



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

January 8, 2021

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for the last few months and hope you were able to find some joy and gratitude during this most unusual holiday.

As we begin a new calendar year, it is usually a time to set goals with your children. We are also nearing the halfway point in the school year. It's a good time to take stock of your child's habits and make needed adjustments. While goal setting is always important, we also encourage you to do something a little different this year. As you reflect back on 2020, what did you learn about yourself?

The following article provides some suggestions on reviewing the school year and encouraging your child to set new learning goals:

Challenge your child to make some learning resolutions to help him finish the school year strong. Here's how:

1. **Start a conversation.** Tell your child something you've resolved to change. "I'm going to get more exercise and cut back on my screen time." It'll show him that a resolution is really just a promise you make to yourself.
2. **Get him thinking.** Are there things he's struggled with in a subject? Nudge him toward making improvements. "You've had trouble completing your assignments on time. What could you do to fix that?" Starting schoolwork earlier, revamping his study routine, and organizing his work space are three examples of things he could resolve to do.
3. **Define the goal.** Make a resolution concrete by turning it into a specific goal. Use his "revamping his study routine" resolution and make it real. "I resolve to spend at least 15 minutes studying each subject every day." When a goal is measurable, it is easier to achieve.
4. **Be supportive.** Resolutions have a way of fading away. So support your child if he starts to slip. "I know it's hard to stick to a study routine, but you can do it!" Remind him that falling short once in a while doesn't mean he can't get back on track.

Source: *Elementary School Parents*. December 2020; Vol. 32, No.4



Kindergarten registration will take place between **Monday, January 25, 2021** and **Friday, February 5, 2021!** Please see below for further information about the new online registration.

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.



2021-2022 KINDERGARTEN AND PROGRAMS OF CHOICE REGISTRATION

Student registration window is from Monday, January 25, 2021 to Friday, February 5, 2021

KINDERGARTEN: To qualify for kindergarten registration in September 2021, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2021.

For further information please visit the district website at www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration

PROGRAMS OF CHOICE: School District 69 is proud to offer a range of Programs of Choice that provide unique and innovative learning opportunities for our diverse student population.

For further information please visit the district web-site at: www.sd69.bc.ca ~ Programs & Services ~ Education Programs - Programs of Choice

PARENT INFORMATION SESSIONS OFFERED!

EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION PROGRAM: Monday, January 18, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM

(Sibling Only French Immersion Kindergarten On-Line Registration begins Monday, January 18 to 22, 2021)

NEW! PRIMARY LEARNING COMMUNITY PROGRAM: Tuesday, January 19, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. via ZOOM

(Registration opens Monday, January 25, 2021)

COLLABORATIVE EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM: Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. via ZOOM

Visit the district website for links to the above sessions at www.sd69.bc.ca

Visitors to School

Please know we are doing everything possible to keep our students and staff safe during this pandemic. As with all School District 69 sites, we require you to call the office (250-248-8446) to make arrangements to collect or drop-off items. We reserve entry to our school for exceptional circumstances only. If you must enter the building, we do require you to wear a mask, go only to the main office, maintain physical distancing, and keep your visit very short. We really appreciate your cooperation with this! We also ask that you wear a mask while on school grounds.



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

January 15 – Pizza Day

January 29 – Sushi Day

February 11 – Subway Day


February 26 – Sushi Day

March 12 – 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 winter clothing.
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- If you haven't paid your child's school fees, please contact the school office or classroom teacher.
 - 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 (ie. 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.

PAC

HELLO Errington Elementary School Families!

Hope everyone had a wonderful Christmas and a very happy New Year!

Couple of reminders....

We are holding our Monthly PAC meeting next **Tuesday January the 12th at 6:30pm**. I will post a ZOOM link on the Errington School Facebook page as well as the PAC page, a day or two before. Just click on the link to join. If you don't have Facebook, please email me and I can email you the link.

We have some big decisions coming up and we would like to hear your thoughts!

Also, please remember that you can donate to the "Takes a Village" fund through our Munch a-Lunch program. After logging in you can click on "Fundraising" and it will take you to a page that will allow you to pick from \$2.00 - \$20.00+. We truly appreciate every cent that is donated. These funds help us support the kids and families that need just a little extra. So I give you a big thank you in advance!

And as always, please feel free to contact the PAC at any time with any questions or ideas.

Naomi

PAC Chair

eespacchair@gmail.com

Learning Updates

On Wednesday, February 3rd, your child will receive a "Learning Update" (otherwise known as Report Cards). As we have outlined in previous newsletters, we are well into a significant transformation in public education in BC – not only with the redesigned curriculum, but also in the ways we communicate student learning.

The Ministry of Education has provided school districts with the flexibility to determine how this communication of student learning will take place. Teachers in School District 69 are continuing to use a locally developed "Learning Update" that accompanies a portfolio.

Teachers take great pride in their work with their students and will continue to connect with you in a variety of ways throughout the year – through class newsletters, student planners and home folders, phone calls, emails, electronic portfolios, informal conversations, and the parent/teacher conference opportunities during the year.

If you haven't already, we encourage you to establish an ongoing mode of communication with your child's teacher so that you can understand where your child is at with various aspects of their learning, what challenges he/she is facing, and where to go next with learning.



Snow

Although we haven't seen snow in the forecast, we know that it could come anytime this winter! We wanted to send out a reminder about our expectations around sledding. If we have a significant amount of snow accumulate, we will allow students to slide down the hill to the field. We only allow this during recess and lunch breaks (not before or

after school) and we only allow students to slide down on a sliding device and they must be wearing snow clothes (waterproof pants and coat, boots, gloves, etc.)! Our expectation is that snow has to cover the ground completely (no grass showing) in order to slide. We will set up a coned area for the students to slide down and expect them to wait until previous sliders have exited the area before sliding. We ask students to walk back up the hill on either side of the coned off area.

We do allow students to bring items to slide on, but please note that they are not accepted on the school bus and they are not stored inside the school. Teachers will be asking students to leave their sliding devices on the walkway outside the classroom during instructional time. Please make sure your child's sled is labelled clearly with their name!



Popcorn sales continue, every Wednesday!! \$2.50 each or a punch pass online or in the office for \$20.00 (for 10 bags).

Student Voice



A new addition to our newsletter will be words from our students on various subjects. Our first focus will be on the themes of gratitude, goals, and reflections on COVID-19. To start us off, we have the following contributions:

"I am truly thankful for a warm house and my family. My goals for 2021 are that I want to work on going outside more, to get more exercise and reading harder books. Some of the good things that came out of the pandemic were that I got to see my family a lot more because they were at home with me. My favorite thing about school is seeing my friends and meeting new people". (Marina, Grade 5)

"I am grateful for love. Even though you can't hold it in your hand, you can hold it in your heart. If you have love in your heart, instead of keeping it in, you might need to let it out." (Jamie, Grade 4)

"I am grateful for life, because if I didn't have life then I couldn't play hockey, go for walks, go hunting, ride my bike, breathe fresh air, play with my dog, and see my family. I am also grateful for health and freedom and to be able to get outside and play. I am healthy enough to walk and run. I am grateful that we made it to Christmas without getting COVID-19 and that my family members survived until Christmas and that we're all being healthy during COVID". (Everett, Grade 4)

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%20Winter%20PROGRAM%20GUIDE%202021-Jan-Mar.pdf>

Other Community Events & Programs 2021

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

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Lists/Events/Attachments/1020/4-H%202021Enrollment.pdf>

EES Calendar of Events

January	15	Pizza Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	29	Sushi Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
February	3	Learning Updates go home to parents
	11	Subway Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	12	Professional Development Day – No School
	15	BC FAMILY DAY
	26	Sushi Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
March	12	Last day of school before Spring Break
	12	Pizza Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	29	School Re-opens after Spring Break
April	2	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	5	EASTER MONDAY – No School
May	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