



Errington Elementary School Newsletter

Thursday, October 23, 2025



Principal's Message

Embracing the Season of *yaxay'th'thut* (Fall)

We are now fully immersed in the season of *yaxay'th'thut* – fall – the time before the cold sets in. We've enjoyed a beautiful start to the season, with many bright and crisp days, though the rains are certainly on their way.



Many of our classes spend part of each day exploring the forest area around the school, and students have two outdoor playtimes daily. Please ensure your child comes to school with appropriate outerwear and waterproof boots or shoes so they can stay comfortable and dry, especially during indoor learning times.

A big thank you to the families who attended our parent-teacher conferences on October 22nd. If you were unable to meet with your child's teacher and would still like to connect, please feel free to reach out by email or phone to arrange an alternative meeting time.

One of our school-wide goals this year is to increase exposure to the **hul'q'umi'num'** language for both staff and students. Our Grade 7 students have taken on a leadership role in this effort by opening each day with morning announcements. They greet the school in hul'q'umi'num' and share seasonal observations based on the **Seasonal Rounds** – a traditional Indigenous way of understanding and connecting to the land and its resources through seasonal changes. Our hope is that students will become familiar with these greetings and begin using them with one another throughout the day.

Below is a photo from Ms. Ludwikowski's class showcasing the sunflowers of late summer and early fall – a beautiful representation of the season of *yaxay'th'thut*.



Returning Important Forms

Over the past few 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 form called "Student Information Verification" (white paper) and a form called "Annual Update - Emergency Release and Health Information" (salmon paper). Even if there are no changes to your child's information, we still need you to complete, sign and return the forms to the school as soon as possible. Thank you!



Karate Comes to EES!

On October 8th, EES students had an exciting opportunity to participate in a special karate lesson led by instructor Brian Purves. With the help of Mr. Avis, our gym was transformed into a Karate Dojo, where students were introduced to the fundamentals of this ancient Japanese martial art.

The session was both educational and fun, and our students thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Mr. Purves teaches at *Westwood Goju-Ryu Karate*, located at 2600 Powder Point Road in Nanoose

Bay. Families interested in learning more about his classes are welcome to contact him at 778-772-4342.

A big thank-you to Brian Purves for sharing his time, energy, and expertise with our school community!

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, and earthquake and drills so far. We will add lockdown and shelter in place drills as the year progresses.

Below are the explanations of our various drills. Please reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher if you have any questions or concerns.

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
-

Halloween

As you know, Halloween is on Friday, October 31st. We are planning some safe, fun activities for students to do at school on that day. We would love for students to wear costumes if they wish! If your child does not want to wear a costume, we encourage students to wear black and/or orange. We do have some costume guidelines that must be followed to ensure everyone has a safe and fun day:

☒ Masks are NOT to be worn outside on the playground or in the hallways and washrooms. Teachers will give direction on the expectations in classrooms.

☒ No heavy make-up.

☒ Leave all costume “weapons” at home (swords, knives, guns, etc.).

☒ Bring a change of clothes (some students have PE class and may be asked to change if the costume interferes with mobility).

☒ Please make sure your child avoids costumes portraying extreme violence and gore. We have a big age range of students from K-grade 7 and we want to ensure that everyone has a fun day and no one is unnecessarily scared.

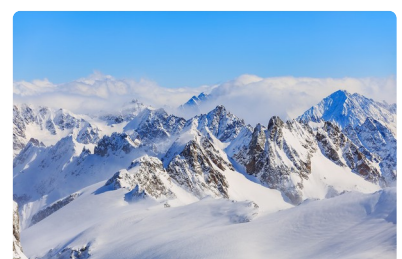
After Halloween, we ask you to please limit the amount of candy you let your child take to school. Generally, we ask students to eat something healthy first before consuming a treat.



Host Family Needed!

Homestay needed for Swiss Boy Grade 10

The Qualicum International Student Program is in need of a home for a boy from Switzerland, Grade 10, attending Kwalikum Secondary School. His passion is Golf and he attends the after



school program at Pheasant Glen Golf. He is an excellent student and a great kid but unfortunately is allergic to cats and horses! He likes dogs, kids, biking, skiing, cooking and plays the piano. He will be at KSS until the end of the school year. **If you are able to host him and/or would like more information, please contact Jenny, ISP Coordinator/ KSS Homestay Coordinator as soon as possible at jatkinson@sd69.bc.ca.**

Also - Students arriving second semester are also being placed at both Ballenas and Kwalikum at this time.

The host family application is online at: <https://schoolincanada.ca/high-school-on-vancouver-island-in-british-columbia-canada/hostastudent/>

Pop-Up Bookstore

Are you a Book Wurm?



FIRESIDE BOOKS

Errington Elementary School Library

Tuesday, Nov 25 to Friday, Nov 28

Store Open 8:35 am-2:15 pm * sign up for shopping visits

Family Shopping Wed open 2:15-3:15 pm

School Dance Thurs open 6:00-8:00 pm



PAC NEWS:

Please join the EES PAC Facebook group to stay in the loop with PAC about events and fundraisers that may be coming up. 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 below to find the EES PAC Facebook Group



EES PAC | Facebook

The EES PAC FB page is a closed page to discuss topics of interest to EES PAC members, primarily, but not limited to, the day to day events at EES, e.g....

facebook.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.**



(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](#)

To support awareness of erase resources within school communities, the Ministry of Education and Child Care has developed new erase infographics for parents/ caregivers. Click here:

[parents/caregivers](#)



Local School Calendar 2025-2028

[Local School Calendar 2025-2028](#)



Errington Elementary

Errington is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters