



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

June 11, 2021

Principal's Message

As the end of the school year quickly approaches, it is time to show gratitude to the many people who have supported our school community in various ways. Although the pandemic has limited the ways people have been able to support on-site, we have been very impressed with the creative ways to support our school community from a distance this year. The gift of time is one of the most generous things you can share and we sincerely appreciate all that you do to enrich the students' experience at Errington Elementary School!

Bus Pass Applications for next school year are now available online! Important information can be found later in this newsletter.

As you are most likely making plans for the summer break from school, we encourage you to consider having your child do some volunteer work. There are many opportunities to volunteer or provide service to our community, even during a global pandemic. The article below suggests some ways that summer volunteer work can build character and leadership:

The world's problems can seem overwhelming. But kids can learn that every person can make a difference, and when people work together, the results are amazing! Summer volunteering is a great way to teach this lesson to your child – all while building his confidence, compassion and leadership skills. To get started, talk with your child about:

- **Interests.** What subjects interest him most? How do they relate to others' needs? If he loves animals, he could help an animal rescue group. If he's interested in business, he might help with a charity fundraiser. Your child's enthusiasm is a great motivator.
- **Skills.** Your child's strengths can be gifts to others. He might hold a bake sale or read to younger children. Sometimes it's fun to learn new skills, too, such as how to help with landscaping or home repairs.
- **Needs.** Perhaps your child has noticed a park that needs sprucing up. Or maybe a homeless shelter needs food. Go online with your child and search for upcoming community service events in your area. You could even ask your child's teacher if the school needs help over the summer.
- **Schedules.** Volunteering takes time, and families are busy! Set realistic goals that leave room for other priorities. Depending on your family's commitments, you and your child might volunteer just a few hours here and there - or decide to take on one large, exciting project!

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (May 2016, Vol.27, No.9)

Lost and Found



We have a full bin of lost and found items collected, including many winter coats. We will be spreading items out on tables in the foyer after June 16th. We will be asking students to identify items that may belong to them and we will put the tables out in front of the school before and after school during the week of June 21st. Please take some time to look through the items that we will have on display. We will be donating any items left.

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 **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.

Kindergarten Orientation



On June 16th we will be hosting a “Welcome to Kindergarten” orientation session for new Kindergarten students and their families. This outdoor, “walk-thru” event will give families a chance to see our school, meet some staff, and have some fun in a safe way while following the usual health protocols. Families have been contacted to arrange a staggered start time, in order to maintain physical distancing requirements. Parents will be parking in the lower parking lot and walking up to the area in front of the main entrance to begin their tour. Families will receive a bag of early learning resources on this afternoon! Information about this orientation session has been sent home to incoming Kindergarten families. If you know of any families who may not have received this information, we ask you to please pass this along to them or contact the main office for further information.

Final Assembly – Tuesday, June 29

We are inviting family members, caregivers, and volunteers to our final assembly at 9:00am on Tuesday, June 29th. This virtual assembly will be held via Zoom. You don't need a Zoom account to join. Simply click the link below and you may need to click "open URL" when you get to the entry screen. There will be a number of people to recognize (including our Grade 7 students who are "graduating" from elementary school), some special presentations, and a slideshow of photos taken throughout the year. We hope you can join us! We will be recording this Zoom Assembly and will find a time to show it on an evening for those who were not able to join for the morning session. Date and time will be confirmed in the next newsletter.

Topic: EES Assembly

Time: Jun 29, 2021 09:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://sd69-bc-ca.zoom.us/j/5067761599?pwd=ZE5RVkFjMmNWMWQ0bXBSd2pIdXJ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 506 776 1599

Passcode: 483581

Last Day – Tuesday, June 29th – Early Dismissal

As you know, the last school day is on Tuesday, June 29th. Dismissal is 3 hours earlier than usual (**10:30am**). If your child will not be attending on the last day(s) of school, please be sure to contact your child's teacher and arrange for collection of year-end items (school supplies, special projects, shoes and other personal belongings, report card, etc.).

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.



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#/="](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.



