is interesting. Can your child spot the control tower? Planes taking off and landing?
6. **Parks.** Find a guide to local parks and keep it handy. Consider visiting hiking trails, historic battlefields and more. Add a nature guide and maybe even some binoculars, and you're ready for an adventure any time!

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (May 2013, Vol.24, No.9)



## Fun activities can keep your child learning over the summer

When school ends, it's important for kids to remember – and build on – what they have studied all year. To make this fun, have your child:

- **Keep a journal.** Think about what will appeal to her. An album of photos and captions? A scrapbook of mementos and stories? Reviews of her favourite movies? A collection of drawings and observations?
- **Play board games.** Research shows they're good for kids' thinking skills and development of positive traits, such as patience, cooperation and focus. Pick games that match your child's age and interests.
- **Plan scavenger hunts.** Give interesting, educational instructions, such as, "Let's find an oak tree leaf." "Pick three daisies." Or "Find three things that are round." Remember, you can have a scavenger hunt anywhere, including in a store or on vacation.
- **Build on books.** After reading a story, consider turning it into a play, puppet show or art project. Reward your child with plenty of applause and praise!

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (May 2013, Vol.24, No.9)



## Reconnecting Start in September

As we have already shared, we are uncertain how our September start-up will look like, as we await provincial direction on this. We don't anticipate learning further details until mid-late August. IF we are looking at a "normal" start in September (full return to school), please note that on the first day of school (Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>), we will start at the usual time (**8:12am**, note the slightly adjusted start-time due to the approved school calendar for next

year) and students are dismissed **3 hours earlier** than usual (**11:00 am**). School buses will also run 3 hours earlier than usual on that day for the return home.

Next year once again Errington Elementary will begin the school year with a reconnecting start, which means that for the first two days of school (Sept 8-9) students will return to the classroom they were in this year. For this time, we have planned both classroom based and whole school learning activities. If we are ready, on Thursday (Sept 10<sup>th</sup>) students will move to their new classrooms. We believe that this gradual transition lowers the anxiety that for some students is associated with the beginning of a new school year. In addition, delaying the class formation process gives us a chance to create classes based on actual September enrolment, which significantly reduces the chance of a class re-organization once the school year has begun. Students will bring home a note on Wednesday (September 9<sup>th</sup>) to indicate which class they will go to on the Thursday morning.

If your child's current teacher will no longer be working at Errington Elementary School next school year, we will have a teacher with those students for the first few days. Students new to Errington Elementary will meet in the library on the first day of school. From there, they will be placed into temporary classes with their peer group for the first two days. Students who start Kindergarten this coming September will have a gradual entry. New Kindergarten students WILL NOT attend on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. They will be assigned a "gradual start" schedule information on start-up plans. We will contact incoming Kindergarten students either by phone or email later in August.



### Staff Changes

Although our staffing process is not quite complete, we do know that we will be saying farewell to the following teachers: Eric Neumeyer, Bruce Blashill, Iain Murray, and Kyla Senchar. The following support staff will be moving on to other positions within the school district: Maleah Carlson, Pattie Brown, Sue Klobchar, Susan Urie, Erin O'Hagen, and Karen Richards. Although we will likely see them around EES next year, the following Educational Assistants will be moving into a district role next year: Marie Vincent, Wendy Cervo, and Dianne Karras. We wish them all well on their future endeavours and thank them for their time here at EES.

Congratulations and best wishes to the following staff members who are retiring: Deb Stocker, Eileen Sarembo, and Cathy Macrae.



We would like to welcome the following people who will be joining our staff in September:

- Kimi Cochlin (Classroom Teacher)
- John Hamblett (Music/Band Teacher)
- Tawnia Dales (Child and Youth Care Worker)
- Martin Binet (Educational Assistant)
- Karina Carvahlo (Educational Assistant)
- Gwen Smith (Educational Assistant)
- Jennifer Phillips (Educational Assistant)



## **School Supplies**

Please see the links below for information about school supplies for 2020-2021. Supply lists have been sent home with report cards and also posted on our website.

