



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1390 Fairdowne Road, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
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Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: **Mrs. Sheila Morrison**
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Principal: **Ms. Florence Wong**
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June 27, 2022

Principal's Message

As this will be the last formal newsletter of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, students, parents, and community for a successful school year. Although we have started to resume some of the activities that help us feel "normal" again, it has been another extraordinary year that has ebbed and flowed with the seemingly never-ending global pandemic. We've had to embrace living in the moment, being flexible and ready to adapt to whatever challenges come our way. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and your children. Even with the uncertainty of what each day would bring, coming into our school each day has been a refreshing constant in our lives.

Summer is a time for us all to take a well-deserved break from the formal setting of school; 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. 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. We sincerely hope that you and your family continue to stay safe and healthy throughout the 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?

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

Lost and Found



We have a full bin of lost and found items collected, including many winter coats. Please take some time to look through the items that we will have on display. We will be donating any items left. Please also see the link below for our online lost and found "store" to see if you can identify and claim any familiar items.

<https://ees.itselementary.ca/>

Grade 7 Recognition – Tuesday, June 28th

We are inviting family members of Grade 7 students to a small assembly in the EES Gym on Tuesday, June 28th at 10:15am to recognize and celebrate this milestone.

Virtual Assembly on Wednesday, June 29th

We are inviting family members, caregivers, and volunteers to our year-end assembly at 9:00am on Wednesday, June 29th. This virtual assembly will be held via Zoom. You don't need a Zoom account to join. Simply click the link below and you may need to click "open URL" when you get to the entry screen. There will be a slideshow of photos taken throughout the year as well as the annual Grade 7 "baby photo" slideshow. We hope you can join us!

Topic: EES Assembly

Time: Jun 29, 2022 09:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/5067761599?pwd=ZE5RVkFjMmNWMWQ0bXBSd2pIdXJ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 506 776 1599

Passcode: 483581

Last Day – Wednesday, June 29th – Early Dismissal

As you likely know, the last school day is on Wednesday, June 29th. Dismissal is 3 hours earlier than usual (**10:56am**). If your child will not be attending on the last day(s) of school, please be sure to contact your child's teacher and arrange for collection of year-end items (school supplies, special projects, shoes and other personal belongings, report card, etc.).

EES PAC Appreciation

We would like to recognize our 2021-22 PAC, who have supported our school and generously offered support on many occasions. 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: Naomi Albert and Beverley Craig (Co-Chairs), Michelle Keddy (Treasurer), and Linda Berry Pay (Secretary). We would also like to recognize Sarah Kettner and Alicia Martini for coordinating the PAC Munch-a-Lunches.

Communication During Summer Months

In the last few years, we have faced extreme weather and a heat dome, smoke-filled skies from forest fires, floods, and of course...the global pandemic. As our province has lifted restrictions and we look forward to a normal return to school in September, we need to also be ready to respond if various global or climate events cause a change to our plans.

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). We will check for messages periodically over the summer. If you are not receiving our online newsletters already, we HIGHLY recommend that you set this up as soon as possible. This, along with the SD69 School Messenger service, are the ways in which 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.



Staff Changes

Although our staffing process is not quite complete, we do know that we will be saying farewell to classroom teachers Brooke Chase, Claire Weir, and Ellen Armbruster and Educational Assistants Melissa Gibbs, Jillian Hibbert, Sarah McLaughlan, Ashley Van der Sluys, Lisa Henley, and Corinne Setter. We wish them all well on their future endeavours and thank them for their time here at EES!



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

- Tabitha Smith (Classroom Teacher)
- Alison Simonetti (Classroom Teacher)
- Amy Davis (Educational Assistant)
- Serena Douglas (Educational Assistant)
- Jeff Cormier (Educational Assistant)
- Serena Douglas (Educational Assistant)
- Laura Beaney (Educational Assistant)
- Kerri-Anne Barbosa
- Sheila Groome



Kindergarten registration is ongoing! Online registration can still be accessed through the SD69 District Website using the following link:

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

Please contact us at (250) 248-8446 if you have any questions regarding Kindergarten registration requirements.

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.



Reconnecting Start in September

Please note that on the first day of school (Tuesday, September 6th), we will start at the usual time (**8:10am**) and students are dismissed **3 hours earlier** than usual (**10:58am**). School buses will also run 3 hours earlier than usual on that day.