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:
June 18 – Pizza Day

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

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



We are continuing to sell Mega Ice Cream Sandwiches 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)

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, an extra change of clothes, and a refillable water bottle. We also recommend having a warm coat, hat, and umbrella for wet days and sunscreen and a hat for warm days.
- 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.

EES Library



News from your library

Book Return: We ask that students and families please return all library books as soon as possible this next week. Students can still take out books to use in their classroom until June 18th. Thank you for being great at bringing your library books back this year!

Reading Happens! There are many great opportunities for reading - all summer long!

- The **Vancouver Island Regional Library** Summer Reading Club <https://virl.bc.ca/read-watch-listen/audience/kids/src/>.
- **Audible Free Stories** runs until June 30 <https://stories.audible.com/discovery>
- Check out SD 69's My Site links to great reading including **Tumblebooks** and **Sora/Overdrive** District catalogue. <https://start.sd69.bc.ca>. Login using your school login and go to My Site. Click here for the free app <https://www.overdrive.com/apps/sora/>.
- The District license for **Raz Kids** runs all summer! Students just go to Student Login using their teacher name and student number <https://www.raz-kids.com/>
- **Storyline Online** has some great ebooks read by celebrities <https://www.storylineonline.net/>
- **Magic Keys** or Children's Storybooks Online has lots of good books including classics <http://www.magickeys.com/books/>
- **International Children's Digital Library** has some wonderful diverse stories from around the world <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>.
- **Epic Books** has a great catalogue of novels and picture books for students in all grades <https://www.getepic.com/>

Library Page and Leadership Roles: We're very hopeful that our leadership programs will start up in September. We'll be looking for students in Grades 5-7 to apply and join our Student Leaders team!

Donated Books: We're always looking for great books for the Library. If you have books that your children have outgrown, consider donating them to Errington Library, they will be very welcome!

It's been a pleasure reading with our students this year and we thank you for your support from home!

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

2021-22 School Year Bus Pass Information and Procedure

As we get ready for the upcoming school year, it is important to note the changes being made to the Bus Pass Procedure.

ELECTRONIC BUS PASS SYSTEM

- Starting with the new school year, the district is implementing an electronic bus pass system, referred to as ZPass. This allows the district to track, in real time, which bus a student traveled on and when/where they got on/off. Students will be issued, after the application process is completed, a lanyard with a bus pass which is encoded with a tracking #; students will be required to scan the card when boarding and leaving the bus both morning and afternoon.
- This bus pass will stay with the child throughout their school years with SD#69(Qualicum). At the end of each school year, the passes will be deactivated (student keeps the pass). After the application process is completed for the following year, the pass will be reactivated. A child in kindergarten could have the same pass for 13 years! Replacement bus passes are \$15.00; family will be responsible for replacing the lanyard.
- Similar to what is currently being done, eligible rider bus passes will be processed first, with a cut off date, followed by courtesy riders and any eligible riders that missed the cut off, as space allows.
- If your child is continually not riding the bus, you will be notified and the bus pass will be deactivated.

BUS PASS PROCEDURE

- **June 9 - July 30, 2021 - ELIGIBLE ONLY** bus pass applications will be accepted & processed on a first come/first served basis.
 - If a bus reaches capacity, an Eligible Rider Wait List will be created. You will be notified if you are put on this list.
 - Distribution of bus passes - see below for the process
 - Courtesy rider applications will not be received at this time, so please do not send them in!
- **August 3, 2021 onwards - Courtesy** rider applications, as well as eligible that missed the above cut off date, will be received and processed on a first come/first served basis as space is available on the bus route(s) requested.
 - Courtesy riders that are offered a space on the bus will be notified and asked to make the payment. When payment is received, the bus pass will be issued (see below for distribution process).
 - If payment is not made within 1 week of being offered the space, the application will be re-dated and put at the bottom of the pile.
 - If a bus reaches capacity, a wait list will be created.

