



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

Principal: **Ms. Jennifer Fuhrmann**

Email: jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca

April 30, 2021

Principal's Message

Thank you for your continued support and understanding as we worked through a COVID-19 exposure from April 22, 2021. When we received the word late in the afternoon on Wednesday, our team very quickly sprung to action to work through the required procedures. It was a very extensive process where we had to go through a series of questions to complete an investigation report for Island Health. After submitting the report, Island Health then reviewed the information and sent us a list of who they have deemed to be "high risk", "medium risk", or "low risk" of exposure, along with the required letters. Those individuals who received "high risk" letters were required to self-isolate until a specified date and are being monitored by Island Health. Those individuals who were deemed to be "medium risk" or "low risk" of exposure are permitted to attend school as usual, monitoring for symptoms and following the expected procedures.

Attendance patterns this year have mirrored the fluctuations of cases in our community. We always advise families to do what feels comfortable for their own set of circumstances and we are proud of the way we have been able to support students as they attend or stay home during this continued pandemic.

We appreciate all the phone calls that came in to clarify expectations and work through concerns. We recognize that the most challenging part of an exposure event is our natural instinct to be curious about who it was and how it occurred. In order to respect privacy laws and the privacy of the confirmed case, we are not able to share details about the exposure. We thank you for your understanding of this important part of the process. We have had ongoing conversations with students about respecting privacy and avoiding speculating or spreading rumours about who was involved in the exposure. Again, we thank you for your support and well wishes during these past few days.

K-12 Daily Health Check

Please ensure you continue to screen your child daily for symptoms of illness and keep your child at home if they are not well. To support daily screening, **a new K-12 health-checker app** has been developed for students and their families and can be found at: <https://www.k12dailycheck.gov.bc.ca> The app will allow people to answer simple questions every day. It will inform them if they can attend school or if they need to self-isolate and contact 811 to be screened for COVID-19.



Families on the Move?

We are well underway with our planning for next school year. Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. It is very helpful if we are aware of any students who may not be attending our school in September.

Student Learning Survey – LAST CALL!

The Student Learning Survey is for students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, their parents, and staff. **The survey is open until midnight tonight, Friday, April 30!**

The survey covers a wide range of topics and provides feedback on the implementation of the curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. Questions were developed with input from partner groups, teachers and experts in educational measurement and special education. This survey will be administered to our Grade 4 and 7 students during April. Parents of Grade 4 and 7 students are encouraged to complete this survey by clicking on the link below.

Parents may access the survey following the directions and link for **Direct Access** below. Surveys are to be completed by parents with children in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12. A parent may complete a survey for each child in the targeted grades. The parent survey is available in English, French and 16 other languages. Thank you in advance for your participation.

To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access.
2. Go to www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm
3. Under the "Parent" section *Direct Access – no logon number required* select:
 - District: the name of your child's district (69 – Qualicum)
 - School: the name of your child's school (Errington Elementary)
 - Language: the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

Parent Teacher Conferences

EES teachers will be scheduling meetings with parents between **May 3rd and May 10th**. Due to the ongoing pandemic, teachers will mainly be meeting over the phone or a Zoom/Skype (virtual) meeting. We are using the "Parent Conferences" online program again to book your appointment. Directions on how to use this booking system are listed below and will be open for bookings on April 23rd, 2021. If you are not able to schedule an appointment during one of the times listed, please contact your child's teacher directly to arrange an alternate time.



School Appointments - Parent Instructions

1. Go to our school appointments web site: <http://ees.parentconferences.net>
2. Click to "**REGISTER**" (top box).
3. Complete all the required fields.
4. Click "**REGISTER NOW**".
5. Click "**Add Student**".
6. Complete the required fields.
7. Click "**Insert**".
8. Next to your child's name, click on the **blue calendar icon**. Click on the **blue calendar** beside your child's teacher name. When teacher is highlighted, click on **View Calendars**.
9. Click on **an appointment day and time** that you would like to book. *Note your name is automatically put into the field at this time. Others who look on this calendar will not see your name, they will just see that the time slot is not available.*
10. Click **Book Appointment**.
11. **If you have more than one teacher:**
 - Go back to **Home**.
 - Click **Manage Students**.
 - Add **New Student**.
 - Complete the fields as above and continue with the rest of the process to book your other appointment(s).

Note: You can edit or delete names if you have made a mistake.

If you have any problems or questions, please contact the office at 250-248-8446. Thank you! We are looking forward to seeing you at the parent/teacher conferences!