Once again, we will begin the school year at EES with a reconnecting start, which means that for the first two days of school (Sept 6th and Sept 7th) students will return to the classroom they were in this past year. For this time, we have planned classroom-based and learning activities. On Thursday, September 8th students will move to their new classroom. 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 to indicate which class they will go to for the year. 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 upon arrival 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 6th and Wednesday, September 7th. They will be assigned days and will receive a letter from the school in the next couple of weeks with this information.

School Supplies



Detailed information about school supplies will be sent home with student report cards on Wednesday this week. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 have a fee and teachers will purchase supplies. Students in Grades 4-7 have 2 options: either purchase their own supplies from the list provided OR order supplies through a local company. Supply lists will also be posted on our EES website. Students will NOT need their school supplies on the first 2 days of school (Tuesday, September 6th and Wednesday, September 7th). Please wait until Wednesday to send supplies to 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)

March 18, 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted many areas of health care, including routine immunization programs for children. As Island Health winds down operation of COVID-19 mass immunization clinics, our public health teams are turning their attention towards recovery, including helping families with young children get up-to-date on important routine immunizations.

B.C.'s routine immunization schedule includes a series of vaccinations at age 4, timed to coincide with entry to kindergarten. These vaccines provide important protection against illnesses like measles and tetanus. Island Health is scheduling extra clinics this spring specifically for young children to make it as easy as possible for parents and guardians to complete kindergarten vaccinations and get children up-to-date on their immunizations.

In the weeks ahead public health staff will be reaching out to families across Island Health to discuss the clinics and schedule appointments.

RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

www.immunizebc.ca: This site provides extensive information about BC's routine vaccination schedule for infants, children, teens and adults. It also includes a comprehensive 'Question and Answer' section.

<https://www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/immunizations/immunizations>: Learn about immunization programs in Island Health.



SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 69 (QUALICUM)

Transportation Department

P.O. Box 430,
1365 Springhill Rd.
Parksville, BC V9P 2G5

Phone: (250) 954-3022
Fax: (250) 954-3028



2022-2023 School Bus Information

- Riding the school bus is a privilege and can be suspended at any time for inappropriate behavior.
The district offers a busing system to help get students to/from school/home/daycare.
Bus Passes
Bus passes are mandatory for all students riding to/from school;
Without a bus pass, students can be refused transportation on the school bus
When a bus pass is issued, it stays with the child throughout their school years with SD#69 (Qualicum).

Bus Schedule- the current bus schedule is on the website www.sd69.bc.ca and will be updated regularly.
Morning bus - children need to be at the bus stop 5 min. ahead of time.
Afternoon bus - Kindergarten children must be met at the bus stop.

Student Behavior on the Bus

- Any disturbance on the bus is a safety hazard. Unacceptable behavior includes: Fighting, Profane language, Spitting, Vandalism, Littering, Throwing objects, Not being properly seated, Horseplay.
A driver may issue a 'Student Incident Report' for any of the above mentioned behaviors as well as: Being late at bus stop, Leaving bus stop before it is safe, Disrespectful to driver, Failure to produce a bus pass, Refusing to sit in assigned seat, Non compliance with COVID19 protocols.
If your child is issued a 'Student Incident Report' it must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the bus driver before the student can ride the bus.

SAFETY - VEHICLES, SCHOOL BUSES & CHILDREN

The school district uses the 'Baltimore System' for the loading and unloading of passengers.

Loading Students:

Where a Bus Pull-off is provided:

- 1. Bus pulls into loading zone clear of traffic
2. Takes on students without using red flashing lights or 4 way flashers

Where a Bus Pull-off is not provided:

- 1. Bus stays in own lane
2. Uses overhead flashing lights and takes on students

Unloading Students:

Where a Bus Pull-off is provided:

- 1. Bus pulls into loading zone, without any lights flashing
2. Students unload; bus leaves; students disperse when safe

Where a Bus Pull-off is not provided:

- 1. Bus stops in own lane; uses overhead flashing lights
2. Students unload; bus leaves; students disperse when safe



BUS PASS PROCEDURE 2022/23 SCHOOL YEAR

ELECTRONIC BUS PASS SYSTEM

As we go into the 2nd year of using the electronic ZPass system there are a few things to note:

- When a bus pass is issued, it stays with the child throughout their school years with SD#69 (Qualicum).
 - At the end of each school year, the passes are deactivated.
 - After the application process is completed for the next year, the pass will be reactivated.
- Plastic holder/lanyard – this was a trial for the 1st year and will not be continued.
- The district will be continuing with the process of placing eligible riders first, with a cut off date to have application forms in by, then followed by courtesy riders and any missed eligible riders, as space allows. Wait lists will be created as needed.
- New and/or replacement bus pass applications – the bus pass will be sent to the school for pick up at the office

BUS PASS APPLICATIONS

- The form is for both eligible and courtesy riders – be sure to check off the correct box. If unsure whether eligible or courtesy, refer to the “School Locator” on the school district website to determine.
- One form/child/address.
- Parent/Guardian is responsible for completing the ‘to be completed by parent/guardian’ section and signing the form which acknowledges that you have read the ‘2022/23 School Bus Information’ sheet.

