



# ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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June 27, 2021

## Principal's Message

As this will be the last formal newsletter of the school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our staff, students, parents, and community for continuing to navigate this global pandemic together. It has been another extraordinary and historical school year, full of unprecedented events, new routines, the need to live in the moment, and be flexible and ready to adapt to whatever challenges come our way. It has been an absolute pleasure to work with you and your children. Even with the uncertainty of what each day would bring, coming into our school each day has brought a sense of normalcy this year. It is now time to take a well-deserved break from school.

Summer is a time for us all to take a much deserved break from the formal setting of school; however, learning doesn't need to stop! We are so lucky to live in one of the most desired places in the world and there is so much to see and do over the summer, with many opportunities for learning. It is very important to provide children with activities that will help maintain the gains they have made over the school year. Later in this newsletter, you will find two articles that suggest some educational field trips and fun activities to do over the summer. We sincerely hope that you and your family continue to stay safe and health throughout the summer.

As the school year draws to a close, the following article suggests ways to review the school year with your child and set new goals:

It's nearing the end of a busy school year. Your child has learned a lot. She's read new books and she's mastered new skills. Now is the perfect time to talk about all of the lessons she's learned.

Find a time when you can have a relaxing chat about school. You might even plan something special, such as going out for a treat or making a favorite meal together. During your talk:

- **Take a look back.** What was your child's favorite project this year? In what subject did she improve the most? Which book that the class read was her favorite? Which of her goals did she accomplish? As she talks about these positive things, help her see the ways she has grown. "You really worked hard to master division this year. You can do hard things when you put your mind to it!"
- **Take a look forward.** What is your child looking forward to this summer? What is she excited about for next year? Is there a subject or an area she'd like to improve in next year? Are there books she would like to read?
- **Discuss how learning** doesn't stop at the end of the school year. One of the great things about the summer is the opportunity to learn things that aren't directly related to school. Help your child think about something she'd like to learn this summer. Would she like to learn a new sport? Would she like to teach herself how to paint? Would she like to learn a new language? Together, make a plan to help her achieve her goal.

*Source: Elementary School Parents (May 2015, Vol.26, No.9)*

## **Grade 7 Recognition**

During an unprecedented year, it seems only fitting that we are to pivot our original plan to celebrate our Grade 7 students, yet again! Given the message sent out this afternoon from the district office about school being optional tomorrow (Monday, June 28<sup>th</sup>) due to the extreme heat wave, we have altered our plans. For Grade 7 families who are choosing not to send your children to school tomorrow, please check your email this evening for details from your Grade 7 student's teacher.

## **Collections from School**

If the extreme heat wave or other plans have resulted in your child not attending school on these last few days, please contact the school office to make arrangements to collect your child's belongings and report card in the next week.

## **Communication During Summer Months**

As our province gradually lifts restrictions and we look forward to a "normal" return to school in September, we need to also be ready to respond if the global pandemic takes a turn. It is CRITICAL to have your CURRENT contact information so we can keep you informed. If your information has changed or changes over the summer, please feel free to contact our general mailbox (for emails and phone messages at 250-248-8446 and [errington@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:errington@sd69.bc.ca)). We will check for messages periodically over the summer. If you are not receiving our online newsletters already, we HIGHLY recommend that you set this up as soon as possible. This is the way we will communicate with families as information emerges. 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.

## **Lost and Found**



We have spread out many items on tables in the main foyer. Although teachers have brought their students to view and claim items in the last few weeks, we still have a LOT of unclaimed items. If you are around the school in the next couple of days, please take some time to look through the items that we have on display. We will be donating any items left to the SOS at the end of this week.



## **Families on the Move?**

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. It is very important that we are aware of any students who may not be attending our school in September.



## **Staff Changes**

Although our staffing process is not quite complete, we do know that we will be saying farewell to Denise Spencer-Dahl (Classroom Teacher), Kimi Cochlin (Classroom Teacher), Jennifer Fuhrmann (Vice-Principal), Miranda Agostini (Child and Youth Care Worker), Wendy Cervo (Educational Assistant), and Judith Walker (Educational Assistant). We also wish to congratulate Ms. Catherine Baynton (classroom teacher) on her retirement! We wish them all well on their future endeavours and thank them for their time here at EES!



We would like to welcome the following people who will be joining our staff in September:

- Florence Wong (Vice-Principal)
- Barbara Neumeyer (Classroom Teacher)
- Claire Weir (Classroom Teacher)
- Michele Munro (Child and Youth Care Worker)
- Ryan Rhodes (Educational Assistant)
- Susan Urie (Educational Assistant)

## **EES PAC Appreciation**

We would like to recognize our 2020-21 PAC, who have supported our school and generously offered support on many occasions. It is because of these people that our students are able to enjoy many enriching experiences that go well beyond the classroom. Although there are many who contribute to the efforts of our PAC, we would like to thank the following EES PAC Executive for their work this school year: Naomi Albert and Beverley Craig (Co-Chairs), Michelle Keddy (Treasurer), and Linda Berry Pay (Secretary). We would also like to recognize Sarah Kettner and Alicia Martini for coordinating the PAC Munch-a-Lunches.

## **Final Assembly – Tuesday, June 29**

We are inviting family members, caregivers, and volunteers to our final assembly at 9:00am on Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. 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 replay it at 7:00pm on Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> for those who were not able to join for the morning session. The Zoom link will be the same for the evening replay.

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=ZE5RVkFjMmNWMWQ0bXBSc2pldXJ6QT09>

Meeting ID: 506 776 1599

Passcode: 483581

## **Last Day – Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup> – Early Dismissal**

As you know, the last school day is on Tuesday, June 29<sup>th</sup>. 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.).



