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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 <https://immunizebc.ca/> or contact the school nurse at Oceanside Public Health Services.

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.

EES Library News

Black History Month: February is a time to celebrate the vibrant history of black communities in Canada. We have pulled some biographies and stories about famous Black Canadians.



February Food Drive: Our school is holding a Food Drive to collect food and money for our local food bank. We are welcoming Ihor Reveha from the Salvation Army who will come and speak with us about food insecurity and the importance of food banks in our community on Feb 26. Food and money collected will be given to the Salvation Army Food Bank before spring break.

Families can donate to their classroom food drive through School Cash Online.

If they wish a charitable donation receipt, families will have to go in to the Salvation Army and make a cash donation in person. Then bring the receipt to school so your classroom teacher can add it to the class tally.

Our Food Drive ends on Wednesday March 12. Thank you!

Gladiators Chess Club: The Gladiators Chess Tournament is mid-stream and very exciting! The tournament runs every Tuesday with Finals on March 4th. Good luck players!

Overdue Books: Please bring back your library books as there are students waiting for them. If you have lost your book, you can bring a good quality similar genre book from home to replace it. Come and speak with us about it.

Happy Reading!

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook



Gladiators Chess Club - Photo Gallery

The Gladiators Chess Tournament is underway and is very exciting!

The tournament runs every Tuesday, with Finals on March 4th.

We wish all players good luck!



Food Insecurity - by Lucia B.

FOOD INSECURITY

By Lucia



Food insecurity is a serious thing and part of our society and school.

If you're wondering what food insecurity means, here it is.

Food insecurity is the inability to acquire and consume food in a socially adequate way, or the uncertainty of being able to. It is often linked with the household's financial ability to access food.

The leading causes of food insecurity are poverty, unemployment and low wages. These are things that our economy deals with at this time. Many families in our community use a food bank, a place where people are able to get food from the generous people in our world.

People who use food banks come from all walks of life, making the food bank a vital resource in our community. Food insecurity can be a key predictor of unhealthy eating and medical health challenges.

We're trying to do better in our world with this, but the percentage of food bank users is rising. You can do your part to help our community by donating to the food bank. EES Wildcats are doing our part to support the community by hosting a Food Drive at our school until March break. Non-perishable food donations can be brought to school or monetary donations can be made through School Cash Online.



<https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/food-nutrition/food-nutrition-surveillance/health-nutrition-surveys/canadian-community-health-survey-cchs/household-food-insecurity-canada-overview.html>

EES Food Drive



Errington Food Drive students: Bea, Lily, Lucia and Alexa with Oscar!
Did you know that Food Banks will also accept dog and cat food?

SUBSTANCE USE PREVENTION: MENTAL HEALTH & DECISION-MAKING

A **COMPLIMENTARY WEBINAR** FOR PARENTS, GUARDIANS & CAREGIVERS

Join leading **adolescent Clinical Psychologist Dr. Hayley Watson** for an online event that aims to help parents, guardians and caregivers gain a **deeper understanding** of substance use prevention and learn **practical tools** for supporting youth mental health.



Key Takeaways:

- ✓ Learn the factors that contribute to youth mental health/substance use
- 🧠 Understand the skills that youth need to overcome these needs
- 🛠️ Acquire practical tools for empowering your child and youth to make positive choices
- 🤝 Increase your ability to support your own mental health

Time: 6-7:30pm PST
Date: 20th, 25th, 26th Feb 2025

Scan the QR
Code to Register



REGISTER NOW

We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the
Ministry of Education and Child Care

Participants must register in advance. Session dates are:

- February 20, 6:00-7:30 pm PST
- February 25, 6:00-7:30 pm PST
- February 26, 6:00-7:30 pm PST

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Bowser Elementary – March 3rd @ 11am – 12pm
Errington Elementary – March 3rd @ 1pm – 2pm
Ecole Oceanside Elementary – March 11th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Qualicum Beach Elementary – March 12th @ 10am – 11am
Arrowview Elementary – March 13th @ 1:15pm – 2:15pm
Nanoose Bay Elementary – March 14th @ 9:45am – 10:45am
Springwood Elementary – March 14th @ 12:30pm – 1:30pm

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!