June 22 – July 29, 2022

Eligible ONLY bus pass applications will be accepted & processed.

ELIGIBLE rider applications will be accepted and processed on a first come/first served basis. If a bus reaches capacity, an Eligible Rider wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on this list.

If you don't hear from the Transportation Dept. your child has been either issued a new bus pass and/or placed on the driver manifest.

Courtesy rider applications will not be received at this time, so please do not send them in!

August 2, 2022 onwards

Courtesy, as well as eligible bus pass applications will be accepted & processed.

COURTESY rider applications, as well as eligible that missed the above cut off date, will be received and processed on a first come/first served basis as space is available on the bus route(s) requested.

Courtesy riders that are offered a space on the bus will be notified and asked to make the payment. When payment is received, the bus pass will be issued (see below for distribution process). If payment is not made within 3 business days of being offered the space, the application will be re-dated and put at the bottom of the pile. If a bus reaches capacity, a wait list will be created.

News from Your Library

End of Year Book Return: We ask that students and families please return all library books as soon as possible this next week. Thank you for being great at bringing your library books back this year!

Reading Happens! There are many great opportunities for reading - all summer long!

- The **Vancouver Island Regional Library** Summer Reading Club
<https://virl.bc.ca/read-watch-listen/audience/kids/src/>



- Check out SD 69's My Site links to great reading including **Tumblebooks** and **Sora/Overdrive** District catalogue. <https://start.sd69.bc.ca>. Login using your school login and go to My Site. Click here for the free app <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/sora/>
- The District license for **Raz Kids** runs all summer! Students just go to Student Login using their teacher name and student number <https://www.raz-kids.com/> Online guided reading program with interactive ebooks, downloadable books, and reading quizzes.
- **Storyline Online** has some great ebooks read by celebrities <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
- **Magic Keys** or Children's Storybooks Online has lots of good books including classics <http://www.magickeys.com/books/>
- **International Children's Digital Library** has some wonderful diverse stories from around the world <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>
- **Epic Books** has a great catalogue of novels and picture books for students in all grades <https://www.getepic.com/>

Library Page and Leadership Roles: We've had a wonderful year of leadership at EES. We thank all of our student leaders for their good service to our school and hope that our Grade 7s will find their way to leadership roles in high school and beyond. Next year, we're expanding our Senior Leadership program with new opportunities for Grade 7 students who wish to make a positive impact in our school community. Stay tuned!

Donated Books: We're always looking for great books for the Library. If you have books that your children have outgrown, consider donating them to Errington Library, they will be very welcome!

It's been a pleasure reading with our students this year and we thank you for your support from home!

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook



To Enhance **Life-Long** Learning



**WE'RE
OPEN!**

**Errington After School
Licensed Child Care**

Kindergarten to Gr. 5
Monday to Thursday
2:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

For more information
please call
250-954-3027
or visit our website
www.oblt.ca/childcare



Community Programs

We get numerous advertisements for community programs and opportunities to include in newsletters. Rather than inserting the whole advertisement in our newsletters, we will now provide the links below for you to click to view:

Other Community Events & Programs 2022

Please click on the PDF link below to view the events/programs offered – access is via the SD69 Community Page:

Echo Players Summer Youth Theatre Workshop
Looking for 4H-Leader Volunteers
SOS Summer Programs (July 4 – August 25, 2022)
Foster Caregivers Needed!

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/>

Summer Camps for Kids @ TOSH (for information please click on the link below):

<https://shop.theoldschoolhouse.org/collections/tosh-classes-and-workshops-1>

Support for Parents:

Multicultural Parent Circle

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mbTFRRf2BEaQxK7YpNkEs3VK3aLUlsxArawjZ6tQti9UNEozT1pVQkFYs1BHMUK1NjFVTldTWFFJRyQIQCNOPWcu>

Vancouver Island Parenting Circle

<https://www.parentsupportbc.ca/>

EES Calendar of Events

June	28	Assembly at 10:15 in the Gym for Grade 7 Families
	29	Virtual Assembly at 9:00am (via Zoom; see link in this newsletter)
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early (10:56am)