



EES Newsletter

October 2024
Issue #3

**Principal's
Message**

Principal's Message

We are now in mid-October, and the school has a positive buzz as classes are busy with a variety of learning and social activities. Teachers are busy getting to know the strengths and stretches of all their students. Students at all grade levels are engaged in a variety of assessments that help staff determine benchmarks for literacy and numeracy development. Friendships are developing and social skills, such as communication and collaboration, are being practiced.

**Emergency
Preparedness &
Drills**

Many of our grade 6 and 7 students have signed up for senior leadership, under the direction of our teacher librarian, Ms. Richards. The students have interviewed for various roles within the school and are now actively supporting many aspects of our school community. Our leadership team is volunteering their time as library pages - delivering the technology carts, re-shelving library books and helping with other essential tasks. Other members of the team are kindergarten helpers, supporting our youngest students with end of day routines. And still other senior leaders are helping with setting up for assemblies and special activities, to ensure these events go off smoothly. Our older students are proving to be wonderful role models for our younger children. It is lovely to see them looking out for younger students on the playground and reinforcing our code of conduct by demonstrating safety, respect and responsibility. Their efforts help to foster a positive learning environment at EES.

Inclement Weather

**Drop-off and Pick-
up**

Student Forms

EES Library News

**EES Student
Council News**

**National Youth
Remembrance
Contests**

**Welcome back
Oscar!**

**Parksville
Volunteer Fire
Dept. Open House**

**Fire Prevention
Week 2024**

**Coombs Candy
Walk**

**Childhood Stress &
Anxiety**

**Wonderful World
of Books**

Emergency Preparedness & Drills

Unforeseen emergencies can strike without warning, often leaving us with minimal time to react to a significant disruption in both our personal lives and our communities. Schools, being prominent gathering places, bear a unique responsibility when it comes to emergency preparedness. Ensuring the safety and well-being of our students and staff, as well as instilling confidence in parents as you entrust your child(ren) to our care. We have started practicing several scenarios with our students including fire, earthquake and lockdown drills so far. Below are the dates and times of our scheduled drills for this school year. Please reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

EES 2024-25 - Dates for Emergency Response Drills

Month	Date	Time	Drill	Status
September	12 (Th)	9:35 AM	Fire Drill	
	18 (W)	12:25 PM	Fire Drill	
October	9 (W)	TBD	Fire Drill after Fire Dept. class presentations	
			• Fire Prevention Day	
	17 (Th) 28 (M)	10:17 AM 10:10 AM	Big Shake Out-Earthquake with evacuation Lock Down	
November	5 (T)	11:35 AM	Missing Student	
December	6 (F)	1:30 PM	Hold and Secure	



Shelter in Place is used when personal safety is considered to be in danger if anyone leaves the school. It is usually an environmental hazard or wildlife in the vicinity of the school.

- Exterior windows and doors locked.
- Free movement within the building.
- Remain inside until advised that conditions are safe

Lockout (also known as Hold and Secure) is used when it is necessary to secure a school because there is an emergency situation occurring outside the school. The exterior doors are locked and monitored to allow students and staff to enter but otherwise remain locked. Once inside, no one leaves the building.

- Exterior windows and doors locked and monitored.
- Students and staff may enter from outside.
- Classes function as normal.
- Remain inside until advised that conditions are safe

Lockdown is used to prevent intruders from entering occupied areas of a building or when it is necessary to isolate students and staff from danger outside or within the building. Situations include active shooters or dangerous intruders. Staff and students are restricted in their movement.

- Exterior windows and doors locked.
- Everyone inside
- All windows and doors locked.
- Lights off and everybody out of sight and silent.
- Ignore bells.
- Remain inside until advised by authorities that conditions are safe

Inclement Weather and Clothing

Although we have had sunny days, we know that soon the rainy weather will be upon us! It is extremely important for students to have appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor use, along with a pair of inside shoes to change into when inside the building. These shoes are also used for gym use. We expect students to wear warm coats (hoods are a good idea) and we recommend boots, hats, gloves, and umbrellas. In general, students go outside to play during recess and lunch breaks, even if it is raining or snowing. Each day, we assess the combination of weather, wind, and temperature to determine whether or not it is suitable for the students to play outside. We recommend that students have a spare change of clothing kept at school in case of various emergencies. We have a very limited supply of clothing available.

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.



Student Information Forms

Over the past weeks we sent out some very important forms to fill out. These are annually updated and are required in order to keep our records current. The package includes a sheet called "Student Verification Form" (white form) and a sheet called "Student Health and Emergency Information" (green form). Even if there are no changes to your child's information, we still need you to **sign** those forms and return to the school as soon as possible.

Wheelie Shoes



We would like to remind families that wheelie shoes are not permitted at school. We ask students to leave these at home, for their safety and the safety of others.