### **Grade 1-3 School Supply Information:**

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/EES/parents/SchoolSupplies/School%20Supplies%20Gr.1-3%202020-2021.pdf>

### **Grade 4-7 Supply List:**

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/EES/parents/SchoolSupplies/EES%20Grade%204-7%20School%20Supply%20List%202020-2021.pdf>

If we end up having a “normal” start in September, students will NOT need their school supplies on the first 2 days of school (Tuesday and Wednesday). Please wait until Thursday to send supplies to school.

## **NEW WAY TO PAY**

Our district has made it possible to pay for any school fees online. If your student's classroom teacher has requested to use agendas, a sheet with detailed instructions on how to sign up for School Cash Online has come home. If your student's teacher is not using agendas this year a detail sheet will come home shortly. On our Errington Website there is a direct link to [www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com), it is quite easy to sign up. Once signed up you will receive email notifications if there is a fee associated with your student. You are still able to pay for any school fees with cash or cheque, but we are offering the option to pay online.

As always if you need any help navigating this system please feel free to call the office and they will be happy to help you.



Oceanside Public Health Services invites families with children of **Kindergarten age (4-6 years old)** to contact our office for school entry immunizations. During the COVID -19 pandemic BCCDC speaks to the importance of, *“keeping up with scheduled immunizations during the COVID-19 pandemic to help prevent the spread of other infectious diseases,”* in order to *“protect our children from the other infectious diseases that we know can spread in our communities.”*

Please call us at **250-947-8242** for more information on booking an appointment into one of our Kindergarten clinics. For more information on the BCCDC recommendations regarding immunization during COVID-19 please visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/about/news-stories/stories/2020/bccdc-promotes-keeping-up-with-immunizations-during-covid-19-pandemic>



Oceanside Public Health Services invites families with children in **Grade 6** to contact our office for the completion of their Grade 6 immunizations. During the COVID -19 pandemic, BCCDC speaks to the importance of, *“keeping up with scheduled immunizations during the COVID-19 pandemic to help prevent the spread of other infectious diseases,”* in order to *“protect our children from the other infectious diseases that we know can spread in our communities.”*

Please call us at **250-947-8242** to book a health unit appointment into your school’s designated clinic day. For more information on the BCCDC recommendations regarding immunization during COVID-19 please visit: <http://www.bccdc.ca/about/news-stories/stories/2020/bccdc-promotes-keeping-up-with-immunizations-during-covid-19-pandemic>



## Attention Kids! It's time to **Explore Our Universe** with the 2020 Summer Reading Club!

The Summer Reading Club (SRC) takes off on Monday, June 29 and runs until Saturday, August 15.

### What's new for 2020?

- We've gone virtual! Sign up and participate online
- Kids can set their weekly reading goals and earn digital badges
- The Kerplunks will perform a special kick-off live online on July 2
- Dr. Jay Cullen from the University of Victoria will talk online about his experience going through the Canadian Space Agency's Astronaut selection process!
- SRC 2020 Author/Artist Bambi Edlund will present a virtual workshop and Q&A
- Award winning author Monique Gray Smith will read some of her children's books and tell stories online
- Wolf educator Gary Allan, his friendly wolf Tundra and two other wolves will host a virtual program about wolves
- Authors Jeremy and Hermione Tankard will join fans online to talk about their new book *Yorick and Bones*. SRC participants can enter a special coloring contest that the Tankards will judge. The winner will receive a Jeremy Tankard bag of books.

Registration is NOW open! Visit <https://bcsrc.ca/>. You can also visit [virl.bc.ca/summer-reading-club](http://virl.bc.ca/summer-reading-club) in the coming days for info about more virtual events, scavenger hunts and other programs.

Questions about SRC? Or can't participate virtually? Contact us at 1-877-415-8475 or [src@virl.bc.ca](mailto:src@virl.bc.ca) for more information.

