



# 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](mailto:smorrison@sd69.bc.ca)

Principal: **Ms. Jennifer Fuhrmann**

Email: [jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:jfuhrmann@sd69.bc.ca)

November 27, 2020

## Principal's Message

December is almost upon us and this will be a most unusual season. We are all working hard to stay calm and be somewhat festive while staying safe and keeping our household bubbles very small. We will not be able to gather together for our annual winter concert this year, but stay tuned for a little something that staff and students are working on to share virtually with families!

December is a good time to reflect upon the spirit of giving. We have a very generous community and it has been heartwarming to see the many ways people give to one another – whether it is the gift of time, material goods to those who face difficult times, or just giving for the goodness that we feel in reaching out to one another with kind gestures. Even though we are limiting contact with people this year, we can still reach out in creative ways to let people know they are cared for. In the gift of giving, we are teaching children valuable lessons in social responsibility and community service. The article below suggests ways to show your child how to give meaningful gifts that are free:

Many people exchange gifts over the holiday season. While children love receiving gifts, they also enjoy being able to give them. Giving gifts can give your child a sense of pride.

Does your child know that the most meaningful gifts don't have to cost money? They simply take time and come straight from the heart.

Share these thoughtful gift ideas with your child. She could:

- **Offer to do chores** for an elderly neighbor [socially distanced of course!]
- **Record herself reading a book** for a younger sibling to read along with.
- **Make a list**, such as "My 10 Best Memories With Grandpa."
- **Do a chore** for an entire month without whining.
- **Play** a favorite game with a family member or a neighbor who is home-bound [this could be done using Zoom, FaceTime, Skype, or using one of the virtual platforms available for playing games with each other remotely].
- **Record an audio** or video message for a loved one who is far away.
- **Create a playlist** with a bunch of her favourite songs to share.
- **Bake cookies** and deliver them to someone who may not receive many homemade gifts [make sure the recipient feels comfortable with this type of gesture during the pandemic].
- **Create a calendar for [2021]** and decorate it with personalized artwork, one drawing for each month.
- **Make a gift certificate** good for two hours of help around the house.
- **Create a beautiful picture** or poem about a special person.

## **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.

## **Other Important Reminders**

- Thank you for your continued support as we navigate this global pandemic. As more COVID cases have found their way to our central Vancouver Island area, we wanted to remind you to continue being vigilant with the protocols we have in place (our district website keeps all the information current). Please continue to report your child's absences and let us know if the absence is not health related. If your child will be absent for an extended time, please contact the office so that we don't phone you daily. As rumours circulate, it is important to remember that we are guided by our health authority and we will contact you about a possible exposure if we are advised to do so. To that end, please make sure to let us know if your contact information has changed so we can update our records.
- 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.
- The cold, wet weather is upon us. 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.
- 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!



### HOT LUNCHES

Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

December 4 – Pizza Day

December 18 – Subway Day

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

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

Hello Errington Families.

I am so thrilled that every Newsletter I can start off by saying "thank you" to our wonderful volunteers. Thank you to everyone who is helping Sarah with the Munch-a-Lunch program. Also, thank you Julia for spending hours sorting through the Purdy's Chocolate orders and getting them to their rightful owners.

I also want to say a thank you to Jennifer Watt-Lynn who works for FortisBC. She applied through her company for a donation for the school and they accepted. Thank you Jennifer and FortisBC!

To everyone who has donated towards "Takes a Village" for spirit wear: We are about a third of the way there. If you haven't heard about it and want to help you can send in a donation to the school or donate through the Munch-a-Lunch program. These kiddos are going to be thrilled to be able to join in on School Spirit days.

I really can't say thanks enough. And I love being able to do it!

Just a reminder that we have a PAC meeting on every second Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be held through ZOOM on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Feel free to wear your PJ's. I'll post the link on our school FB page, as well as an agenda. If anyone has anything they would like to bring up, please let me know.

Happy Friday everyone!

Naomi  
PAC Chair  
eespacchair@gmail.com

Dear Families:

**DRIVE-THROUGH FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION BY DONATION!**

**- CANCELLED -**

We regret to inform you that the drive-through family friendly Christmas Celebration by Donation planned for Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> by the District 69 Backpack Program has been **CANCELLED** as per Dr. Bonnie Henry's public health order stating that all events are on pause until December 7, 2020.

The District 69 Backpack Program will continue to gratefully accept gift cards or cash donations for its '*All They Want for Christmas*' campaign which provides gifts, clothing and food hampers to families in need over the holiday season.

For more information or to donate, please contact Virginia Worcester at 250-240-0772; [bhb2@shawcable.com](mailto:bhb2@shawcable.com) or check out the District 69 Backpack Program website at <https://www.district69backpackprogram.com>



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

An illustration of a park path winding through a green landscape. The path is dark green with a lighter green leaf pattern. On the left, there are several trees with brown trunks and green and orange foliage. In the upper right, several white birds are flying. In the center, a man and a woman are walking, with the woman pushing a stroller. Below them, a woman is holding a baby, and further down, another woman is pushing a pink stroller. At the bottom, there are green bushes and yellow flowers.