EES Library News

Student Vote October 18: Our new Student Council is made up of Grade 7 students who are running several events in our school this year. They are advocates for students in our school, lend their voice to a monthly column in the newsletter and run school-wide events such as Student Vote which is taking place on **October 18th**. Some Grade 4-7 classes are learning about democracy and how our provincial political system works. Students in these classes will have the chance to cast their vote for candidates from the three parties running in the Mid Island - Pacific Rim riding. Check out **News from Your Student Council!**

Litter Hurts! Our Library Inquiry this month is an examination of litter found in our forests. Students looked at items and brainstormed ways that the litter can hurt animals. Students worked with the buddy classes and had some great analysis of the Litter Hurts questions :) Next month, we'll be doing a **Trick or Trash** activity to clean up our school grounds, watch for info!

In our Library: We have our Halloween books out until the end of the month! Check them out while they're here! Please return your library books, there are students waiting to read them!

Scarington 4 October 31: This year, our Halloween event returns with the help of PAC, Student Council, students and staff! Thank you to all of our families who are donating HALLOWEEN CANDY for our student treat bags. We're also hoping to borrow some large Halloween decorations to put in our gym. They can be brought to EES on Tues after school and picked up after Scarington on Thurs Oct 31 at 2:15 (after the busses leave) from the gym entrance. Thanks for supporting this fun event!

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

News From the EES Student Council

Written By: Lily G.

In Errington Elementary School there is going to be a Student Vote on October 18. Grade 4 to 7 students are going to have the right to vote and see a little bit of adulthood and how you can vote. It is going to be in Room 12. The student vote was made so the students in schools could have a vote to help and learn about the political system in B.C.



source: <https://studentvote.ca/bc/classroom-resources/>

<https://civix.ca/our-story/> information from here



Pop-Up Bookstore



FIRESIDE BOOKS

Errington Elementary School Library

Friday, Nov 22 to Thursday, Nov 28

Store Open 8:15-1:30 * sign up for shopping visits

PAC Movie Night Fri open 5:00-8:00

Family Shopping Wed open 2:00-3:00



National Youth Remembrance Contests

For further information and entry forms for this contest, please click on the link below:

<https://www.remembrancecontests.ca/>

NATIONAL YOUTH REMEMBRANCE

CREATED BY
ISABELLE BARNES
CORNER BROOK, NL

Brothers Apart

One stays, one goes
At home, to war
Worried, frightened
Quiet, booming
Ed's chores, New jobs
Felled woods, Earth drenched in blood
Barbed, Bullets
Hey belted, Trees dug
Waiting, Waiting
Hoping, Hoping
Trying to remember, Waiting to forget
We will remember, Last you forget
Brothers Apart

CREATED BY
JACK STEWART
NAKAN, MB

CONTESTS

POSTER LITERARY VIDEO

SHARING REMEMBRANCE THROUGH VISUAL ART: POSTER CONTEST. PARTICIPANTS CREATE AND SUBMIT ORIGINAL ARTWORK IN COLOUR OR BLACK AND WHITE. EXPLORE THEMES OF REMEMBRANCE THROUGH DRAWING, PAINTING, OR ILLUSTRATION.

SHARING REMEMBRANCE THROUGH THE WRITTEN WORD: LITERARY CONTEST. PARTICIPANTS CREATE AND SUBMIT ORIGINAL ESSAYS OR POEMS ON THE THEME OF REMEMBRANCE. SUBMISSIONS CAN BE ENGLISH, FRENCH OR BILINGUAL.

SHARING REMEMBRANCE THROUGH MOTION PICTURE, VIDEO: VIDEO CONTEST. PARTICIPANTS CREATE AND SUBMIT ORIGINAL VIDEOS ON THE THEME OF REMEMBRANCE. SUBMISSIONS CAN BE ENGLISH, FRENCH OR BILINGUAL.

FOR CONTEST GUIDELINES, PRIZES AND MORE VISIT [REMEMBRANCECONTESTS.CA](https://www.remembrancecontests.ca)

200856



Oscar the support dog at Errington Elementary

On Wednesday mornings, a familiar furry face will be back at EES!

For those of you who haven't met Oscar, he is a golden lab who was supported through the BC & Alberta Guide Dogs with Barb McLaughlin, a retired EES Wildcat.

He is a working dog who is here to offer support and companionship to our students, although not attached to any student in particular. On Wednesdays, you will find Oscar at morning supervision down at the student drop off area (with Rose), in Room 14 with the class or out offering our students a break / "reset" and also outside at little recess time and part of lunch recess (with a designated EA).

Please share with students who ask, that Oscar has a job when he is at our school and to ask his handler before petting. Oscar is working on "leave it" for food and garbage items left on the ground, so will generally be with an adult to help support this. It's an excellent encouragement for students to pick up their garbage and not leave food around.