Vancouver Island Regional Library is sponsoring the BC Summer Reading Club, in cooperation with the British Columbia Library Association, with funding from the Libraries Branch, BC Ministry of Education, and CUPE BC.

### RDN Summer Camp Update

Summer Camps will begin July 6th. Registration is open <https://ca.apm.activecommunities.com/rdnrecreation/> or by phone 250-248-3252 Mon-Fri 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

While we have had to reduce our number of camps being offered and the maximum capacity of our camps, we are committed to providing campers with a fun focused camp experience.

We are currently working to ensure protocols in accordance with the Provincial Health Officer and WorkSafe BC requirements and aligned with industry guidelines set by the BC Recreation and Parks Association are in place. Registered families will receive detailed information about what to expect at camp this summer. Things will be a bit different, but we will do our best to keep the focus on creating a memorable camp experience.

FAQs about reopening plans as of June 18th [www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect](http://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect)

For the latest Regional District of Nanaimo updates on COVID-19 and other services please visit [www.rdn.bc.ca](http://www.rdn.bc.ca)

# With Glowing Hearts

A Community Art Exhibit at the MAC

Bring your piece of 'heart work' to the McMillan Arts Centre and help us fill the entranceway with symbolic messages of hope, love and support, celebrating our Oceanside Community.



Be creative! Create your piece of art from wood, metal, plastic, tile, glass, ceramic, clay, canvas, plaster or found objects from your home!

*Must be no larger than 6"X6", must be weatherproof, and have mounting hardware on back  
\*\* drop off between 11am and 3pm, Thursday to Sunday starting June 4, 2020\*\**



McMillan Arts Centre  
133 McMillan Street, Parksville, BC  
info@mcmillanartscentre.com  
250-248-8185  
www.mcmillanartscentre.com





# THE MCMILLAN ARTS CENTRE

Presents:

## *Ethos*

Every Friday in July:

Community Youth & Family  
Programming

### **Air Your Dirty Laundry**

Sign up to learn and create with Ben! Through weekly meetings, we will discuss plastic use, youth involvement in ocean advocacy and create a community art installation to raise awareness on just how much waste enters the worlds oceans.

**Ages 12 and up!**

Email Ocean Bridge Ambassador Ben to Sign up:

**[mctaggartbr@gmail.com](mailto:mctaggartbr@gmail.com)**

In association with:

**MVIHES**

  
**ocean wise.**

# Ethos

Community Youth & Family  
Programming

MVIHES

MID VANCOUVER ISLAND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT SOCIETY

## Friday Learning Topics:

### Friday, July 3rd

Art Advocacy and  
ocean health  
engagement

### Friday, July 10th

Healthy, Happy and  
"Ocean Wise"  
Communities

### Friday, July 17th

Our relationship  
with Seafood

### Friday, July 24th

How do we change  
our habits?

## What do we mean by "Air our Dirty Laundry"?

Plastic is in a lot of our daily household materials. As a result, such refuse often ends up in the worlds oceans. By airing our dirty laundry (looking at problems and issues often easier ignored), we can look at what healthy oceans mean, what communities can do, the roll of seafood and how art can play a key roll in getting the word out!

## What will you do in this program?

Learn about todays ocean health activities through group discussion, film and art creation. Together, we will work to create a community art installation in Parksville showcasing just how much plastic is in our everyday items.



Interested?  
Email Ben at  
[mctaggartbr@gmail.com](mailto:mctaggartbr@gmail.com) for more  
information and to sign up!



ocean wise

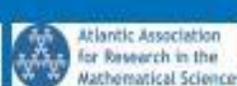
# 2020 PIMS Diversity in Mathematics Online Summer School



4 - 14 August 2020  
ONLINE

Challenge Yourself!

<http://www.pims.math.ca/2020Diversityinmath>



[www.pims.math.ca](http://www.pims.math.ca)



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