Qualicum Beach (4 Poles) – March 5th @ 10am – 11:30am
Meet at the main beach parking lot by the washrooms.
Errington Community Park – March 12th @ 10am – 11:30am
Rathtrevor Beach – March 13th @ 1:30pm – 3pm

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





Oceanside FC

Have Fun- Learn Skills - Make Friends

Spring Registration is now OPEN!

Sign up is now open for the Spring soccer season running from April 9th to June 21st (excluding Easter and May Long Weekends).

Active Start (U4-U6)	Junior Pony U6-U7	Senior Pony League (U8-U9)	InterClub U10-U18
U4/U5 April 12th through June 21 on Saturdays.	For those U6 players that are ready for the next challenge you can now join our U7 players.	Practices are on Wednesdays, games on Saturday, starting April 9th through June 21.	Practices are on Wednesdays, games on Saturday, starting April 9th through June 21.
U6 April 12 through June 21 with training on Wednesdays and Saturdays.	Practices are on Wednesdays, games on Saturday, starting April 9th through June 21.	Registration Fee: \$110	This age group may require travel for game day on Saturdays.
Registration Fee: U4/U5 – \$110 , U6 – \$110	Final game day will be a tournament style day. The schedule may vary from your regular weekly game schedule. Registration Fee: \$110		Registration Fee: \$110

Register at www.oceansidefc.com



PHOTO, VIDEO & ART CONTEST FOR CANADIAN INDIGENOUS YOUTH



Celebrating the rich cultural & heritage traditions of Indigenous people, FORED sponsors this annual contest with cash prizes for Indigenous youth.

Theme: **Traditional Knowledge & Medicine** Prize: **4 x \$150 prizes** with at least one national winner. *Group work shares prize.*

**DEADLINE
MAY 23, 2024**



Interview a local elder about homemade salal tea on video? Creativity of all kinds is welcomed.

Contest Details: Please submit entries via the easy entry form on our website. <https://www.foredbc.org/traditional-knowledge-contest>

Entries may also be mailed to the address at bottom.

- Eligibility: youths aged 5-18 of First Nations, Inuit, Métis, or self-declared ancestry.
- Participants must include their name, band affiliation/ancestry, home address, phone & email address, parent & teacher contact info, grade & school on [website entry form](#) or with mailed entries.
- Please include a brief description of how your artwork relates to traditional knowledge and medicine. **DEADLINE: May 23/24**

- All original artistic work accepted: i.e. pencil, crayon, paint, mural, collage, photos, animations, videos etc. (.jpg, .pdf, .png, .mp4, .MOV). Minimum image size 2MB. Videos must be less than 3 min. Please have someone take a photo of you with your artwork if possible.
- By entering, winners agree their names & entries can be published in local & social media, or displayed on BC Ministry of Education sites for Indigenous People's Day, June 21, & our [website](#).
- All entrants qualify for complimentary, honorary youth membership. No commercial use of entries.
- Mailed entries won't be returned. Only winners will be notified.
- See how Indigenous volunteer mentors integrate traditional knowledge into natural resources practices on our [YouTube](#). Follow us on social @foredbc.
- Complimentary teacher & youth activities by age group on Indigenous culture available [here](#).

Questions? Email education@foredbc.org.

FORED BC is a charitable association established in 1925. We work with volunteers on community-based sustainability projects. We thank our generous donors; the Province of BC & the Vancouver Foundation.



Follow FORED BC on social:



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Support balanced education about our environment & sustainable natural resources. Trusted since 1925.





For Grades 4-8
Deadline: 03/31/25



Call for Entries

CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST



Kids Write 4 Kids Contest Deadline: March 31, 2025

There is still time to enter. Whether you're a budding novelist, a poetic soul, or someone who loves to tell tales, this is your platform to shine.

Why You Should Enter?

- **Get Published:** Winners become published authors.
- **Make an Impact:** Book sales proceeds are donated to the winner's charity of choice.
- **Join the Panel:** Winners will become judges for next year's contest.

Educators, parents, and creativity enthusiasts – spread the word! Display [our poster](#) in your school, library, or community center to help discover the next wave of storytellers. <https://kidswrite4kids.ripplefoundation.ca/>

Meet our diverse and inspiring individuals on our [Kids Write 4 Kids judging panel!](#)

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 use: <u>ADD Errington School</u>	<u>PAC Hot Lunches</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#/=](https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Board/BoardMeetingAgendasMinutes/Pages/Board-Meetings.aspx#/)

KEY DATES

February

26 – Pink Shirt Day

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)