# Rollin' with it

Walk or stroll with us!

Thursdays 1:30 – 2:30 pm

Meeting at the parking  
lot of QB Museum

Birth to 5 years old  
In stroller or carried

8 families maximum

Starting Nov. 19th!

Book your spot at  
[www.rdn.bc.ca/recreation](http://www.rdn.bc.ca/recreation)

 **OBLT**

Okanagan Building Learning Together

**Rain or shine**

(but cancelled if snow or sideways rain)

**New!**





# OBLT Cares

- Reaching out to seniors and families with children aged birth to 5 years in Oceanside during this special time of need.

Sign up to collect your care package that includes: meal ingredients, recipes, resources and special surprises.

For more details, to find Oceanside pick up locations and reserve your care package, please email [admin@oblt.ca](mailto:admin@oblt.ca) or call 250-947-8252.

We are grateful to the United Way Central & Northern Vancouver Island and to Rotary Club of Parksville AM for their support of this OBLT initiative



United Way  
Central & Northern  
Vancouver Island



Oceanside Building Learning Together

Rotary  
Club of Parksville AM





REGIONAL  
DISTRICT  
OF NANAIMO

# Join Our Photo Contest Fun

Submit, vote or share



Submit photos by Nov 30, 2020  
Vote for your favourite photos by Dec 4, 2020

Special youth category  
Chance to win  
a \$100 gift certificate  
of your choice

For more details or to see the photos visit:

[getinvolved.rdn.ca/photo-contest](https://getinvolved.rdn.ca/photo-contest)



# Family Night

A safe and relaxing place where families can spend quality time together



- ➔ Engage in fun activities with your family.
- ➔ Connect with others and learn about other supports and services in the community.
- ➔ Enjoy a nutritious meal served by SOS volunteers.

Pre-registration is required.

**Parksville** Tuesdays, 5-7 pm. Call 250-248-2093 ext. 249 or Text 250-228-4066

**Qualicum** Wednesdays, 5-7 pm. Call 250-752-2040 ext. 201 or Text 250-248-0997

## SOS Community Services Centres

Child, Youth & Family Programs

**Parksville** 245 West Hirst Avenue | [cyfcoordinator@sosd69.com](mailto:cyfcoordinator@sosd69.com)

**Qualicum** 744 Primrose Street | [childandfamily@sosd69.com](mailto:childandfamily@sosd69.com)

[www.sosd69.com](http://www.sosd69.com) |   



**Society of  
Organized  
Services**



# Community Services Centres

## ● Meals on Wheels

Helps residents maintain health and independence by delivering hot, nutritious meals, three times a week. Cost: \$7.50/meal. Call Parksville ext. 225 to register

## ● Income Tax Returns

Assistance with the preparation of basic, low-income tax returns. Call Parksville ext. 229

## ● Homeless Prevention Program

Funded by the Government of BC, this program is aimed at assisting with homelessness due to crisis or transition. Individuals must meet one of four criteria to receive rental subsidies.

Call Parksville ext. 234

## PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

### ● Counselling Referral

Referrals to one-on-one professional counselling. Fee is determined on an individual basis. Call Parksville ext. 225

### Currently on hold:

#### ● Women's Personal Growth

12-week group that explores self-esteem, personal boundaries, healthy relationships and more. Cost \$5 per session. Call Parksville ext. 225

#### ● Men's Personal Growth

This 12-week group involves self-exploration while developing better communication and a deeper sense of purpose. Cost \$5 per session. Call Parksville ext. 225

## SENIORS

### ● Seniors' Advocacy Services

Individual's needs are determined through a private and confidential discussion. The Coordinator assists in finding supports and solutions through SOS programs and other resources.

Call Parksville ext. 239

### ● Oceanside Better at Home

Administered by SOS in partnership with the United Way of the Lower Mainland, and funded by the Government of BC. The Better at Home program is designed to help seniors who are 65+ remain at home by providing a range of non-medical support services such as:

- Friendly visiting
- Light housekeeping
- Grocery shopping
- Yard maintenance
- **On hold:** Transportation to non-medical appointments

Call Qualicum ext. 4 to register

### Currently on hold:

#### ● Seniors Connecting

A friendly, comfortable place to meet other people and enjoy social interaction and a sense of well-being. Learn more about issues relevant to seniors through guest speakers and information sharing. Healthy refreshments are provided and transportation can be arranged. Parksville Wednesdays, 1-3 pm

Qualicum Tuesdays, 11-1 pm

Call Qualicum ext. 3

SOS Community Services Centres | Parksville 250-248-2093 Qualicum 250-752-2040

# SOS Program Guide

## Fall/Winter 2020



Society of Organized Services

www.sosd69.com

All programs have been modified to comply with COVID-19 safety procedures

# SOS Child, Youth & Family Programs

Parksville 240-248-2093 ext. 249 | cyfcoordinator@sosd69.com | Cell 250-228-4066

Qualicum Beach: 250-752-2040 ext. 201 | childandfamily@sosd69.com | Cell 250-248-0997

## EARLY YEARS

(0-5 years, pre-Kindergarten)

### ● TIC TAC (Time in Comfort for Tots & Caregivers)

A welcoming and nurturing environment for parents/caregivers to take a break and recharge, while children play and build social and emotional skills.

