

# WILDCATS

### Principal's Message

### Student Learning Survey

### Celebration of Learning

Kindergarten Immunization

**EES Library News** 

OBLT Ready, Set Learn at EES

**OBLT WOW Bus** 

Upcoming erase Training

Substance use prevention skills -Free virtual sessions for Parents/Caregivers

> Message from EES PAC

VIRL Summer Events at your local library

OBLT Pete The Cat

Arrowsmith Tennis Club - Kids Try Tennis!

BC Training and Savings Grant Flyer (students KF through Gr.3)

### **Principal's Message**

April 17, 2025

Issue #11

It has been a busy and exciting few weeks at the school, and we've all been enjoying the beautiful spring weather. The students have been noticing the many signs of the season–longer days, birdsong filling the air, and vibrant flowers blooming all around. Our staff is also seeing wonderful growth and learning taking place each day.

We're now looking ahead to our **Celebration of Learning** on **May 7**, a special opportunity for your child to share some of their accomplishments with you. Please be sure to register once our online booking system opens next week.

Wishing you and your family a joyful and restful Easter.

### **Student Learning Survey 2024/2025**

The Provincial Student Learning Survey is unique in its scope, size and usefulness to schools. It gathers information from parents/guardians/caregivers, teachers, and students on topics related to school environment, safety, and achievement. The information is used for planning in individual schools and provides a district and provincial perspective.

Throughout February the Student Learning Survey will be administered to students in grades 4 and 7, their parents/guardians/caregivers, and all school staff. We encourage parents/guardians/caregivers to participate in this survey, as the results are important in identifying and celebrating current strengths, as well as determining where the school needs to focus improvement. The surveys contain standard questions for the Province – in addition, questions from the school and/or district that focus on local conditions or issues may be included.

The survey can be completed electronically and can be accessed on the Internet at:

https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey.

Any computer or mobile device with an Internet connection can be used, and access to the e-survey is simple and secure. The survey can be accessed through the link and by clicking on Take the Survey. On the login page, click on the Parents icon, and then select the school district and school name where your child attends school. Provincial, District and School Reports for previous years can be viewed at the same site under the *Results* section.

The e-survey site will be **open until May 2, 2025**. If you have any questions, please contact the school at 250-248-8446.

### **Celebration of Learning**

Communicating student learning is an essential part of education. EES Teachers are planning an opportunity to connect with families on **May 7<sup>th</sup>**, **2025 between 2:30 and 7:30 pm** to celebrate the learning that has taken place so far this year.

This will be an opportunity for students to take a central role in sharing where they are at with their learning as well as sharing what they see as their next steps. Students will share their portfolio at this time. 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."

There will be up to 5 students per class sharing during a 30-minute block. Teachers will mingle with families during this time. Please see the instructions below on how to use the online appointment booking system. Most families will find this time very informative and won't have a need to have a separate appointment with the teacher; however, if you still feel you need to discuss specific questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher directly to book an individual appointment.

To control congestion in the hallways, we ask that families please enter their child's classroom through the OUTSIDE door.

### **School Appointments - Parent Instructions**

### (Booking is available starting April 21, 2025 at midnight)

- 1. Go to our school appointments web site: http://ees.parentconferences.net
- 2. Click to "**REGISTER**" (top box). If you already registered last fall for a parent-teacher conference, please skip to STEP 10.
- 3. Complete all the required fields.
- 4. Click "REGISTER NOW".
- 5. Click "Add Student".
- 6. Complete the required fields.
- 7. Click "Insert".
- 8. Next to your child's name, click on the **blue calendar icon.** Click on the **blue calendar** beside your child's teacher name. When teacher is highlighted, click on **View Calendars**.
- 9. Click on **an appointment day and time** that you would like to book. Note your name is automatically put into the field at this time. Others who look on this calendar will not see your name, they will just see that the time slot is not available.
- 10. Click Book Appointment.

### 11. If you have more than one teacher:

Go back to Home.

Click Manage Students.

Add **New Student**.

Complete the fields as above and continue with the rest of the process to book your other appointment(s).

Note: You can edit or delete names if you have made a mistake.

If you have any problems or questions, please contact the office at 250-248-8446. Thank you! We are looking forward to seeing you at the celebration of learning!

# **Introductory School Newsletter Kindergarten**



### **Kindergarten Immunization Information**

In B.C., routine immunizations are recommended for children at kindergarten entry (4-6 years of age). If your child has not received their kindergarten immunizations, please contact Oceanside Public Health Services at (250) 947-8242 to book an appointment at the health unit.

For more information about immunization, please go to <a href="https://immunizebc.ca/">https://immunizebc.ca/</a> or contact the school nurse at Oceanside Public Health Services.

### **EES Library News**

**Titanic Exhibition:** This week, we have been having a lot of fun exploring the story of the Titanic. Our student team has been working hard for weeks to get ready. We are so thankful for the support of the Qualicum Beach Museum who have lent us some beautiful artifacts from the era. We also thank the Canada Coast Guard Victoria Station and Mr. Cook for lending us lots of cool navigation instruments from their archive. Our Float Your Boat water station has seen many a ship test the mettle of the designers and the weight of the cargo to see if they will sink or sail. Thank you to students and staff for making this exhibit so fun!

**Student Vote:** Our intermediate students will be going to the polls on Friday April 25th to cast their student vote for the upcoming Federal Election. Thank you to our Student Council Vote crew for organizing this event and helping us learn about democracy in Canada.

