



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1390 Fairdowne Road, Errington, BC V0R 1V0
Phone: (250) 248-8446 Fax: (250) 954-1593
Website: <http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>

Principal: Mrs. Sheila Morrison
Email: smorrison@sd69.bc.ca

September 6, 2019

Principal's Message

Welcome back! I hope you have enjoyed a very happy and active summer vacation with your children. As we commence another school year, I would like to extend a warm welcome to all students and parents, and a special welcome to those who are new to Errington Elementary. Thank you to all staff for their efforts to help promote a successful start-up. It was really nice to reconnect with the students this week and we look forward to the exciting months ahead – learning and growing together. As the students settle into their new classrooms, please remember that we are a team that supports your child – celebrating the good things that happen and working through the challenges together. We value the student-teacher-parent relationships we have as an important part of our learning community. We know that various situations or concerns come up from time to time throughout the year. Please contact your child's teacher if you have a question or concern. It is recommended that you leave a note, email, or phone message for your child's teacher to set up a suitable time. It is challenging to have meaningful and/or sensitive conversations at the busy drop-off and pick-up times.

This week I have included some information that you may find useful on developing strategies to get this school year off to a good start.








The start of a new school year is the perfect time to develop strategies to help your child have a successful year. Here are some strategies to help your child get this new school year off to a great start:

It's the beginning of the school year – the perfect time to set the stage for learning success. Help your child get off to a great start with these simple strategies:

- **Get a head start.** Many families find that organizing at night prevents morning “rush hour.” You can review school papers, pack and refrigerate lunches, set backpacks by the door and agree on outfits.
- **Establish sleep routines.** Choose reasonable bedtimes so everyone is rested when it's time to wake up. Make sure everyone sticks to their bedtimes.
- **Develop morning habits.** If your child does the same things (in the same order) each morning, it's less likely that she will forget a step. For example: make bed, get dressed, eat breakfast, brush teeth and put on shoes
- **Choose a homework time.** With your child, pick a time when she will have the most energy and motivation to do assignments. Create a quiet study spot (complete with necessary supplies) where she can work at the same time each day.
- **Use tools for organization.** Teach your child how to use calendars, to-do lists and a filing system for schoolwork and important papers.
- **Set priorities.** Schedule things like schoolwork, family meals and even free time on a calendar. Treat them like appointments. If there are open blocks of time, your children can add activities.

Source: *Elementary School Parents*
September 2016
Vol.28, No. 1

EES Bell Schedule 2019-2020

8:15 am	Instruction begins	
9:55am	Morning Recess begins	
10:15am	Morning Recess ends	
11:45am-12:00pm	Eating Period	
12:00pm	Lunch Recess begins	
12:30pm	End of playtime, Instruction resumes	
2:00pm	Dismissal	
2:10pm	Students not picked up report to office	

Newsletters

We will be sending home an electronic school newsletter every 2nd Friday. Most families are receiving their newsletter electronically. If you are not already receiving electronic newsletters, there is information on how to sign up at the end of this newsletter, as well as a tear-off for those who prefer to sign-up to receive a paper copy. Signing up to receive an electronic newsletter is also very helpful as this is the place where we send out emergency communications or other important information that comes up between scheduled newsletters.

New Staff

We have some staff members to welcome to the E.E.S. community:

- ★ Maleah Carlson – Child and Youth Care Worker
- ★ Teresa Holder – Classroom Teacher
- ★ Amy Kazeil – Speech/Language Pathologist
- ★ Kenna MacLeod – Classroom Teacher (sharing with Laura Norman)
- ★ Iain Murray – Classroom Teacher (sharing with Becky L'Hirondelle)
- ★ Eileen Saremba – Classroom Teacher (sharing with Ashley Armstrong)
- ★ Kyla Senchar – Classroom Teacher (Teacher-on-Call for Debra Stocker who is currently on a medical leave)
- ★ Susan Urie – Educational Assistant

We would also like to recognize Melanie Roth (recently retired Principal) who has been helping us out for 2 weeks while our Vice-Principal position is filled.



Picture Day

Concept Photos will be here to take individual and class photos on Wednesday, September 25th. All students are photographed on this day and then ordering information will be sent home the following week. The individual photos are taken with a green background, so the photographer has asked that students DO NOT wear any shade of green.

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.



