

EES Newsletter

February 2025 Issue #9

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Noticing and Dressing for the Weather

We are in the season of tum'xuytl', known as the "cold time", and our seasonal moon is Mimne', Little Child Moon. 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.

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 <u>https://immunizebc.ca/</u> 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:

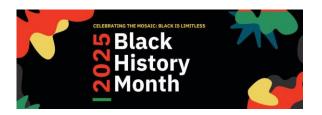
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/k-12/support/student-learning-survey.

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 lhor 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













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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.

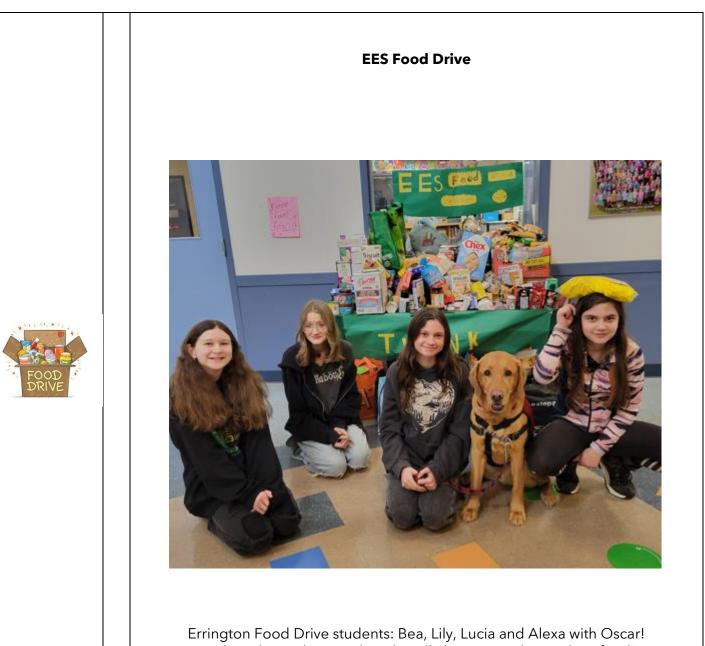
Food insecurity is the inability to acquire and consume food in a socially adequate way, or the uncertainty of being able to. It is often linked with the household's financial ability to access food.

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-nutritionsurveillance/health-nutrition-surveys/canadian-community-health-surveycchs/household-food-insecurity-canada-overview.html



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:

- O 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

REGISTER NOW

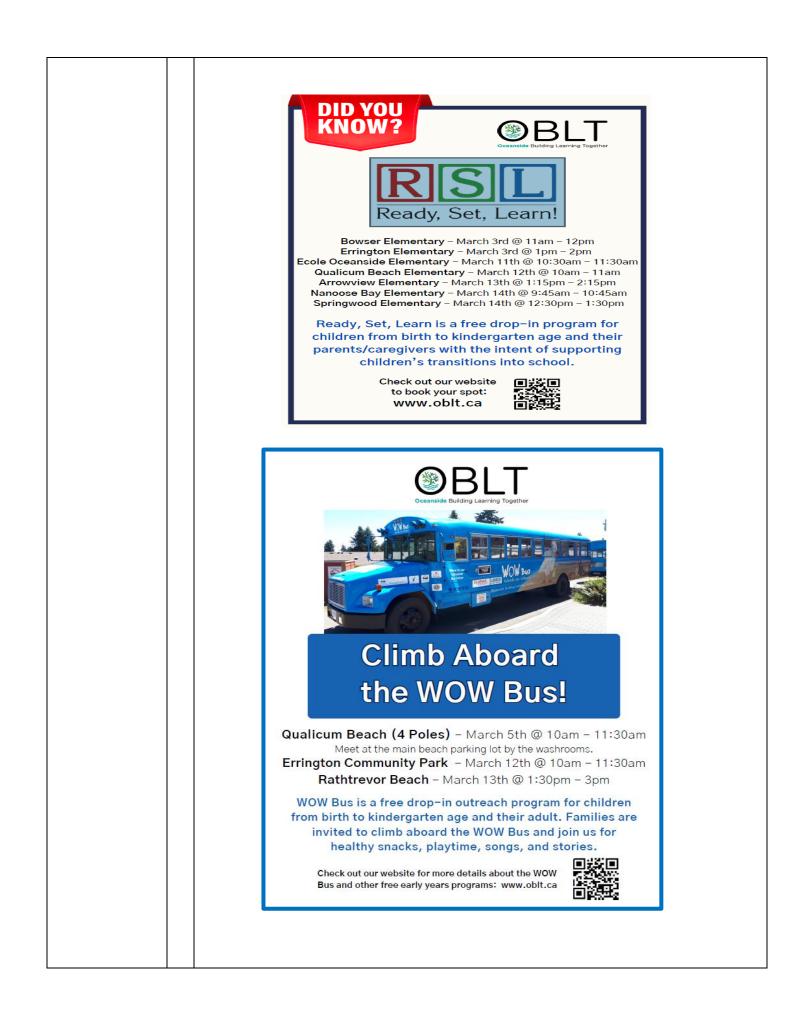


We acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia through the

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





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

U4/U5 April 12th through June 21 on Saturdays.

U6 April 12 through June 21 with training on Vednesdays and Saturdays.

Registration Fee:

U4/U5 - \$110 , U6 - \$110

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.

Final game day will be a tournament style day. The schedule may vary from your regular weekly game schedule.

Registration Fee: \$110

Senior Pony League (U8-U9)

Practices are on Wednesdays, games on Saturday, starting April 9th through June 21.

Registration Fee: \$110

Wednesdays, games on Saturday, starting April 9th through June 21.

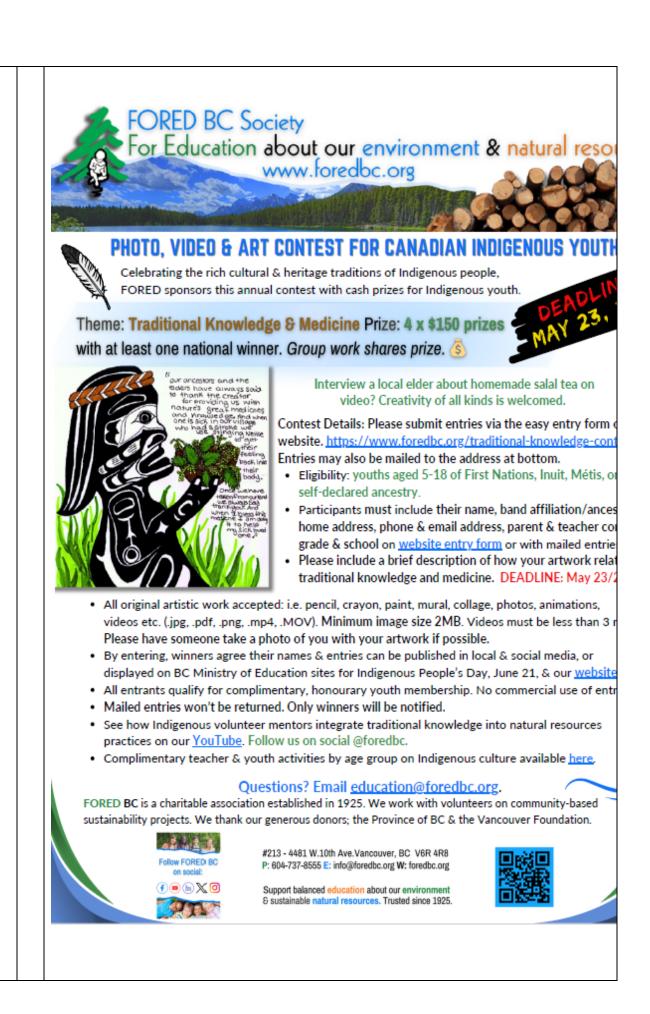
InterClub U10-U18

Practices are on

This age group may require travel for game day on Saturdays.

Registration Fee: \$110

Register at www.oceansidefc.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: 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 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

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)