



Errington Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Uy'skwyul - Good day

We have settled back into our school routines following the winter break, and the second term of learning is now well underway. We are currently in the season of **Thum xuytl**, or cold time, and have been enjoying the crisp, bright winter days. As students spend time outdoors each day, please ensure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather, including suitable outdoor clothing and footwear.



We have now reached the halfway point of the school year, and students continue to develop their skills and deepen their understanding of both curricular and core competencies. As learning expectations increase, students may encounter challenges along the way. Supporting your child in developing resilience is an important way to help them navigate obstacles and setbacks. Children who build resilience learn how to approach challenges positively—an essential skill for both school and life.

Families can support the development of resilience at home by:

- Providing opportunities for children to make age-appropriate decisions
- Modelling and discussing your own problem-solving processes
- Talking about your child's strengths and how they can be used when facing difficulties
- Reminding your child of times they have successfully worked through challenging situations and highlighting their ability to persevere

- Listening attentively when your child is making decisions and allowing them the opportunity to solve problems independently

Thank you for your continued partnership in supporting your child's learning and well-being.



School Volleyball

Our grade 6 and 7 Volleyball season has just begun, and our boys' and girls' teams will be starting their games next week. Students who are participating with volleyball will be bringing permission forms and schedules home this week. Thank you to Mr. Avis, Mrs. Jeffrey and Cody Brooks for coaching our young athletes.



Good Luck to both teams!

Free Vision Screening - Parksville Lions Club

In the next few weeks, the Parksville Lions Club will be offering free vision screening for students in grade 4 and 7. If concerns are noted, parents will be provided a letter that they can then use for follow-up.





PAC NEWS:

Happy New Year EES families! Here are some highlights from last week's PAC meeting and things to look forward to:

- ★ GAGA Ball pit coming soon!
- ★ Spring events and fundraisers will include a family BBQ and plant sale. Details coming in March!
- ★ PAC meets the second Thursday of each month from 6pm-7:45pm in the school library. **Next meeting: February 12.** Attend to meet our School Trustee liaison Julie Austen and watch our PAC Facebook

page to join the conversation on what you'd like to hear about from our School Board Trustee.

Please join the EES PAC Facebook group to stay in the loop with PAC about events and fundraisers that may be coming up and join in conversations about supporting our school community. The group is also a great way to connect with administration about hot lunch days, events, and other questions, and other families for play dates or birthday parties, or if you are looking for help with finding lost items or community support. We all know the term "it takes a village," this where our village meets.



Scan this QR Code or click the link to find the EES PAC Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/eespac>



HOW TO GROW A CHILD'S BRAIN

Learn the real truth on how to stimulate the brain to support emotional stability and intelligence.

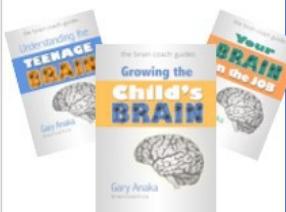


Gary Anaka - Speaker

Brain Wellness Motivational Speaker
and Brain Based Learning Specialist

Discover:

- How movement grows the child's brain
- Practical solutions to technical problems
- Why play is the natural and genuine way the brain learns best
- Research based strategies to build a brain for lifetime optimal performance



learn more about Gary:



BrainCoach
braincoach.ca

Where & When:

Errington War Memorial Hall
1390 Errington Rd

Wednesday, March 4th 7pm - 9pm

Tickets: \$10 at the door

RSVP:

erringtoncooperativepreschool@gmail.com

Drop-off and Pick-up

Please note that school begins at 8:30am. **If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:30am, please use the Lower Parking Lot.** If you are dropping off after 8:30am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after 8:35am must report to the office before going to their classroom.

Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of their after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or if they are taking the bus.



Daily Lunch Program

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)
[Errington School Meals](#)