Volunteering

At EES we love to have volunteers in our school! If you would like to help out in the classroom, library, go on fieldtrips or help on our PAC, please fill out a Police Information Check form available in the EES office. It is simple to do! Just fill out the form and bring to the R.C.M.P. office in Parksville. If you bring in the letter template indicating it is for Errington Elementary School, it is free. This needs to be done once every few years. Due to privacy laws, you must complete the Police Information Check separately for each organization you are involved with. It is best to take care of this now so that you can support throughout the year.



Hot Lunch

Once again, our EES PAC will continue to coordinate some Hot Lunch opportunities. Order forms will be coming home soon. The first lunch will be provided (free of charge) to all students on Friday, September 27th. This lunch will be provided by Panago to make up for the mix-up that happened in June. Please note that on days when your child has ordered hot lunch, he/she will still need to bring snacks and drinks for the day.

Request for Fabric Scraps

The Learning Services Department are in need of fabric scraps that parents might be able to donate to school for future bees waxed sandwich wraps. Fabric would have to be thin cotton and large enough to make a wrap 6x6 and larger. If you are able to donate, these can be dropped at school this week or at the beginning of the next school year.

Thank you!

Reporting Student Absents

When reporting your child's absence, please call the office at 250-248-8446 (after hours you can leave a message on our answering service – just listen for the option to report a student absence in the directory). It is important to let the office know if your child will be late or not attending school for the day(s) so your child is accounted for. It only takes a minute. If your child is not at school or late you can expect to receive a call to your main number. Thank you in advance for reporting early!

Indoor Shoes

We are in need of clean shoes in good condition to keep on hand for inside and gym use. If you have some outgrown shoes that



you are willing to donate, please send to the main office.

Generator

You may have noticed some construction outside the main doors of our school. This enclosure will house our new generator for back-up power during an outage. All the wiring is complete inside the school and the generator is scheduled to arrive towards the end of September. We are very much looking forward to this improvement to our school!

Parking Lot



Our school buses will be arriving later than they have in the past. This means that school buses will be using the area in front of the school right up until 8:15am. Please be sure to use the lower parking lot for drop-off. If your child is arriving AFTER 8:15am, you may pull up to the front of the school and your child will need to check in at the office. Please DO NOT pull up in front of the school prior to 8:15am.

We have observed several parents with students cutting through the staff parking lot before and after school on their way to and from the lower parking lot. Please use the pathway provided. We have staff vehicles coming and going so we need to ensure that our students and families are safe.

Please also note that the lower parking lot is considered to be part of our school grounds. As per school district policy, we ask that you do not smoke or use vaping devices on school grounds – including the parking areas.

Questions parents can ask students about their day

Here is a useful link to an article to support parents when asking their questions about the school day; other than the same old question..... “How was your day?”

<https://herviewfromhome.com/50-questions-to-ask-your-kids-instead-of-asking-how-was-your-day/>

Bike Safety

It has been wonderful to see some students choosing to ride their bikes to and from school! Please remind your children that we expect bike helmets to be worn at all times while riding. We highly recommend sending your child with a lock for their bike while parked at EES during the school day. At the end of the school day, we ask that students wait to leave on their bikes until AFTER the buses have left the parking lot. We ask that bikers remember that when using crosswalks, please stop and look before walking out; dismount bicycle and check for traffic and walk across; DO NOT just ride up and ride across. Drivers need some notice.

NEW WAY TO PAY

Our district has made it possible to pay for any school fees online. If your student's classroom teacher has requested to use agendas, a sheet with detailed instructions on how to sign up for School Cash Online has come home. If your student's teacher is not using agendas this year a detail sheet will come home shortly. On our Errington Website there is a direct link to www.schoolcashionline.com, it is quite easy to sign up. Once signed up you will receive email notifications if there is a fee associated with your student. You are still able to pay for any school fees with cash or cheque, but we are offering the option to pay online.

As always if you need any help navigating this system please feel free to call the office and they will be happy to help you.

Living and Learning Well in a Digital World

A Grown-Ups Guide to Using Technology with Young Children

Please find an informative link below for parents/caregivers with guidelines regarding the use of technology with young children:

<https://flipflashpages.uniflip.com/2/88537/1102290/pub/html5.html#page/13>

EES PAC NEWS

EES PAC would like to announce the new Executive Members of the PAC for September 2019:

Beverley Craig	<i>Chairman 2019-2020</i>
Laura James	<i>Co-Chairman 2019-2020</i>
Michelle Keddy	<i>Treasurer 2019-2020</i>
Jodi Pay	<i>Secretary 2019-2020</i>

The EES PAC is currently looking for volunteers to help with fundraising and always welcome a helping hand.

A Note From Your PAC Chair:

Welcome back! We are in full swing again this year! The PAC has decided that this year shall be the year for recognition to the volunteers. We will be running draws every month for the people who volunteered during that month. There will be a few prizes to choose from. It's our way to thank anyone who has helped out in any way.

We have some fundraisers coming up:

October is Yellowpoint Cranberries (price range is \$10 and up)

November is Epicure (price range is \$20-\$25)

December is Errington Elementary School Cookbooks (price at this time is \$25 but may be lower)

January will be no fundraising.

Movie night dates will be set later

Fun lunch dates will be set later

If you have any fundraising ideas or a fundraiser you want to run, just let us know.

The EES PAC meets once a month. The **first meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 20th at 8:45am at the school.** This meeting will be to finalize the budget for the 2019/2020 school year. Meeting dates and times for the remainder of the school year will be determined.

Kindergarten parents please join our EES PAC page on Facebook - it's a great tool to keep you in the loop or to ask questions.

Looking forward to seeing you all throughout the year.

Beverley Craig
PAC Chair



SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 (QUALICUM)

2019-20 Regular Public Meetings of the Board of Education

The Regular Public Board Meetings of the Qualicum School District's Board of Education are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month during the 2019/2020 school year. These meetings are business meetings of the Board which are held in public.

Three exceptions are the August Board Meeting which will be held on Tuesday, August 27th (to be followed by the annual elections for the Chairperson & Vice Chairperson of the Board), the December Board Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, December 17th and the March Board Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, March 10th. There is no meeting held in July.

The meetings begin at 6:00 p.m. in the Forum of the Parksville Civic and Technology Centre, 100 Jensen Avenue East, Parksville. Members of staff and the public are welcome to attend.



Family Accident Reimbursement Plan – Voluntary Insurance

The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) is offering you the opportunity to voluntarily purchase student accident insurance through iA Financial Group, which is now offering a new comprehensive accident insurance plan with a critical illness component designed for the whole family.

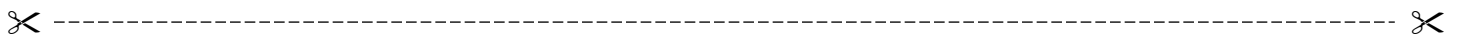
The plan can supplement costs not covered by your provincial health insurance or existing employer extended health and dental plans. Regardless of the size of your family, all eligible family members can be insured under one set monthly rate.

For more information or to apply online, please visit <https://www.solutionsinsurance.com/aonbc>

EES Calendar of Events

September	24	District-wide Planning Day – No school for students
	25	Photo Day
	27	Pizza Lunch – Provided free of charge by Panago
October	9	Photo Re-takes
	14	THANKSGIVING DAY – No School
	24	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	25	Professional Development Day – No School
November	1	Professional Development Day – No School
	8	Remembrance Day Assembly – Time TBD
	11	Recognition of REMEMBRANCE DAY – No School
December	20	Last day of school before the Winter Break
January	6	School Reopens after Winter Break
February	17	BC FAMILY DAY
	24	Professional Development Day – No School
March	13	Last day of school before Spring Break
	30	School Re-opens after Spring Break
April	10	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	13	EASTER MONDAY – No School
May	1	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	15	Professional Development Day – No School
	18	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	25	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early (11:00)

Please note the above calendar will be updated as new events occur



Electronic Newsletters

EES newsletters are provided bi-weekly on Fridays. Newsletters are posted to the EES website and parents who have registered will receive a notification email and link when a newsletter has been posted. Most parents use this option and it certainly reduces the amount of paper and time required to prepare newsletters. Subscribing to the electronic newsletter is very simple.

Sign up through the Errington Elementary School website (<http://ees.sd69.bc.ca>) by entering your email address in the area “Sign up for our newsletter & keep in touch” found near the bottom of the home page. After you enter your email and click on “GO” an email will be sent to your email address. **You must respond to the email to become a verified member to receive newsletters.** There is an option to “Unsubscribe” at any time you choose.

If you would prefer to receive a paper copy of the newsletter, please fill out the tear-off below and return to the school by September 20th. All newsletters after today will be provided online and we will only print a paper copy to those who have filled out the tear-off below. Please note that you need to indicate your desire for a paper copy of the newsletter each year. We will keep a few extra copies in the main office for pick-up if necessary.

Parent Name _____ Student Name(s) _____
 Student Grade(s) _____ Classroom Teacher(s) _____

I would prefer to receive a paper copy of the EES Newsletter.