**Pre-registration is required.**

Parksville Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-11 am

Qualicum Mondays and Wednesdays 9-11 am

## CHILDREN & FAMILY

### ● Family Night

Spend quality time with family, as we serve a meal and clean up afterwards! We provide the entertainment such as arts, crafts, games, music and outings. **Pre-registration is required.**

Parksville Tuesdays 5-7 pm

Qualicum Wednesdays 5-7 pm



### ● Kids Movement: Play, Express & Grow Grades 4, 5 & 6

Separate programs for girls and boys

Fun activities inspire confidence, friendships and a healthy self-image. Staff and volunteers provide mentorship and support.

**Pre-registration is required.**

Parksville Thursdays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Oct. 8, Oct. 29 and Nov. 19

Qualicum Mondays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Oct. 5, Oct. 26 and Nov. 16



## YOUTH

### ● School Night Out Grades 7, 8 & 9

A safe space for young people to connect and express themselves through games, art, crafts and music. Adult mentors support, guide and listen.

**Pre-registration is required.**

Parksville Tuesdays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Oct. 1, Oct. 22 and Nov. 12

Qualicum Mondays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Sept. 28, Oct. 19 and Nov. 9.

### ● Youth Open Space

Grades 10, 11 & 12

Connect with others, eat great food, play games, shoot some pool, make creative artwork, play music, get support from staff and have fun.

Parksville Thursdays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Oct. 15, Nov. 5 and Nov. 26

Qualicum Mondays 3:30-5:30 pm

Pop-up dates: Sept. 21, Nov. 2 and Nov. 23

### ● After School Education Assistance

Grades 6-12

After school professional tutoring services available in Math and English at no cost. Available to School District 69 students attending regular classes.

**Pre-registration is required.**

Parksville Monday-Thursday 3-4 pm or 4-5 pm



### ● Gradwear

For local grads and their dates

Find a new or gently used grad dress, date dress, tuxedo or suit for only \$5, including accessories.

# Community Services Centres

### ● Recreation Assistance for Children & Youth

Assists with costs for low-income families to register local children and youth in recreational activities.

Call Parksville ext. 241

### ● Emergency Assistance & Advocacy

Provides help in cases of hardship and unexpected financial emergencies, and may advocate for clients to reconcile financial obstacles. Also provides guidance to promote self-sufficiency.

Call Parksville ext. 241, or if age 60 or older, call ext. 239

### ● Caring for Community at Christmas

Provides special gifts to local children and youth. Adults receive grocery store gift cards. Christmas stockings are also provided for seniors who are house-bound. Pre-registration in person is required and begins in November. Donations are gratefully accepted at both locations.

Call Parksville ext. 229

### Currently on hold:

### ● Medical Appointment Transportation Service

Safe and friendly transportation to and from medical appointments within District 69 and surrounding area.



# Caring for Community at Christmas

Supported by community since 1968 and offered  
to low income residents in School District 69



## Registration by appointment

Families and grandparents get assistance providing gifts for children and youth, and residents get help buying food. **Call 250-248-2093.**

## Support the program

**You can make Christmas brighter for local families and individuals**

**Financial donations:** Donate online, by phone or in person.

**Gift donations:** New, unwrapped gifts can be dropped off at the SOS Community Services Centre in Parksville on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 am to 11:30 am at the Christmas Tent (drop-off schedule implemented due to the pandemic.) Attend a local event benefitting the program, or locate an SOS Angel Tree at a participating business.

**Thank you for helping create magic for residents in need!**

### SOS Community Services Centres

245 West Hirst Ave. Parksville | 744 Primrose St. Qualicum Beach

250.248.2093 ext. 229 | [coordinator@sosd69.com](mailto:coordinator@sosd69.com)

[www.sosd69.com](http://www.sosd69.com) |   

## EES Calendar of Events

<b>December</b>	4	Pizza Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	18	Subway Lunch for those who ordered from Munch-a-Lunch
	18	Last day of school before the Winter Break
<b>January</b>	4	School Reopens after Winter Break
<b>February</b>	12	Professional Development Day – No School
	15	BC FAMILY DAY
<b>March</b>	12	Last day of school before Spring Break
	29	School Re-opens after Spring Break
<b>April</b>	2	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	5	EASTER MONDAY – No School
<b>May</b>	21	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	24	VICTORIA DAY – No School
<b>June</b>	4	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early