



EES Newsletter

May 14, 2025
Issue #12

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Welcome to Kindergarten!

We have our Welcome to Kindergarten afternoon on Wednesday June 4th, 2025 from 3:15 pm to 4:00 pm.

This is a great opportunity for our incoming Kindergarten students to meet with Kindergarten teachers, look around the school and for families to find out about the transition to Kindergarten.

Families on the Move?



Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. We are beginning to plan for next year, and it is helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending EES in September.

Last Day - Thursday, June 26th - Early Dismissal



As you likely know, the last school day is on Thursday, June 26th. Dismissal is 3 hours earlier than usual (**10:56am**). If your child will not be attending on the last day(s) of school, please be sure to contact your child's teacher and arrange for collection of year-end items (school supplies, special projects, shoes and other personal belongings, learning update, etc.)



Grade 6:

Consent packages for Grade 6 students were sent home from the school in the fall. Public health nurses will be returning to offer Grade 6 immunizations in school-based clinics with the consent of a parent/guardian/representative on **Monday May 26th, 2025**.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine is recommended in Grade 6 as part of the B.C. immunization schedule to prevent 6 types of cancer (cervical, oropharyngeal, anal, vaginal, vulvar, and penile cancers). The B.C. immunization schedule for Grade 6 students is 2 doses, 6 months apart.

Contact the local Health Unit at (250) 947-8242 if you have any questions.

Kindergarten:

Island Health is committed to making immunizations more accessible to children. Immunizations will be provided at the school for Kindergarten on **May 26th, 2025**.

Students in kindergarten will only be offered immunizations at school-based clinics with the consent of a parent/guardian.

Recently, a letter was sent home through the school for kindergarten students who are eligible for immunizations.

If your child brought home a letter and you have not already done so, complete the online [provincial digital consent tool](#) by May 20th, 2025.

If you do not have access to a computer or smart phone, please contact your local public health unit at the phone number below.

Please contact the local public health unit at (250) 947-8242 if you have any questions, if you are submitting immunization records for your child using the digital consent tool, or if you would prefer to book an immunization appointment for your child at the health unit.

School Bus Registration for the 2025/26 School Year

School Bus Registration for the 2025/26 school year is now open! Go to the Qualicum School District Transportation [website](#) to access the online application form. Get your application in **before the end of this school year** for the best opportunity to secure a spot for you child and to **avoid extra fees**.

Bussing Fee Summary Table

	ELIGIBLE RIDER FEES	COURTESY RIDER FEES
Early - between April - June 30th	Free	\$175.00*
Late - between July 1st - July 31st	\$25.00*	\$225.00*
Late - after August 1st	\$50.00*	\$275.00*

**Parents and caregivers who believe these fees will cause financial hardship in their household are encouraged to speak to their school principal about fee relief. Options may include partial or even full fee waivers, depending on need, which will then be communicated by the principal to the Transportation Department.*

REGISTRATION PROCESSING TIMELINES

April - June 30 only Eligible bus pass applications will be processed, on a first come/first served basis.

- If a bus reaches capacity, an Eligible Rider wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.
- Courtesy rider applications received during this time will not be processed until after July 1.
- Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

July 1- onwards Courtesy, as well as late Eligible bus pass applications will be processed on a first come/first served basis as space is available on the bus route(s) requested.

- Courtesy riders that are offered a space on the bus will be notified and asked to pay the necessary fees. When payment is received the application will be finalized. If payment is not made within 5 business days of being offered the space, the application will be re-dated and put back into the queue.
- If a bus reaches capacity, a wait list will be created. You will be notified if you are put on a wait list.
- Exact bus route information will be distributed to families before the first day of school through My Ride K-12 website and App.

Applications received after Sept 1 will be considered on a wait list and only accepted on a first come first served basis as space on busses allow.

EES Library News

FREE BOOKS - Honestly, is there a more wonderful phrase in the world? We are in weeding mode in the Library and there are lots of books loading up our FREE BOOK tables. We have our overflow Little Free Books by our front door, too. Please help yourself and give these fabulous books a new home.



WORLD BEE DAY MAY 20 - there are plans afoot to celebrate one of the hardest working creatures on our planet! In the Tuesday afternoon, classes are invited to attend a Bee Seminar with local beekeepers who are bringing in their hives. We'll play with BeeBots and enjoy other fun buzzy activities.

CONCUSSION 101 WITH JAKE LUSSIER: Grade 6/7 students and our skateboard club will be attending a presentation by Jake Lussier of Advanced Health and Sport Clinic today. Jake will talk about concussion and safe play practices on and off the field.

TERM 2 LEADERSHIP CAKE AND TEA JUNE 11: Student Leaders are invited to come down to the library and pick up a piece of cake and iced tea. It's our way of saying thank you to the 70+ leadership students who work in our school every day and help keep us ticking! We'll also be taking names of those Grade 6 students who wish to be considered for our STUDENT COUNCIL next year.

PLEASE RETURN YOUR BOOKS - we are gearing up for year end inventory and need our books back, please. If you have lost your book, you can replace it with a book of similar context, quality and genre. Please ask if any questions.



DISTRICT CHESS TOURNAMENT: Our five Gladiators champions Ivan, Jason, Luca, Declan and Ben attended the District Chess Tournament on Friday May 9 at Springwood Elementary.



- Ivan finished in 3rd place for grade 4,
- Jason had fun and tied three matches in grade 5 play,
- Declan finished in a tie for 3rd place in grade 6,
- Luca won a game and seemed to have fun
- Ben finished in a 3-way tie for second place in grade 7 play.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

EES Gr.6/7 Students Recent Visits with Berwick Parksville Retirement Community

Berwick Parksville is thankful for a Government of Canada grant called New Horizons for Seniors Program 2024.2025.

