



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. Florence Wong**

Email: fwong@sd69.bc.ca

January 14, 2022

Principal's Message

Happy New Year! I would like to take this opportunity to thank our school community for the last few months, your support with the delayed restart after the winter break, and your continued commitment to keeping our school community healthy, safe, and thriving.

As we are a few weeks into a new calendar year, it is a good time to set goals with your children, take stock of your child's habits, and make needed adjustments.

The following article provides some suggestions on reviewing the first half of the school year:

Talk with your child about how he thinks the school year is going. If the two of you set learning goals at the start of the year, review those goals now. Is he making progress? How can he make the rest of the school year even better?

Then, help your child make some resolutions. Here are four to consider:

1. **Recommit to routines.** Has your child's bedtime begun to slip? Are mornings more rushed? Is his regular study time now not quite so regular? Sleep and study routines make life easier – and help kids do better in school.
2. **Spend more time reading.** There is no skill that will help your child more in school. And reading ability, like other skills, gets better with practice. Encourage your child to read every day. Let him read about anything, from sports to his favourite movie characters.
3. **Limit recreational screen media.** Talk about ways to reduce the amount of time your child spends watching videos and shows, playing games and browsing online. Set and enforce daily limits.
4. **Have a positive mindset.** Positive thinking makes it easier for students to tackle challenges and ask for help. To promote positivity, help your child manage his stress, visualize a successful outcome and learn from his mistakes.

Source: *Elementary School Parents*. January 2022; Vol. 33, No.5

K-12 Daily Health Check

We have been very impressed with how well our school community has been with the daily health checks. We appreciate that parents/guardians have kept their children home when they feel sick. This is the first line of defense in keeping our school community safe and healthy. Thank you!

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** 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. The following link will lead you to the more detailed BC COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool.

<https://bc.thrive.health/covid19/en>



Kindergarten registration will take place between **Monday, January 24, 2022** and **Friday, February 4, 2022!** Please see below for further information about the 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.



**SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 69 (QUALICUM)
ON-LINE REGISTRATION FOR THE 2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR**

KINDERGARTEN" AND "CROSS BOUNDARY" REGISTRATION

- **FRENCH IMMERSION SIBLING REGISTRATION ONLY - JANUARY 17 TO JANUARY 21**
- **ALL OTHER REGISTRATIONS WILL BEGIN ON JANUARY 24 TO FEBRUARY 4**

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Qualifying Age:	To qualify for Kindergarten enrolment in September 2022, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2022.
Required Documentation:	Proof of Age for student (Birth Certificate or Passport); Proof of Residency (see SD69 website for list of acceptable documentation or contact catchment area school: www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration
Where to Register:	On-line registration will be available from Monday, January 24 th to Friday, February 4, 2022 via the district website: www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration. Please ensure you register our child to attend your neighbourhood (catchment) elementary school. School catchment information is available by using School Locator on the district website: www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration ~ School Locator.

FRENCH IMMERSION

French Immersion	French Immersion is intended to develop fluency in French learning to functional bilingualism. Students study in French while following the regular BC Curriculum Learning Standards. Please ensure you indicate that you wish to enrol your child in the French Immersion Program when completing the on-line registration form. The French Immersion Program for Grades K – 7 is located at École Oceanside Elementary School. The French Immersion Program for Grades 8 – 12 is located at École Ballenas Secondary School.
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CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION

Board Policy 7015	The Board of Education believes that, in general, students should attend schools designated by the Board for their particular attendance area. Transfer of a student to a school outside of their catchment area will be considered upon written application of the parent to the Superintendent of Schools or designate.
Cross Boundary Process:	Parents wishing to enrol their Kindergarten child at an out-of-catchment school within the district are to register their child at their catchment school and make their cross boundary request upon registration. For students who are currently registered in our district and wish to apply for cross-boundary, the application process for the 2022-2023 school year will commence January 31 st until the last Friday in March prior to Spring Break. A fillable cross boundary application form can be found at www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration ~ Cross Boundary.



Please visit the district website for further information www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration



**2022-2023 KINDERGARTEN AND
ELEMENTARY PROGRAMS OF CHOICE
REGISTRATION**

**BEGINS JANUARY 24, 2022
THROUGH TO FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2022**

KINDERGARTEN: To qualify for kindergarten registration in September 2022, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2022.

EARLY FRENCH IMMERSION: French Immersion is intended to develop fluency in French learning to functional bilingualism. **Note:** Sibling Only French Immersion registration begins January 17, 2022 to January 21, 2022

PRIMARY LEARNING COMMUNITY PROGRAM: This multi-age program will meet the provincial curriculum while engaging in play-based learning, where concepts and subject areas will be embedded in themes, projects and activities stretching across the curriculum.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ROBOTICS, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STREAM): The STREAM program is a comprehensive academic program that engages your child through the use of science and technology and encourages personalized learning and critical thinking across the entire curriculum.

For more details, applications and registration information visit the Student Registration Page of the District website:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Reg2122.aspx#/->



Frequently Asked Questions

Do children have to go to kindergarten?

