

EES Newsletter

June 2024 Issue #16

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Principal's Message

As we start our summer break, many of us are looking forward to a pause from the routines and structures of the school year. Some are looking forward to vacations with family and friends, and others are anticipating slower days at home and time to just relax.

Your children have worked hard over the school year, and deserve time away from formal learning; however, learning doesn't need to stop. There are many ways to pique your child's natural curiosity and help them maintain the growth they have made over this past year. Below is a short article with some ideas your whole family may enjoy.

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)

Staff Changes



Although our staffing process is not quite complete, we do know that we will be saying farewell to Teresa Holder (Classroom Teacher), Ellen Armbruster (Classroom Teacher), Tabitha Smith (Classroom Teacher), Paul Wright (Learning Services Teacher), Serena Douglas (Educational Assistant), Michele Gaudon

(Educational Assistant), Lisa Holland (Educational Assistant), Elaine Chandler (Education Assistant), Amanda Turnell (Education Assistant) and Larysa Bilous. We wish them all well with their future endeavors and thank them for their time here at EES!

Finally, we wish our grade 7 students, and any other students who are moving on from EES, the best as you transition to new schools. We hope everyone has a wonderful summer full of fun times with friends and family. We look forward to seeing our returning students and families in September.

Families on the Move?

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. We continue to plan for next year, and it is helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending EES in September.



Room 11 - Class News

Mrs. D's K/1 class (the dragonfly class) has had some great field trip adventures this term. An exciting one was their trip to the Wildlife Recovery Centre. Their learning intention was to discover how to keep wildlife safe.

The class learned some important tips to support the safety of wild animals. These included:

- It's best to leave wild babies where they are
- Don't throw food out the window of your car. Small animals like mice go to eat it, and then bigger animals can be hit by cars if they see the prey on the road.
- Don't put your garbage out until the morning of garbage pick- up.
- Don't use poison. Use a trap or encourage owls (nature's pest controllers).
- Don't feed wildlife.
- Pick your fruit as it ripens on your trees and bushes.
- Make sure you keep your barbeque clean.

Child Dental Benefit

Families with an income of under \$90,000 are eligible for a dental benefit for uninsured children under 12.

Applications are due June 30.

Find out more.

B.C. Training and Education Savings Program Grant

Please click on this letter, for families/guardians of students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 as your child may be eligible for a one-time \$1,200 B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant for their post-secondary education.

Drop-off and Pick-up

Reminder for next school year: Please note that school begins at 8:10am and dismissal is at 1:56pm.

We would like to remind parents to us the Lower Parking Lot for drop off / pick up of their students, in the morning and right after school.



School Supplies

Errington Families,

This coming fall we will be taking a different approach with school supplies. We would like to introduce a supply fee of \$50 for all students in grades K-7. Families with Kindergarten students coming in the fall will be contacted separately closer to September with some more detailed instructions on how to pay this fee.

With the cost of living rising, the quotes we are receiving for our individual school supply lists are over \$80 per student. In order to help families, and support students with their learning, we are preparing to bulk purchase the supplies for all our students to keep these costs down.

Our hope is that this will streamline things for families as they ready to go back to school in the fall. Bulk ordering will also ensure teachers will have the supplies they truly need in their classes, as what one teacher needs for supplies, another may not require. Additionally, bulk ordering will provide consistency for the students as everyone in a class will have the same supplies. It is important that the students have quality supplies, and with the school's access to various vendors, we are able to provide this for our families in a cost-effective way.

We will open up School Cash Online for payment after July 7th, with a due date of November 30th. If you are new to Errington, or are not able to access School Cash Online, then you can pay at the front office with cash or cheque. Families can pay the fee when they are able, either in full or in installments as it works for you.

If you feel this will be out of your reach, please contact the front office.

Reconnecting Start in September

Please note that on the first day of school (Tuesday, September 3rd), we will start at the usual time (8:10am) and students are dismissed 3 hours earlier than usual (10:56 am). School buses will also run 3 hours earlier than usual on that day.

Next year at Errington Elementary will once again begin the school year with a reconnecting start, which means that for the first days of school (September 3rd and September 4th) 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.

On September 5th, 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. On Wednesday, students will bring home a note to indicate which class they are in for the year. A map will be provided on the back of this letter. Please use the outside classroom doors to enter classrooms. Signage will be posted with room numbers and teacher names.

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 day and a half.

Students who start Kindergarten this coming September will have a gradual entry. New Kindergarten students WILL NOT attend on Tuesday, September 3rd. They have been assigned days and received a letter from the school with this information. All Kindergarten students will be in session full time on Monday, September 9th.

EES Bell Schedule 2024-2025

8:10 am	Instruction begins	•,∳,
9:45am	Morning Recess begins	
10:05am	Morning Recess ends	·Á.
11:35am-11:50am	Eating Period	
11:50am	Lunch Recess begins	
12:20pm	End of playtime, Instruction resumes	-,≜,
1:56pm	Dismissal	·A.
2:11pm	Students not picked up report to office	- <u>A</u> .

EES Library News

Happy Summer!



There are many summer reading programs for students, check out the links below.

Common Sense Media has some great ideas about how to Raise A

Reader https://www.commonsensemedia.org/articles/how-to-raise-a-reader

SCHOOL DISTRICT 69 offers students access to sites from home.