**VIRL Summer Events at your local library:** There are many summer events planned at local Vancouver Island Regional Library Branches. And the cool thing is, if you're in another town or city, you can still visit the branch for special events! <a href="https://virl.bc.ca/calendar/2025-07/">https://virl.bc.ca/calendar/2025-07/</a> Get Your Card! You can register and receive your own library card by filling out this online application <a href="https://virl.bc.ca/get-help/get-a-card/">https://virl.bc.ca/get-help/get-a-card/</a>

**Return Your Books:** Please return your library books as soon as you are finished reading. Many students are waiting for their next book:)

We hope you have a wonderful Easter Break!

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

# Picture of the Food Drive Pick Up Day with the Salvation Army last month



# **EES Titanic Exhibition Photo Gallery**















Ecole Oceanside Elementary - April 1st & 22nd @ 10:30am-11:30am Springwood Elementary - April 4th @ 9:45am-10:45am Bowser Elementary - April 7th & 14th @ 11am-12pm Errington Elementary - April 7th @ 1pm-2pm Qualicum Beach Elementary - April 9th & 23rd @ 10am-11am Arrowview Elementary - April 10th & 24th @ 1:15pm-2:15pm Nanoose Bay Elementary - April 25th @ 9:45am-10:45am

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!

Meadowood Community Park - April 2nd @ 10:30am - 12pm Errington Community Park - April 9th @ 10:30am - 12pm Parksville Community Park - April 15th @ 11am - 12:30pm Nanoose Place Community Centre - April 23rd @ 10:30am - 12pm Bowser Legion - April 30th @ 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



### Upcoming erase Training

- o Families:
  - April 8 <u>Establishing Safe</u>, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities (virtual)
  - NEW OFFERING April 23 Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)
  - May 7 Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities (virtual)
  - May 21 Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)
  - June 3 <u>Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against</u>
     Cyberbullying and Sextortion (virtual)

(The information will also been posted on the community page of the district website).

# Creating a Substance Use Prevention Plan Webinar for Parents

The Ministry of Education and Child Care with Dr. Hayley Watson, adolescent clinical psychologist from Open Parachute, is hosting three, free virtual sessions for parents, guardians and caregivers on creating a personalized step-by-step plan for implementing substance use prevention skills in their home.

Participants are required to <u>register</u> in advance for one of the sessions on April 29, May 7 or May 8 from 6:00-7:30 pm PDT.

### Happy Spring EES families!

**PAC** is always looking for ways to build community among our school families, support parents and caregivers, and get more input into PAC decisions and activities. We have questions for you!

What topics would interest you if PAC were to host a parent information and education event?

What would get *you* to come out to a PAC meeting? Hop onto our **EES PAC Facebook** page to post your answers! You can also message a PAC member from there

or email erringtonelementarypac@gmail.com.

Next PAC meeting: May 1 at 6:00pm in the school library

### VIRL Summer Events at your local library!

There are many summer events planned at local Vancouver Island Regional Library Branches. And the cool thing is, if you're in another town or city, you can still visit the branch for special events! <a href="https://virl.bc.ca/calendar/2025-07/">https://virl.bc.ca/calendar/2025-07/</a>

**Get Your Card!** You can register and receive your own library card by filling out this online application <a href="https://virl.bc.ca/get-help/get-a-card/">https://virl.bc.ca/get-help/get-a-card/</a>







# **Kids Try Tennis!**



Qualicum Beach Tennis Courts

March 28, April 21, April 28, May 19
3:00-4:00 p.m.

All kids, all ages, no experience needed Racquets and balls provided



Register for free with name and age: arrowsmithtennis@hotmail.com





ARROWSMITH TENNIS CLUB



# **B.C.** Training and Education Savings Program Grant Flyer For students in Kindergarten through Grade 3

### ATTENTION Parents and Guardians: Don't let your child miss out on a \$1,200 grant!

The B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant (BCTESG) is available to eligible children for a three-year window only. It can be used for their future post-secondary education and training.



### Is my child eligible?

- Parent or guardian, plus the child are B.C. residents and have Social Insurance Numbers (SINs)
- ☐ The child is between their 6th birthday and the day before they turn 9

### Make a plan today!

Step 1: Contact or visit your financial institution and ask if they offer the grant (most will).

Step 2: All you need is:

- □ Proof of residency: e.g. BC driver's licence, BC Identification Card, BC Services Card, or recent B.C. utilities bill
- ☐ Your Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- ☐ Your child's Social Insurance Number (SIN)\*
  - \*Apply for a SIN: https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html

Step 3: During your appointment with your financial institution:

- ☐ Open a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for your child (skip if already done)
- ☐ Complete application for the BCTESG. No need to add any of your own money!

If eligible, \$1,200 will be deposited into your child's RESP. Apply today! Learn More: https://www2.gov.bc.ca/BCTESG or contact: BCTESG@gov.bc.ca.



### **Daily Lunch available @ EES**

Our daily lunch program is underway and 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: 8 days prior for PAC lunches and the Wednesday prior to the date of the lunch for the EES Lunch Program.

EES Lunch Program (daily lunch)	EES PAC Hot Lunches (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#/

### Information for Families:

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan – Voluntary Insurance <a href="https://specialmarkets.ia.ca/aonbc/home">https://specialmarkets.ia.ca/aonbc/home</a>

### **Public Meetings of the Board of Education**

https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Board/BoardMeetingAgendasMinutes/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx#/=

### **KEY DATES**

### April

- 18 Good Friday (no school)
- 21 Easter Monday (no school)
- 28 Pro-D Day (no school)

### May

- 7 Celebration of Learning
- 16 Conferencing Adjustment Day (no school)
- 19 Victoria Day (no school)

### June

- 26 Last day of school before Summer Break
- 27 Administrative Day (no school)