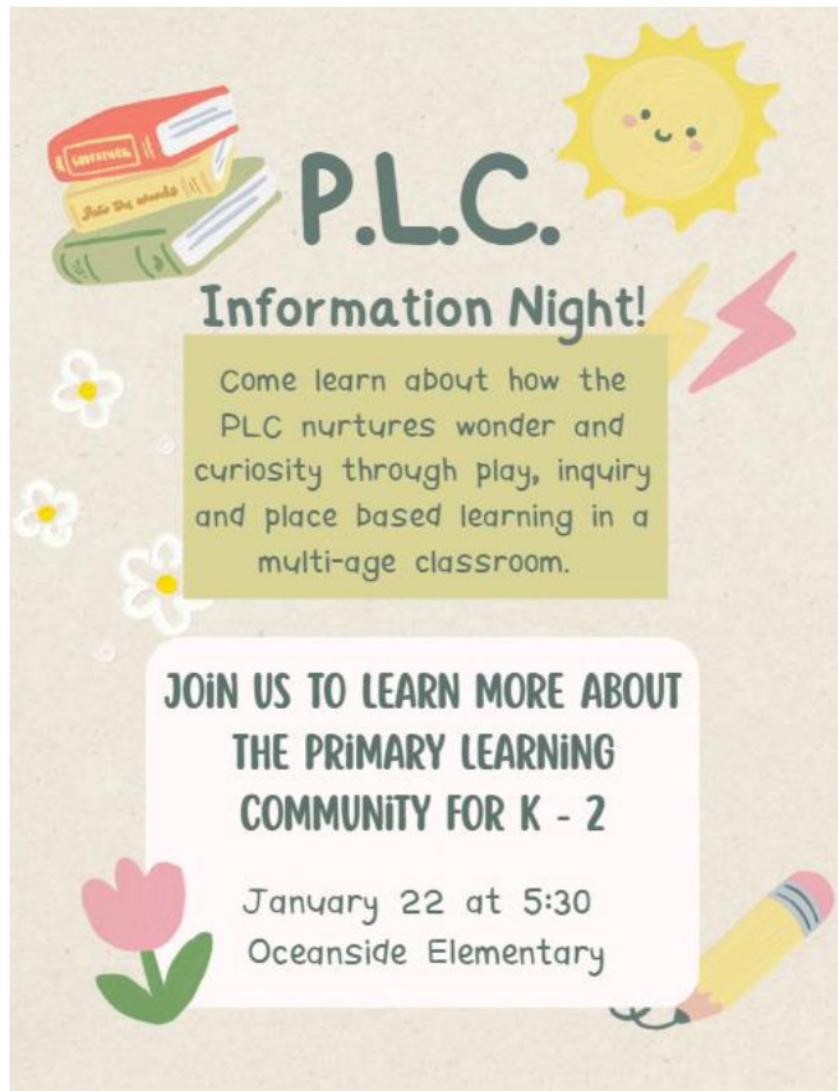
If you already have a PAC account use:

[ADD Errington School](#)

EES PAC Hot Lunches

(select Fridays only)

[PAC Hot Lunches](#)





QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT Kindergarten Registration Is Now Open!

Online Kindergarten registration for the Qualicum School District (through MyEdBC) for the 2026-2027 school year is now open. To qualify for Kindergarten enrolment in September 2026, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2026. 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 need to know and instructions on how to register your child online.

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

The District will offer a "Pre-Kindergarten" program in April and May. Incoming Kindergarten students must be registered at their catchment school in order to apply to participate in this program. If you have registered by Thursday, March 12th you will be sent an application via email, and those who register for Kindergarten after that date will be considered based on available space.

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS OF CHOICE*

Early French Immersion* - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child in the French Immersion Program. Then complete the online Kindergarten French Immersion application Form.

Primary Learning Community* - when first registering your Kindergarten child on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to apply to have your child attend the Primary Learning Community Program. Then complete the online Primary Learning Community application form.

More information and the links to the online application forms for French Immersion and the Primary Learning Community can be found on the District website at:
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Programs/Education%20Programs/Pages/default.aspx#/>

*Application Forms for these Programs of Choice will be open from January 19 and close on January 30, 2026

CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION

The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend their catchment area school based on their home address. Students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area may apply through the online cross boundary application process after registering at their catchment area school. (A Cross Boundary Application is NOT required if a student is accepted into a Program of Choice)

Additional information on the Cross Boundary Application process can be found on the following page of the district website:
<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Regbound.aspx#/>

The Cross Boundary Application Process will open once the Board has made any decision on proposed changes to the school catchment areas, particularly those that may affect Springwood, Ecole Oceanside, and Nanoose Bay Elementary Schools.



SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ROBOTICS, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STREAM)



Applications for the Science, Technology, Robotics, Engineering and Math (STREAM) Intermediate Program for Grades 4 – 7.

The STREAM program is a comprehensive academic program that engages your child through the use of science and technology and encourages personalized learning and critical thinking across the entire curriculum. By engaging your child's inherent passion for learning, the STREAM program encourages learning in a way that develops creative thought, independence, and critical thinking. Our STREAM Makerspace provides an environment rich with possibilities, and the opportunity to connect and work on personally meaningful projects.

Please note - the program is located at Qualicum Beach Elementary School.

The application process for the 2026-2027 school year will open on the [district website](#) at 8:00 a.m. on Monday, January 19 for two-week period ending at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 30, 2026. Students not offered a space will be placed on a waitlist and remain registered at their catchment-area school.