## **Reconnecting Start in September**

Please note that on the first day of school (Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>), we will start at the usual time (**8:10am**) and students are dismissed **3 hours earlier** than usual (**11:00 am**). School buses will also run 3 hours earlier than usual on that day.

Next year at Errington Elementary will begin the school year with a reconnecting start, which means that for the first day of school (Sept 7) students will return to the classroom they were in this year. For this time, we have planned both classroom based and whole school learning activities. On Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> students will move to their new classroom. We believe that this gradual transition lowers the anxiety that for some students is associated with the beginning of a new school year. In addition, delaying the class formation process gives us a chance to create classes based on actual September enrolment, which significantly reduces the chance of a class re-organization once the school year has begun. Students will bring home a note to indicate which class they will go to for the year. If your child's current teacher will no longer be working at Errington Elementary School next school year, we will have a teacher with those students for the first few days. Students new to Errington Elementary will meet in the library on the first day of school. From there, they will be placed into temporary classes with their peer group for the first two days. Students who start Kindergarten this coming September will have a gradual entry. New Kindergarten students WILL NOT attend on Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>. They will be assigned days and will receive a letter from the school with this information.





## School Supplies

Detailed information about school supplies will be sent home with student report cards on Tuesday. Students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 have a fee and teachers will purchase supplies. Students in Grades 4-7 have 2 options: either purchase their own supplies from the list provided OR order supplies through a local company. Supply lists will also be posted on our EES website. Students will NOT need their school supplies on the first day of school (Tuesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>). Please wait until Wednesday to send supplies to school.

## Six educational field trips to take with your child:

"I'm bored!" Do you dread hearing this phrase over the summer? Then start planning now! In addition to stockpiling supplies, such as books, recipes and games, schedule a few field trips. Local educational destinations are often free – and fun- to visit! Consider going to:

1. **Museums.** Call or go online to check upcoming exhibits. Which would your child like to see most? Add them to your summer calendar.
2. **An arboretum.** Kids love walking through gardens, admiring flowers and learning about habitats. Bring a camera or sketchbook to capture the plants and animals.
3. **The zoo.** This trip is almost always a hit with kids. Before leaving, you might read about the animals you'll see. Talk about what they eat and how they spend their time.
4. **A fire station.** Call ahead to see if a summer "open house" is planned. If not, request permission for a special visit.
5. **An airport.** Simply driving by the airport is interesting. Can your child spot the control tower? Planes taking off and landing?
6. **Parks.** Find a guide to local parks and keep it handy. Consider visiting hiking trails, historic battlefields and more. Add a nature guide and maybe even some binoculars, and you're ready for an adventure any time!

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (May 2013, Vol.24, No.9)



## Fun activities can keep your child learning over the summer

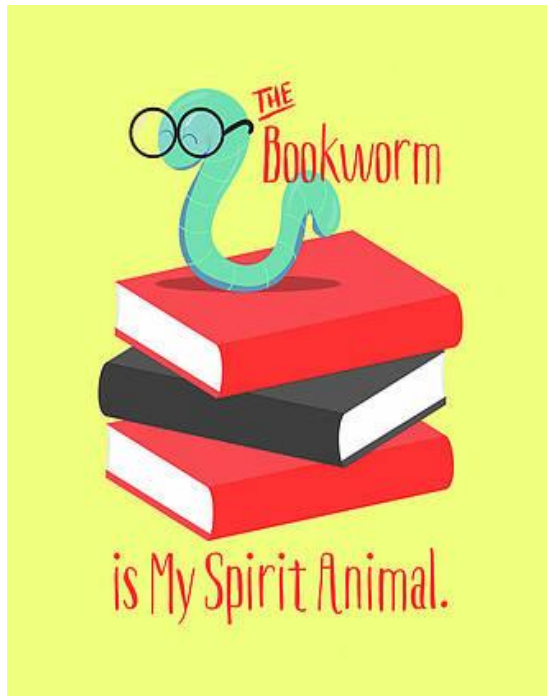
When school ends, it's important for kids to remember – and build on – what they have studied all year. To make this fun, have your child:

- **Keep a journal.** Think about what will appeal to her. An album of photos and captions? A scrapbook of mementos and stories? Reviews of her favourite movies? A collection of drawings and observations?
- **Play board games.** Research shows they're good for kids' thinking skills and development of positive traits, such as patience, cooperation and focus. Pick games that match your child's age and interests.
- **Plan scavenger hunts.** Give interesting, educational instructions, such as, "Let's find an oak tree leaf." "Pick three daisies." Or "Find three things that are round." Remember, you can have a scavenger hunt anywhere, including in a store or on vacation.
- **Build on books.** After reading a story, consider turning it into a play, puppet show or art project. Reward your child with plenty of applause and praise!

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (May 2013, Vol.24, No.9)

## **EES LIBRARY**

Mrs. Richards & Mrs. Cook wish everyone a very happy summer break!



Thank you for  
a great year  
in our  
Library,  
Happy  
Summer  
Reading!

### **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](http://www.schoolincanada.ca), or you can contact Jenny at [jatkinson@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:jatkinson@sd69.bc.ca).

## ***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

## **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 1<sup>st</sup> – September 30<sup>th</sup>, 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.



## **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 Summer Programs 2021

Grad Wear

<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:

2021 Summer Reading Club and Teen Summer Quest at Vancouver Island Regional Library

<https://bcsrc.ca/>

Oceanside Youth Soccer Registration – Summer & Fall

RDN Active Living Newsletter

First Shift Hockey Program 2021-22

ACRA Summer FUN Challenge!

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

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.

## EES Calendar of Events

<b>June</b>	29	Virtual Assembly at 9:00am via Zoom (see link in this newsletter)
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early (10:30am)