Morning Drop-off

For those students who are dropped off in the mornings, please remember that we encourage staggered drop-offs to help reduce crowds. Please drop-off your child as close to 8:12am as possible. School starts at 8:12am, but we wait to send attendance to the office until 8:30am. If your child arrives between 8:12am and 8:30am, they can go directly to their classroom. If your child arrives after 8:30am, they need to check in at the office.

We have noticed many cars pulling up to the school while buses are arriving. If you are dropping your child off BEFORE 8:12am, please use the lower parking lot. Students arriving AFTER 8:12am may drive up to the front of the school. If you have other family members dropping off your children, please remind them of our drop-off and pick-up procedures.

Parking Lot Safety



Please use caution and drive slowly in our drop-off and pick-up areas. With the warmer weather, we have more students walking or riding bikes to and from school. When using the drop-off/pick-up lane, please remember to pull forward as far as you can to reduce congestion behind you. When people stop right at the foot of the path to the school, cars tend to back up quickly around the bend. If you are parking in the lower lot, please make sure your child is with you when walking through the traffic towards the path. Please also remember to use your turn signals while using the drop-off/pick-up lane. After dropping off your child, please pull all the way around the loop rather than doing a "u-turn" through the lot.



Kindergarten registration is ongoing. Please click the link below for further information about the new online registration.

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

Please contact us at (250) 248-8446 if you have any questions regarding the upcoming Kindergarten registration requirements.

If you know of any families who will need to be aware of this information, we ask you to please pass this along to them.

Cell Phone Use at EES



Cell phones are becoming an increasing distraction for students during learning and break times. We would like to remind parents that student cell phone use is not permitted during the school day. We would ask that if you need to contact your student during the day to please use the school phone (250) 248-8446 instead of texting.

We recognize that many students carry a cell phone, for a variety of different reasons. Our school expectation is for students to keep cell phones tucked away in their backpacks. If students are not comfortable with this, they can ask their teacher to place the phone in a locked cupboard during the school day. Electronic devices are NOT to be brought outside or around the school at recess or other break times.

Some classroom teachers allow students to use cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom for research and learning purposes. Please ask your child's classroom teacher about specific guidelines they have around the use of electronic devices.

Devices are a fantastic tool and we continue to help students learn when and how to use them appropriately. Thank you for your support!



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

May 14 – Lefty's Fresh Food Day

May 28 – Pizza Day

June 3 – Subway Day

June 18 – Pizza Day

Please note that all lunches close on Munchalunch a week prior to lunch date.

<https://munchalunch.com/schools/Errington/>

Other Important Reminders

- We are required to follow the BC Healthy Food and Beverage Guidelines when serving food in schools. If you are wanting to send treats to school to help celebrate a special occasion, please contact your child's teacher in advance to make arrangements. Food must be prepared and packaged in a Food Safe Certified facility.
- Please make sure your child has appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor use, along with a pair of inside shoes and an extra change of clothes. We also recommend having a warm coat, hat, umbrella, and gloves. We have a good supply of clothing and hand-knit items on hand. Please let us know if your child is in need of any warm clothing.
- 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!
- Due to current guidelines, school buses are **not** to be used for any other purpose (i.e. play dates). The Transportation Department have asked that parents **do not send notes with their child requesting to ride another bus**. Students are only permitted to ride the bus they are registered with. Please refer to the School District website for all school bus information.



With the onset of spring there will now be Mega Ice Cream Sandwiches for sale every Wednesday!! \$2.00 each or a punch pass online or in the office for \$20.00 (for 10 ice cream treats).

Current popcorn cards will carry over. If your child does not want the ice cream treat please call the office (we have limited bags of popcorn remaining which can be substituted at present)

PAC News

Please note that the next PAC meeting is:

Tuesday May 11th, 2021 at 6:30pm via Zoom.

EES Library News



MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU
STAR WARS DAY AT EES
Tuesday May 4th, 2021

We have many Star Wars and space fans at EES! Our Senior Library Pages have decorated the library to celebrate the Planet of Hoth and Star Wars. We've also displayed many wonderful fiction and non-fiction books about Star Wars, stars and space. We invite students and staff to visit the Library and check out the display and a fabulous book about space.

We are also holding a Star Wars Daily Draw every day next week to celebrate. Students are invited to answer our daily question by filling out the entry form and putting it into the Star Wars bucket in the lobby by the library. We'll draw winners and deliver prizes every day next week.