Part of the grant is being used for a new project called Green Thumb Gardeners and it is an intergenerational project with split grades 6/7 from Errington Elementary School participating. Jeannine Krefting, Active Living Manager said, *"We are thrilled to support the development of meaningful intergenerational connections between this inspiring group of students and our residents, as they collaborate on this valuable and enjoyable project."*

Leading the project is Berwick Parksville Horticulturist Kelsey, who said *"I love watching the joy and excitement of others learning what I love most, gardening; and passing it down for generations to come"*. In anticipation of the students' first visit, Kelsey and Jeannine took some residents to Seedy Saturday, where herbs, vegetable and flower seeds were picked, with knowledge and advice from Kelsey.

Three dates were set for the students to come to Berwick Parksville's studio and work alongside residents, actually going through the growing process from start to finish.

The first visit was on February 21st, when 19 students, 2 teachers and residents, under the direction of Kelsey, put soil into the cell trays and planted two seeds in each cell, a mixture of herbs, vegetables and flowers.

The next visit was 4th April, when 4" pots were painted. *"The opportunity to get our students out into the community and connecting with others is a gift. Getting to participate in the Green Thumbs Project over a series of months fosters continued connection between residents and students. And, of course, plant growth and observation are part of our learning outcomes, but even more, is such an interest and useful skill for our students to learn about. We have so much gratitude for this special project!"* -Rose Benoit, Teacher

"I'm looking forward to painting the pots and transplanting the plants into them"
-Madison, Grade 7

"I'm looking forward to watching the plants grow" - Cali, Grade 7

"I'm grateful to do the Green Thumbs project because I like working with people in the community and seeing the plants grow with them." - Farrah, Grade 7

The last visit was 9th May, just before Mother's Day when the growing plants were transplanted into the pots and ready to take home as gifts.

Written by a Berwick Resident

Photo Gallery

EES Gr.6/7 Visits with Berwick Parksville Retirement Community

Making Mother's Day Planters



EES Students Gardening at Berwick



Upcoming *erase* Training

- Families:

- April 8 – [Establishing Safe, 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 – [Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion \(virtual\)](#)

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

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! <https://virl.bc.ca/calendar/2025-07/>

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



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Ready, Set, Learn!

Bowser Elementary – May 5th & 26th @ 11am – 12pm
Ecole Oceanside Elementary – May 6th & 20th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Arrowview Elementary – May 8th & 22nd @ 1:15pm – 2:15pm
Springwood Elementary – May 9th @ 9:45am – 10:45am
Errington Elementary – May 12th & 26th @ 1pm – 2pm
Qualicum Beach Elementary – May 14th & 21st @ 10am – 11am
NanOOSE Bay Elementary – May 30th @ 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!**

Qualicum Beach (4 Poles) – May 7th @ 10am– 11:30am
Meet at the main beach parking lot by the washrooms.
Errington Community Park – May 21st @ 10:30am– 12pm
NanOOSE Place Community Centre – May 27th @ 10am– 11:30am
Coombs Fairgrounds – May 28th @ 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



Responding to Children & Youth After Unforeseen Frightening Events

A Webinar for Parents, Caregivers & Community Members

Location: Online – ZOOM (see below for links)

Overview:

This informative webinar is designed for parents, caregivers, and community members to provide them with tools and information to help children and youth after frightening events.

Session Highlights:

- Define and differentiate stress, grief, and trauma
- Discuss brain and stress responses to frightening events
- Outline what to expect from young people in the days and weeks post-event
- Provide practical tools and responses for supporting children and youth
- Identify when to seek professional help and share valuable resources

How to Join:

No registration required. Attend by joining the link for the webinar date and time that works best for you:

Option 1: Wednesday, May 14/25; 6:30 – 7:30pm PST

Link: <https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/62858834582?pwd=oIvaOy81SizQMXh1RAXI5BnMhWqi.1>
Passcode: 350801

Option 2: Friday, May 23/25; 6:30 – 7:30pm PST (ASL Translator will be present)

Link: <https://ca01web.zoom.us/j/62858834582?pwd=oIvaOy81SizQMXh1RAXI5BnMhWqi.1>
Passcode: 350801

About the Facilitators:



Miguel Godau, M.A., CCC, (he, him, his)

Team Leader, e-CYMH Team

Miguel joined Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) in 2016 and has held roles as clinician and team leader across rural BC. Prior to this he worked with different non-profits and community agencies. He has provided crisis response and grief support in different settings throughout his career.



Kali Love, M.A., RCC, (she, her)

Clinician, e-CYMH Team

Kali joined Child and Youth Mental Health (CYMH) in 2015 and has held several roles within MCFD, including clinician, team leader, and mental health policy consultant.

Please contact Miguel.Godau@bc.gov.ca if you have any questions.

This session will be recorded and made available to the public after May 23/25. An ASL Interpreter will be available on the May 23rd presentation.



Ministry of
Children and Family
Development

Provincial Child and Youth Mental Health & Deaf
and Hard of Hearing Services
Service Delivery Division

2780 Broadway E,
Vancouver BC V5M 1Y8 Canada
CYMH.Provincial.Services@gov.bc.ca

34th Annual
**Coombs
Community
Picnic**



5:30 - 7:30pm
Friday, June 6, 2025

COOMBS FAIRGROUNDS

1014 FORD RD, COOMBS, BC

**FREE hotdogs, hamburgers, cake &
ice cream while supplies last**

**Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets
and enjoy a spot on the field.**



**Children's Games
Coombs Memorabilia
Live Music**

**Educational Displays
Children's Railway
Farm Animals**



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.



Services and Technology Division
Student Certification Branch

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9886 STN PROV GOVT
Victoria B.C. V8W 9T6

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

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)