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EES Newsletter

December 2024 Issue #5

Principal's Message

As we head into toward the longest night of the year, and the anticipation of our winter break, the excitement in the building is palpable. Over the next two weeks we have a number of exciting activities planned.

On Friday, December 13, our students will have the opportunity to do some holiday shopping at our Winter Holiday Market where they will be able to pick out and wrap treasures to give to family and friends. The items will be free of charge to the students. This is being organized by the wonderful PAC and run with the help of our Sr. Leadership students. Thank you to everyone who has generously donated items for this market.

We hope that families will join us on December 19th for our Winter Concert. We will have two performance times that day. Our dress rehearsal will happen at 12:30 pm. We welcome families to this performance, but want you to know that we will still be in practice mode, so there will be some interruptions as classes work together through the script. Our evening performance will be at 5:30 pm. Both productions will be in our gymnasium.

And, the winter fun will continue on December 20! This, our final day before a muchdeserved break, will be our school's trip to the Winter Wonderland Skating extravaganza at Oceanside Place. This is sure to be a day filled with laughter, friendship and the joy of winter festivities.

Wishing you all a winter filled with warmth, happiness and memorable moments.

Vice Principal Announcement

Today, we're announcing that Ms. Wong will be leaving her role as Vice-Principal at Errington Elementary to become Principal of Arrowview Elementary. Her final day with us will be December 20th. We are sad to see Ms. Wong go, but we are very excited for her new opportunity. At this time, we are not sure who our new Vice Principal will be, but the role will be filled soon, and the new person will begin at EES on January 6th, the first day back after our winter break.

Noticing and Dressing for the Weather

We are in the season of Yuxaytlthut, known as the "time before it gets cold", and our seasonal moon is tum'luxw, Moon of Cold Weather. Our local Indigenous teachings inspire us to observe and understand the signs of changing weather. We encourage our students to be mindful of their surroundings and appreciate our interconnectedness to the environment.

To adapt to the changing conditions, it's crucial for students to be well-prepared. We recommend suitable clothing and footwear for outdoor activities, along with inside shoes that double as gym shoes. As the temperatures drop, warm coats (with hoods), boots, hats, gloves, and umbrellas become essential components of their daily attire.

Despite the weather, our students continue to explore and play outdoors during recess and lunch breaks. We suggest students keep a spare change of clothing at school for unexpected situations. While we maintain a limited supply of spare clothing, having personal backups ensures that your child remains comfortable and ready for any weather-related surprises.



Artist: Ocean Hyland Qualicum First Nations

Drop-off and Pick-up - Reminder

Please note that school begins at 8:10am. If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:10am, please use the Lower Parking Lot. If you are dropping off after 8:10am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after
8:15am must report to the office before going to their classroom. We are noticing a number of cars coming in and out of the top lot, and it is becoming unsafe for pedestrians.

Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of your child's after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or taking the bus.



EES Students Bringing Christmas Spirit to the Community

Last Friday, students in Room 14 volunteered their time in the community. They visited Berwick Retirement Community to build gingerbread houses with residents, then they walked to their Salvation Army Bell Ringing stations throughout Parksville.

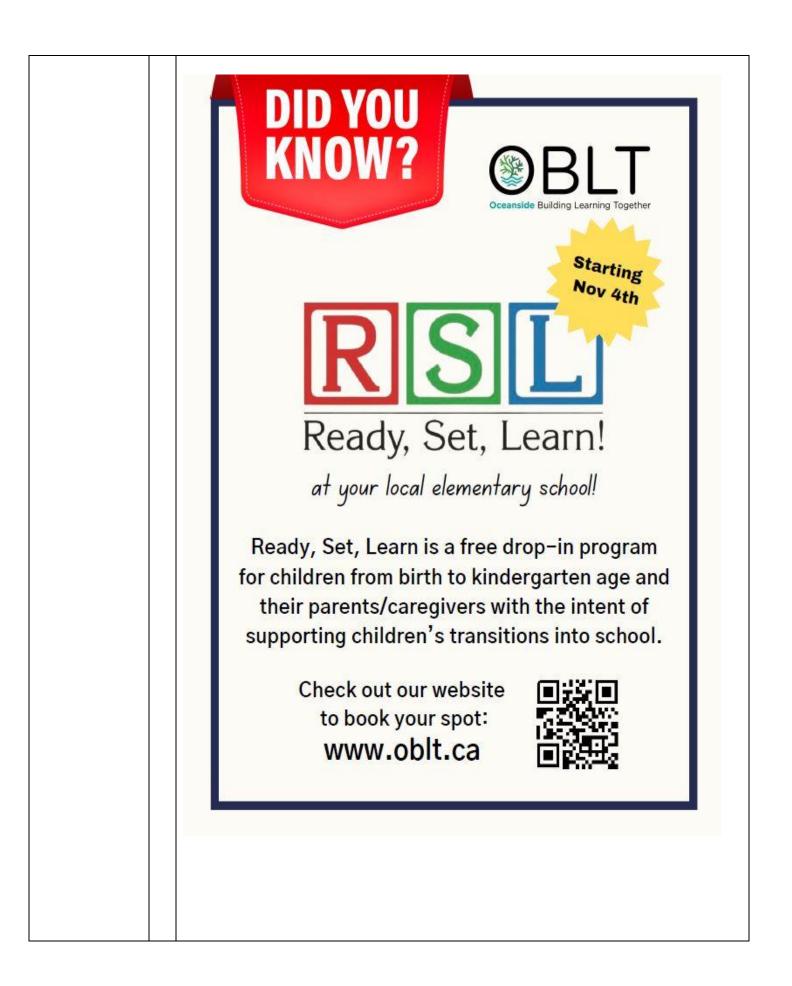
During their two-hour shift, groups of students engaged with the public and did a wonderful job raising funds to go back into the community.

"It felt good to do a fieldtrip that helped others" - Room 14 student











SOS Caring for Community at Christmas

Creating the magic of Christmas for local residents since 1968



Drop-in to register

Starting Nov. 19, low income families and individuals can register at the SOS Community Services Centre in Parksville from 9:15 am - 11:30 am and 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm, Monday - Friday. Parents and grandparents receive help providing gifts for children and youth, and grocery gift cards are provided to adults, seniors and families.

Support the program

Financial donations: Donate online, by phone or in person.
Gift donations: New, unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at the SOS Community Services Centre in Parksville: Monday - Friday,
8:30 am - 12 pm and 1 pm - 4:30 pm. Attend a local event benefitting the program, or locate an SOS Angel Tree at a participating business.
Thank you for helping create magic for residents in need!

SOS Community Services Centre www.sosd69.com | 250.248.2093 ext. 229 245 Hirst Avenue West, Parksville coordinator@sosd69.com | 🕐 💿 🖬 👌



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)
<u>Errington School Meals</u> If you already have a PAC account	PAC Hot Lunches
use: <u>ADD Errington School</u>	

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 https://specialmarkets.ia.ca/aonbc/home

Public Meetings of the Board of Education

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

KEY DATES

DECEMBER 13 – Student Winter Holiday Market at EES

19 – Winter Concert

20 - Last day of school before Winter Break

JANUARY 6 - School Reopens after Winter Break

February 17 – BC Family Day (no school)

March 7 – Pro-D Day (no school)

14 – Last day of school before Spring Break

31 – School Reopens after Spring Break

April 18 – Good Friday (no school)

21 – Easter Monday (no school)

28 – Pro-D Day (no school)

May 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)