COMPLETING THE BUS PASS APPLICATION FORM

- If unsure which form to use - refer to the "School Locator" on the school district website to determine
- Be sure to read the 2021-2022 School Bus Information sheet found below
- One form/child/address
- Parent/Guardian to complete sections 1,2,3 of the application form
- If unsure of the stop name, refer to the 'School Bus Schedule' below. Each school has a list of bus stops - find the closest one to your address
- Fax or email the completed application form(s) to the number/email supplied on the form

BUS PASS DISTRIBUTION

- Bus passes will be processed by the Transportation Dept. and sent to the school available for pick up, at the school office, starting August 23, 2021

Canada Learning Bond (CLB) – Government of Canada

If you have a child that is between 6 and 9 there are many thousands of dollars available to families who are saving for future education.

Please go to <http://www.smartsaver.org/> to see if you qualify for this. Also for families who need support for RESPs there is a great deal of untapped funds from the Canadian Government. See if you qualify here - <https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/learning-bond/eligibility.html>. These are available every year but there are cut off dates so applications are time sensitive.

BC Training and Education Savings Grant PowerPoint Presentation:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/Community69/Lists/Events/Attachments/1045/BC%20Training%20and%20Education%20Savings%20Grant.pptx?Web=1>

International Student Program (SD69) – Homestays Needed

Qualicum International Student Program, a school district program, is currently in need of new homestay families for students who are coming to our district for high school. These students are generally from grades 10 to 12 and will attend from September to June, or for just one semester (Sept to Jan or Feb to June). Our current host families come in all ages and are singles, couples and families. We need more families for this fall and hosts are paid a stipend of \$900 per month. If you can't help us, maybe you know someone who can as we also offer a referral fee. More information and application forms are available on the Qualicum International website at www.schoolincanada.ca, or you can contact Jenny at jatkinson@sd69.bc.ca.

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 Mrs. Spencer-Dahl's Grade 4/5 class and Ms. Petley-Jones' Grade 5/6 class.

Mrs. Spencer-Dahl's class are working on ceramics (examples below) and are painting rocks with positive phrases and words to go inside these dishes:



Ms. Petley-Jones' class have been reflecting on their goals this year – here are some student examples:

"I met my goal of working on spelling because I moved up a spelling group. My goal next year is to work on division and memorizing it." Marley

"I met my goal of working on division because I practiced lots and did my homework every day. My goal next year is to help people." Dillon

"I met my goal. I got 169/170 on my multiplication quiz and I did a lot better this time. My next goal would be to work on fraction, percentages and decimals in math." Saline

"I met my goal of working on my 12 times table because I practice at home and did really well at it. My goal for next year is coding." Wyatt

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>

Other Community Events & Programs 2021

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

First Shift Hockey Program 2021-22

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

ACRA Summer FUN Challenge!

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

GoByBike Week!

<https://gobybikebc.ca/>

MAC Summer School – Art Classes for Kids

<https://mcmillanartscentre.com/workshops-and-classes/>

The MacMillan Arts Centre (the MAC) would like to invite parents and students to attend our YOUTH Arts Exhibit at the MAC - on now until May 30th. We are featuring the artwork of senior art students from PASS-Woodwinds, Kwalikum Secondary and Ballenas Sr Secondary School in our Nemeth Gallery, and we are very proud to also have in our Oceanside gallery the work of 15 yr old artist, Emily Dao. The work of our local students is extraordinary, and the MAC would like to thank the teachers - Jayne Lapper, Graeme Nailor, Crystal Burgess and Jason Fenton - who encouraged their students to participate in this important exhibit at the MAC.

Oceanside Track Renewal at Ballenas Fundraiser

<http://www.oceansidetrackfield.ca/>

Grad Wear

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

Rotary Bottle Drive for District 69 Backpack Program – May 15, 2021 (follow upcoming events)

<https://www.parksvilleamrotary.org>

<getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect>

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

EES Calendar of Events

June	16	Kindergarten Orientation (individual start times have been confirmed with families)
	18	PAC Hot Lunch for those who ordered through Munch-a-Lunch
	29	Virtual Assembly at 9:00am (via Zoom; see link in this newsletter)
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early