- [Brochure](#)

École Ballenas Secondary School

Building Successful Students



**BSS Open House and 2026-2027
Grade 8 Information Session**

Thursday, February 5th 6:30–8:00 PM

All parents and students who plan to attend Ballenas in the upcoming 2026-2027 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/>

GRADE 7 PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT AT KSS

★ **Wednesday,
February 11th
6:30pm-8:00pm in
the Multi-Purpose
Room (MPR)**

★ An information night for
parents of students
entering Grade 8 in
Sept. 2026

★ **An Opportunity To:**

- learn about Kwalikum Secondary School and the Grade 8 program
- learn about the class selection and transition process to high school
- meet the administration and counselling team
- walk through the school

★ **Incoming grade 8 students and families ✨
to the KSS Learning Community**

PROPOSED SCHOOL BOUNDARY CHANGES – JOIN THE CONVERSATION!



On January 14th, the Board of Education held a [Virtual Town Hall](#) regarding potential changes to the boundaries impacting local schools intended to relieve enrollment pressure on Springwood Elementary and École Ballenas Secondary Schools. If you were unable to participate that evening, you can view the recording [HERE](#).



Once you have viewed the recording, the Board of Education invites you to share your feedback on the proposed changes. The link to the survey can be found [HERE](#) and it will remain open into February 2026.

Local School Calendar 2025-2028

[Local School Calendar 2025-2028](#)



Free and Lower-Cost Food in Oceanside

Across The Region	
Elementary and Secondary Schools in Qualicum School District	All schools offer meals at no or very low cost. Subsidies are available if students are not able to purchase the food. Speak with the school principal. Schools also provide snacks (in addition to meals) as needed.
Manna Homeless Society 250-248-0845 Email: oceansidemanna@gmail.com Website: https://www.mannahomelesssociety.com/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 'Manna Mobile' delivers needed provisions including groceries. Operating 365 days a year and covering the following areas: Nanoose Bay, Parksville, Errington, Coombs, Whiskey Creek, Hilliers, Qualicum Beach, Qualicum Bay and Bowser. Manna Wednesdays: offers an opportunity to stock up on weekend groceries at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen on Wednesdays from 11:00am to 1:00pm at Mt. Arrowsmith Salvation Army Community Church, 187 Alberni Hwy, Parksville.
Tina, Community Outreach & Connection in Oceanside Services 250-228-7877	Provides meals, a snack bin, pantry items, and produce from her minivan. Thursdays and Sundays at 4pm at the empty lot behind the McDonalds in Parksville. Afterwards on Thursdays and Sundays at the Smithers RV community in Errington. Also, mobile elsewhere in the region.
Arrowsmith	
The Bradley Centre 975 Shearne Road, Coombs 250-248-2336 Email: thebradleycentrebookings@gmail.com Website: https://www.thebradleycentre.com/assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connections Cafe: Thursdays, 11am-1pm \$2 for soup and coffee. Membership required. Sharing Table: Free food. Take what you need, leave what you can. Thursdays, 11am-1pm. Open to the public (no registration required). Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program. Runs June – October. For eligible members.

**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Springwood Elementary – January 7th & 21st @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Bowser Elementary – January 12th & 19th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Errington Elementary – January 12th & 19th @ 1pm – 2pm
Arrowview Elementary – January 14th & 28th @ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
Nanoose Bay Elementary – January 16th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Qualicum Beach Elementary – January 26th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Ecole Oceanside Elementary – January 27th @ 9:10am – 10:10am

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!

Meadowood Community Hall – Jan. 7th @ 10am – 11:30am
Nanoose Place Community Centre – Jan. 8th @ 2pm – 3:30pm
Springwood Park – Jan. 15th @ 1:15pm – 2:45pm
Oceanside Community Church – Jan. 22nd @ 2:30pm – 4pm
Errington Community Park – Jan. 28th @ 10:30am – 12pm
Breakwater Village in French Creek – Jan. 29th @ 1:45pm – 3:15pm

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



INSTRUCTED BY IMOGEN MCPHERSON-FORSTER
Creative Kids at The MAC

After School Art Club



FEBRUARY-APRIL

THURSDAYS 4-6 PM

Ages 8-15

\$25
PER CLASS



IN THE MAC STUDIO



McMillan Arts Centre (MAC)
133 McMillan Street, Upper Level
Parksville, BC V9P 2H5
(250)248-8185
www.mcmillanartscentre.com
Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11am to 3pm



In the Demeth Gallery
at The MAC

Feb 2nd- Mar 1st 2026
Opening Reception Sat Feb 7, 1pm

Creative Kids Art Show

UNFILTERED EXPRESSION

Accepting art from artists
under 16 years old.