Go to District Portal at https://start.sd69.bc.ca/

Login with your usual network username and password

Click on the 9-dot waffle top left.

Click on My Site

Here you can access all sorts of resources including **SORA/OVERDRIV**E which is the District e library. You can check out books just like you check out hard copy books from the library. Students have access to these books for 3 weeks, but just check them back in when done.

Here you can also access **Tumblebooks** which are audio books, videos, music, games.

You can also access World Book, National Geographic and more from here.

VIRL VANCOUVER ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY offers great summer reading programs. You can also access ebooks with your library card.

VIRL Summer Reading Programs * VIRL Children's Librarian Nathan MacKay will be at EES on Tues, June 25 to talk about our local summer reading program.

https://virl.bc.ca/whats-happening/join-a-summer-reading-program/

You can access ebooks also at the Vancouver Island Regional Library.

Go to VIRL at https://virl.bc.ca/

Click Online Library Card Registration

Complete the form and you'll get a Library Card number

Click Read, Watch, Listen to access ebooks and audio books *they also use Overdrive so same format as our District e library

COMMON SENSE MEDIA (Canada) has put together a great list of summer reading online and fun programs to check out including the Harry Potter Reading Club and Reading Rainbow.

https://www.commonsense.org/education/articles/tech-inspired-ideas-for-students-summer-reading

EBOOKS TO PURCHASE AND DOWNLOAD

Amazon Kindle ** search free kids ebooks

Chapters and Summer Reading https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/home/search/?keywords=children%27s%20books#facetIds=750051&internal=1&suggest=1

OTHER FREE STREAMING EBOOKS and AUDIO Books

Audible https://stories.audible.com/discovery

Vooks https://www.vooks.com/

All You Can books https://www.allyoucanbooks.com/

Magic Keys or Children's Storybooks Online http://www.magickeys.com/books/

Project Gutenberg offers classic books as ebooks for free as their copyright has expired. Go to https://www.gutenberg.org/, click on browse books (I chose the Top 100) and then you click through the chapters.

Oxford Owl from Oxford University Press https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/

International Children's Digital Library go to http://en.childrenslibrary.org/. They have many international stories which have been translated to English and are available in different languages.

HARD COPY BOOKS - USED AND NEW BOOKS FROM LOCAL STORES

Fireside Books in Parksville is a local independent new/used book store which is offering free delivery. Go to https://firesidebooksparksville.com/

Sea and Summit - local independent book store https://seaandsummitbooks.com/

Wishing all of our families a great summer!



Happy Reading!

Ms. Richards & Mrs. Cook



WORLD CURIOSITIES



Summer Reading Club 2024

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER NOTICE

For the last Parent Newsletter in June 2024

Summer Reading @ Vancouver Island Regional Library

Summer vacation is almost here and your children are no doubt dreaming about fun times and adventures! But in order to keep your children's reading skills sharp, it's also a smart idea to include reading as a part of their summer fun.

Like all skills, a little practice goes a long way. Vancouver Island Regional Library invites kids aged 0 - 12 years to join Summer Reading Club. Participants will embark on a reading adventure at the library with this year's theme: **World of Curiosities!** Summer Reading Club encourages children to read a little every day by providing:

- Fun tools, such as colorful reading records, tattoos, and medals.
- Trading cards get additional cards throughout the summer to trade with friends!
- Chances to win cool prizes the more they read, the more chances to win.
- · Amazing in branch library programs, performances, contests and activities.

Summer Reading Club officially begins **July 2nd.** You can register by picking up a special package at your local branch starting on **June 18th!** The package includes a reading record to track reading, stickers and other fun stuff.

For more information, call or visit your local branch of Vancouver Island Regional Library or visit www.virl.bc.ca/src. In remote areas, the program is available through our Books by Mail service. Please call 1-877-415-8475 for information.

A note from our District English Language Support Teacher:

I would like to share this list of multilingual online digital libraries.

Unite is great for literacy - simple books in English, but you can have it read in another language too. The International Children's library because there are hundreds of books in other languages.

https://ellstudents.com/blogs/t he-confianzaway/ittakesavillage-freemultilingual-online-librariesamp-books

Kaya Marshall

District English Language Support Teacher AES, QBES, NBES, EES, EOES, KSS SD69 Parksville/Qualicum

Daily Lunch available @ EES

Our daily lunch program is underway and while we have experienced some hiccups along the way in launching this new program, we are grateful to be able to provide meals at school for students.

Our dedicated PAC continues to offer Hot Lunch on specific Fridays. Ordering for both programs will be done through Munch-a-Lunch, however, it will be through separate accounts.

**Please note that the ability to order lunches is a week prior to the date of the lunch.

EES Lunch Program	EES PAC Hot Lunches	
(daily lunch)	(select Fridays only)	
Errington School Meals If you already have a PAC account	PAC Hot Lunches	
use: ADD Errington School		

Community Programs & Events

We get numerous advertisements for community programs and opportunities to include in newsletters. Please click on the link below to view the events/programs offered within the community – access is via the Qualicum School District Community Page:

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

RDN - REC Connect

RDN Recreation and Parks offers programs and services year-round. Link: https://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect

Information for Families:

• Family Accident Reimbursement Plan

KEY DATES

SEPTEMBER

3 - First day of school - early dismissal