



# EES Newsletter

January 2024  
Issue #7

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## Principal's Message

As we near the end of January, schools begin the planning process for next school year. In February, both Ballenas and Kwalikum Secondary will start the transition for grade 7 students to high school. Please see the information in this newsletter for the upcoming open houses and parent information sessions. Families will be asked to decide where their child will attend for the fall. Cross boundary applications for all students will be accepted online from January 20th to March 13, 2025.

Additionally, our Kindergarten registration is open until January 31, 2025 for new K students. The registration is online, and while it will remain available for use after the registration deadline, parents are strongly encouraged to register their child within the registration window to assist with classroom/staffing planning.

## EES 25th Birthday Celebration

On January 15, the staff and students at Errington Elementary celebrated the 25th anniversary of the school opening. In January, 2000, EES was the first BC school of the millennium to open. Staff and students were joined by members of the Sr. Management team, school trustees, and former administrators, including Carolyn Hatley, the first principal of the new Errington school, Bobbi Coleman and Jennifer Fuhrmann.



## Noticing and Dressing for the Weather

We are in the season of tum'xuytl', known as the "cold time", and our seasonal moon is Thulxwumucun, Moon of Shining Ice. 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 <https://immunizebc.ca/> or contact the school nurse at Oceanside Public Health Services.

**OBLT**  
Oceanside Building Learning Together

# Family Literacy Day!

**Monday, January 27, 2025**  
**3pm to 5pm**  
**744 Primrose St, Qualicum Beach**

A colorful illustration of various books, a pencil, and a notepad, suggesting a focus on literacy and learning.

**FREE activities for children 0-8 and their caregiver, take  
aways, warm chili, refreshments, children movie passes  
draw & more!**

Please dress for the weather as this event takes place outside at Storybook Village. The event will move indoors if there are adverse weather conditions.

For updates, follow us on [Facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) @OceansideBLT

**[www.oblt.ca](http://www.oblt.ca)**



# KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

**Kindergarten Registration for September 2025 opened on Monday, January 20, 2025 and runs through to Friday, January 31, 2025.**

To qualify for Kindergarten enrollment in September 2025, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2025. Proof of Age for a student includes a birth certificate or passport. Check out the School District website registration page to see what else you might need:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Kreg.aspx#/=>

Our district will be using the **MyEdBC on-line registration process for in-coming Kindergarten students only in January.**

(The online registration process will remain available for use after the registration deadline; however, parents are strongly encouraged to register their child within the registration window to assist with classroom/staffing planning)

If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the EES office or contact us at (250) 248-8446.

All new students must register online with their catchment area school.

Information for those students wishing to attend a school outside their catchment can be found at link above

If you know of any families who will need to be aware of this information, we ask you to please pass this along to them.



École Ballenas Secondary School

*Building Successful Students*



## **BSS Open House and 2025-2026 Grade 8 Information Session**

***Thursday, February 6th 6:30–8:00 PM***

All parents and students who plan to attend Ballenas in the upcoming 2025-2026 school year are invited to our annual Open House. All Ballenas programs and departments will be on display throughout the school.

In addition, **next year's** Grade 8 students and families are invited to attend a special information session at **6:30 PM** in our **Auditorium**.



Phone: 250-248-5721

Web: <https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS/Pages/>



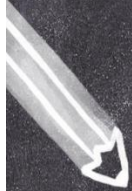


KWALIKUM SECONDARY


# GRADE 7 INFO NIGHT

6:30PM-7:30PM  
DOORS OPEN AT 6:15PM

FEBRUARY 12TH, 2025  
IN THE KSS MULTIPURPOSE ROOM



Current grade 7 students and their caregivers are welcome to come and learn about the grade 8 program, tour the school, and ask questions - we will try and answer as many as we can.





## **EES Library News**

**Lunar New Year:** The Year of the Snake celebrations begin Wed Jan 29th. We have on display many great books about Lunar New Year including traditions and legends. We've also put out books on Snakes! Check them out!

**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 will be having 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. Food and money collected will be given to the Salvation Army Food Bank before spring break.

**Gladiators Chess Club:** We're up and running every Tuesday in the Library. We are welcoming students from all classes to come out and learn and practice their chess strategies and skills! We will be having a school tournament at the beginning of March.



**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.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

### **Parksville Qualicum Beach News Story Contest**

Wildcat, Lucia B., was the first-place winner of the holiday story contest this past December in the Parksville Qualicum Beach News story contest. Congratulations Lucia!

The star, the storm and the snowman

A winter star  
Shining in the sky  
Bright as a diamond  
An icy snowman  
Frostiness surrounding him  
Dreams soaring high  
He sleeps aloft the snowy ground  
One more tree, fallen down from  
The storm that is brewing, once again  
Raining sheets of Sleet and snow  
Upon the houses  
Sound asleep  
Their snores astounding, dreaming deep.  
The early bird soars above the icy plains  
Calling out its evening vocals,  
Waking up the slumbering locals  
The grass is crunchy with morning frost  
In storms and snow and winter breezes  
Chilly red noses and cold season sneezes In the trees deep and dense  
The soon to be sleeping owl sits, tense  
The snowman sits upon his home  
Staring up, up high  
One small star  
That seems so far  
Above him in the sky  
Alone but bright  
One light at night  
The star, the storm and the snowman

Lucia B.  
Grade 7  
Errington Elementary



**DID YOU  
KNOW?**



**Starting  
Nov 4th**



**Ready, Set, Learn!**

*at your local elementary school!*

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](http://www.oblt.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.**

<b>EES Lunch Program</b> (daily lunch)	<b>EES PAC Hot Lunches</b> (select Fridays only)
<u><a href="#">Errington School Meals</a></u> If you already have a PAC account use: <u><a href="#">ADD Errington School</a></u>	<u><a href="#">PAC Hot Lunches</a></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

### JANUARY

20 – 31 KF Registration opens

### February

6 – BSS Grade 8 Information Session

12 – KSS Grade 7 Info. Night

17 – BC Family Day (no school)

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)