CALL TO ARTS

Submit admission by . Extended!
to Jan 30th

Email creativekids.mac@gmail.com for
submission form, subject CALLTOART



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Mindfulness in May

The Art of Empathy and Kindness 2026

Open Call to Youth for Submissions

Grades 5-12 in SD 69 and Surrounding Area

Including Home Learners



EARLY SUBMISSIONS BY **FEBRUARY 14TH** FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED ON THE EXHIBIT POSTERS AND WIN EXTRA PRIZES

Visual Art: drawing, fabric art, painting, mixed media, sculpture.
Literary Art: poetry, song, music. **Photography:** digital, and print.

ALL WORKS DUE BY MARCH 13TH

Submissions will be displayed at the Qualicum Library during BC Youth Week and National Mental Health Week

SUBMIT ONLINE HERE:

<https://mindfulmay.artistquarter.com/>

Sponsored By:



EXHIBITION: APRIL 28TH - MAY 10TH

For questions or more info, contact Diane at moraninthemoon@gmail.com

FREE DROP-IN YOUTH BASKETBALL

AGES
11-15

All levels welcome! Come build skills,
shoot hoops, play games and have
fun!

More information
<https://arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes>

COOMBS FAIRGROUNDS GYMNASIUM
1014 FORD ROAD, COOMBS, BC



Kristine Stephenson: stephenson@live.ca or 250-927-3985
Tracy Cargo-White: tracy.cargo@outlook.com or 250-947-5272

Tuesdays
JAN 13 - MAR 3, 2026
5:00pm - 6:00pm



Ages 8 - 99+

Join Sensei Brian Purves for this
introduction to martial arts, which will
focus on basic Karate and self-defense
techniques in a fun and safe environment.
Gain strength and confidence.

Register:

arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes

\$100 per 8 sessions

Coombs Fairgrounds Gymnasium

1014 Ford Rd, Coombs

Sandra Poelzer: sandrapoelzer@yahoo.com or 250-802-1308
Kristine Stephenson: stephenson@live.ca or 250-927-3985

FEB - MAY, 2026

6:00PM - 8:00PM



MID ISLAND PROGRAMMING CLUB

with Matt + Jonas

FEB 4- HOW TO MAKE A VIDEO GAME

FEB 25 - PROGRAMMING WITH GO

MAR 25 - VERSION CONTROL IN GIT

APR 29 - BASICS OF VIM TEXT EDITOR

MAY 27 - LEARN VS CODE

Book 3
Save 15%

**Bring your own laptop. No programming
experience required. Intended for
confident computer users. Ages 15+**

\$15 per workshop

arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes

BoMé Cheese - 1876 Alberni Hwy, Coombs, BC

Kristine Stephenson: stephenson@live.ca or 250-927-3985



22nd Annual Qualicum Beach

Seedy Saturday

'It starts with a seed'

Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
Saturday, February 7, 2026

10 am – 3:30 pm

- Seed Swap
- Master Gardeners answering questions
- Seed, Plant and Garden-Related Vendors
- Demos
- Educational Displays
- Children's Activity
- Door Prizes
- Seedy Café
- Raffle Draw (cash only)
- No ATM on site
- Pesticide/chemical drop off (in original package)



Admission: suggested \$5 donation

Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday Association

www.qbseedysaturday.ca • qbsschair@gmail.com

 [qbseedysaturday](https://www.facebook.com/qbseedysaturday) •  [@qbseedysaturday](https://www.instagram.com/qbseedysaturday)



Learn To Curl

ONLY
\$99*
*plus GST

5 X SUNDAYS
FROM MAR 1

A 5-week Learn To Curl program to help you unpack the basics of curling in a fun, friendly and welcoming setting. Suitable for all ages and all fitness levels.

3-5PM

All curling equipment provided.

250-248-3764

parksvillecurling.com



CALL FOR ENTRIES
FOR GRADES 4-8
DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2026

 **RIPPLE**
FOUNDATION Educational Charity ripplefoundation.ca/contest





KIDOVATE

Youth Entrepreneurship Experience

Earn Your Own Money

In grade 6 or above?
Join Kidovate Market Day
Sell products you make,
repurpose or buy

April 18th, 2026
Nanaimo North Town Centre Mall

It's free! Learn more at
www.kidovate.ca



@Kidovate_Nanaimo



KidovateNanaimo



Gustavson
School of Business
University of Victoria



**Community
Futures**

Community Events

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Pages/default.aspx#/=>



Errington Elementary

Errington is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