Parksville Volunteer Fire Department - Open House - October 27th

Parksville Volunteer Fire Department members will host their annual open house on Sunday, October 27 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Parksville Fire Hall, 160 Jensen Avenue West. Residents are invited to learn about fire safety including home fire sprinklers, smoke alarms and home escape plans. There will be educational displays and activities where you will learn how to use a fire extinguisher, how to perform CPR, try hose and target practice, bunker gear challenge for kids, and so much more.

MORE INFO: Contact Parksville Fire Rescue at 250 248-3242 for info about Parksville activities. For more general information about fire prevention week and fire prevention in general, visit nfpa.org/fpw, sparky.org and parksvillefirerescue.ca.



FIRE PREVENTION WEEK 2024

We're excited to challenge students from Kindergarten to Grade 7 to learn the skills they need to be community safety conscious, promote fire prevention, and help protect our community.


Students - submit for a chance to win:

- One of two Nintendo Switch™ OLED consoles for BC students
- One Nintendo Switch™ OLED console for students from FPOABC's Zone 6 (Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon & Northwest Territories).


No purchase required, must be a student in kindergarten to grade 7 to qualify. To enter, ensure all questions in section 3 are complete.

Contest runs from October 6th to November 1st. Draw date: November 15th. Only the winner will be contacted.


Let's make safety fun and keep our community safe together!



Check out these First Nations' Emergency Services Society resources.



Find more fire safety information on NFPA's website.



Enter to Win!



OCT 31, 2024, 6 - 8PM Entrance by Donation

55TH ANNUAL COOMBS CANDY WALK

NIGHT AT THE MOVIES

Haunted House Fundraiser
Admission paid separately.

FUN FOR ALL AGES:
FIREWORKS (8PM) *
INDOOR TRICK-OR-TREATING
PHOTO BOOTH
CAKE WALK
CONCESSION
***NO PETS**

Coombs Fairgrounds, 1014 Ford Rd., Coombs, BC

C.H.R.C.O.

Funding support provided by:

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

TREES
RESTAURANT & BAKERY

ACRA
ARROWSMITH COMMUNITY RECREATION ASSOCIATION

Far Out FIREWORKS

ARROWSMITH AGRICULTURAL ASSOCIATION
COOMBS FAIR



Scarington is back at EES for Halloween!!



CHILDHOOD STRESS & ANXIETY BUILDING RESILIENCE

EMPOWERING STRATEGIES

EFFECTIVE SUPPORTS



FREE ZOOM Presentation and Discussion By:

Julie-Anne Richards, M.A., R.C.C., C.C.C.

Registered Clinical Counselor, Psycho-educational Consultant

www.JulieAnneRichards.com

6:30-8:00 pm

Thursday

October 17, 2024

**REGISTER TO RECEIVE
ZOOM SIGN-UP LINK**

Tailored for Parents,
Caregivers and Educators
supporting children
ages 5 – 12

**The ZOOM Link will be
emailed on October 17**

Free Event!

REGISTRATION REQUIRED (copy and paste in browser)

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/free-zoom-presentation-on-childhood-anxiety-by-julie-anne-richards-tickets-1035268314397?aff=oddtcreator>

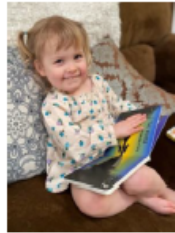
This Presentation is structured for an Adult Audience

Available to parents, caregivers and educator on Vancouver Island

Funded by the Eric Palmer Memorial Foundation www.ericfoundation.com

Book Gifts for Babies & Preschoolers! from **WONDERFUL WORLD of BOOKS**

Registered Charity #762574267RR0001



Now, registering **babies**
(0 to 2 years) and children
born in 2022 living in
Qualicum School District #69
(Bowser to Nanoose Bay, BC)



Register by **November 15th**

Email: wwbeec@gmail.com OR "Contact Us"

<https://thewonderfulworldofbooks.com/>

Further information will be emailed to you!



Children turning 3 years old in 2025 will
receive a book gift every month from
January 2025 to December 2026. After two
years, your child will have a personal library
of **24 quality book gifts** delivered by one
of our wonderful volunteer Book Elves.



EXTRA, EXTRA, EXTRA!
Books For Babies – Age 0 to 2 years
Receive **a book gift** from Vancouver Island
Regional Library (VIRL) delivered by a
volunteer from Wonderful World of Books
Email: b4boceanside@gmail.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)
Errington School Meals If you already have a PAC account use: ADD Errington School	PAC Hot Lunches

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

OCTOBER

25 - Pro-D Day (No school)

NOVEMBER

1 -Pro-D Day (No School)

6 - Photo Retake Day

11-Remembrance Day – Statutory Holiday (No School)

12 - Conferencing Adjustment Day (No School)

29 - District-Wide Planning Day (No School)

DECEMBER

20 - Last day of school before Winter Break

JANUARY

6 - School Reopens after Winter Break