Come on in and enjoy the mysteries and marvels of space and Star Wars in the Library Learning Commons!

For more Star Wars reading ideas, check out this link:

<https://www.readbrihtly.com/superb-star-wars-books-for-kids-of-all-ages/>

We have quite a few of these books in our library!

[Superb Star Wars Books for Kids of All Ages | Brightly](#)

www.readbrihtly.com

If you want to introduce your kids to the literary side of "Star Wars," here are some fantastic children's books to delight aspiring Jedis of all ages.

Public Health Request – Notice of Youth Clinic Hours Change

Please see below changes to the hours of operation for the Parksville Youth Clinic:

Parksville Youth Clinic – Oceanside Public Health – 494 Bay Ave, Parksville

“New Summer Hours” June 1st – September 30th, 2021

Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:00 – 4:30 pm

Services: 2:00-3:00 pm “Birth Control Pick Up Only” 3:00-4:30 pm “All services” Offered

Call 250-947-8242 Monday – Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm and “Ask to speak to a Youth Clinic Nurse” if you ever have questions.



Due to the ongoing pandemic and initial rollout of COVID vaccine, public health has postponed some routine Grade 6 and 9 immunizations originally planned for January and February. This delay is temporary and follows the B.C. Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC) guidelines for the school age immunization program. Routine school immunizations will resume in the coming weeks and continue until the end of the school year, resulting in immunizations being offered to all Grade 6 and 9 students before the end of June.

Public Health offered the first round of Grade 6 vaccines in the Fall of 2020 and will be contacting families in late Spring to book appointments for the second dose. Grade 9 consent packages were sent home from school last week. Please complete these forms and return them to the school ASAP. Public Health will receive these packages and contact families who wish to book an appointment. If you have any questions, please contact Oceanside Public Health at 250-947-8242.

Words from our Wildcats



An addition to our newsletter is words of wisdom from our students on various subjects. The contributions this week come from Kimi Cochlin's Grade 3/4 students. The class created poems inspired by springtime paint colors:

Yellow

By Payton

Yellow tastes like sweet and sour.
Yellow reminds me of flowers, happiness and sunshine and a baby chick.
Yellow is bright, playful, and joyful. Yellow is lightning. Yellow is sweet.

Blue

Adelyn

When I think about blue, I think about fresh blueberry smoothies.
Blue smells like the salty ocean on a sunny day.

Community Programs

We get numerous advertisements for community programs and opportunities to include in newsletters. Rather than inserting the whole advertisement in our newsletters, we will now provide the links below for you to click to view.

SOS Child & Youth and Family Programs 2021

Please click on the PDF link below to view the programs offered:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Documents/SOS%20Program%20Guide%20-%20Spring%202021.pdf>

SOS Youth Week Talent Competition May 1 to 7, 2021:

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

Other Community Events & Programs 2021

Please click on the PDF link below to view the events/programs offered/access the SD69 Community Page:

Rotary Bottle Drive for District 69 Backpack Program (follow upcoming events)

<https://www.parksvilliamrotary.org>

getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect

<https://www.thenextgenartists.com/2021contest>

[ChARTing Change](#) [Read more](#)

RDN Youth Week May 1-7

RDN 15th Annual Golden Shoe Hunt

Oceanside Track & Field

Oceanside Minor Baseball Spring 2021

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

Pete the Cat is Coming! First Steps to School (Virtual Fair, online and physically distanced)

<https://oblt.ca/2021/04/13/pete-the-cat-is-coming/>



Free Zoom Event for Youth

Wed May 5 4:30-5:30pm

From YouTube to Netflix



Local grad Harrison Houde has forged his own path to paid employment - get inspired to do the same!

Zoom in with Houde, 25 year old Canadian actor, producer, writer, director, YouTuber and musician. Some of his television and movie roles include *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*, *Some Assembly Required*, *The Fairly Odd Parents*, *Spooksville*, *Rogue*, *The Hollow* and *Finding Stuff Out*.

Harrison has started his own production company and is currently developing/pitching his first feature length directional debut!

Email info@careercentre.org or call 250.248.3205 to register.

First 10 to register and attend will receive a \$25 gift card!

Learn more about this event and us!

www.careercentre.org



Career Centre - Parksville
#110-198 East Island Hwy

EES Calendar of Events

May	3-10	Parent-Teacher Conferences
	21	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	24	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	4	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early