- Children are entitled to an education program in the school year in which they turn 5 years old before December 31st. Most children in British Columbia are registered for Kindergarten. Parents must enroll children or home school them in the school year in which they turn six. This is not a change from the current practice. If parents choose to delay enrolment for their 5-year-old until the following year, they should discuss with the school principal the best placement for their child.

If my child is registered in Kindergarten, can they attend less than full-time?

- According to the *School Act*, school attendance is not mandatory for 5 year-olds. Therefore, even though you may have registered your child in a Kindergarten program, it is not mandatory that they attend Kindergarten all day every day. We hope you will work together with school administrators and the Kindergarten teacher to determine what is best for your child.

What are some community programs I can go to with my child?

- Vancouver Island Libraries
- Munchkinland in partnership with StrongStart
- Mother Goose Goes to School
- RDN Programs
- FRA Programs
- SOS Programs

Helpful Links:

BC Kindergarten Curriculum:
<https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/>

BC's Primary Program:
https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/resources/primary_prog.pdf

Qualicum School District: www.sd69.bc.ca

Oceanside Building Learning Together (OBLT):
<https://www.oblt.ca/>

Let's Play! Activities for Families
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/early-learning/support/play#letsplay>

Early Learning Framework
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/earlylearning/elf-a-guide-for-families.pdf>

School District 69 (Qualicum)



PO Box 430
Parkville, BC V9P 2G5
Phone: 250-248-4241
Fax: 250-248-5767
www.sd69.bc.ca

Welcome to Kindergarten!

Working Together for Children

When your child enters school, we hope you will enter too! We invite you to become involved in class and school activities. Please talk with your child's teacher to discuss your child's needs and how to access services which your child may need. Your interaction and involvement is vital to your child's success.



Kindergarten children are:

- Energetic
- Lively
- Sensitive
- Wonderful
- Curious
- Creative
- Playful
- Uniquely individual

Welcome to Kindergarten!

How to Prepare Your Child for Their First Day

Families are a child's first and most important teachers. You have already helped your child learn.

Entering the school system for the first time is a big step in your child's life as well as in yours. Your child's feeling of excitement about the new experience may conflict with the fear of leaving you for an unfamiliar place.

You can help alleviate this concern by providing opportunities for your child to play with their friends or attending group activities. This practice in play allows your child to experience some separation from you.

Continue to play, read and talk to your child.

You Can Make the Most of Your Child's Kindergarten Experience By:

- helping your child have regular, prompt school attendance
- seeing that your child gets enough sleep and a healthy meal before school
- managing the amount and type of TV viewing and video games
- sharing information with the teacher about any situations that affect your child's learning or well-being
- alerting the teacher to any concerns you or your child may have as they arise
- sharing any information about early interventions your child has benefited from prior to Kindergarten (e.g. speech and language, physiotherapy)
- following up with the home activities suggested by the teacher
- reminding your child of thoughtful manners and health habits (e.g., washing hands, using the washroom)

Gradual Entry

Children start attending school in September in small groups to ensure a successful and comfortable beginning to school. This practice is supported by the Ministry of Education and the Qualicum School District.

Please check with your local school for details about gradual entry procedures and times.

What Does Learning Look Like in Kindergarten?

Kindergarten is a play-based and designed to address all areas of child development: physical, social, emotional, artistic, language, and cognitive.



Importance of Play

Research has shown that play:

- enhances a child's language development
- encourages social development, creativity and problem-solving
- provides opportunities for children to represent their thinking
- acts as a basis for learning in literacy, numeracy and other curricular areas
- develops higher motivation to learn, and promotes higher self-esteem
- nourishes natural curiosity and supports overall healthy development

Ways Your Child Will Learn

Kindergarten is an active environment in which children learn with their whole bodies, their minds, and their hearts.

In Kindergarten classrooms you will see children learning:

- through physical movement, music, the arts and activity
- through hands-on activities
- to make thoughtful choices
- to accept responsibility for their actions
- to be comfortable and confident and cooperate in a larger social group
- to accept and respect others
- to think and talk about their learning by talking and playing with materials and each other
- by using literacy and mathematics skills throughout the day
- by experimenting with print in a variety of playful ways
- by having fun!



FRENCH IMMERSION - SIBLING REGISTRATION ONLY:
ON-LINE REGISTRATION FOR THE
2022-2023 SCHOOL YEAR
MONDAY, JANUARY 17 – FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022

Bonjour!

Online Registration begins on Monday, January 17th for students wishing to register for Kindergarten in the Early French Immersion Program, *who have a sibling already in the program*. These students will be given preference for placement. Such preference is conditional upon registering **prior** to the district's announced date for regular "K" registration.

Qualifying Age: To qualify for school enrolment in September 2022, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2022.

Required Documentation: Proof of Age for student (Birth Certificate or Passport);
Proof of Residency (see SD69 website for list of acceptable documentation or contact school)

Helpful Documentation: Health Documents
(eg: Medical Care Card, immunization records, medical condition information)
NOTE: While immunization records are not required for registration, a copy may be requested for the student's file

Dates and Times for Sibling Registrations Only: On-line Registration Opens on Monday, January 17 – Friday, January 21, 2022.
The link will be on the district website at:
www.sd69.bc.ca ~ About ~ Student Registration ~ Registration – 2022-2023
Dates, Information & Links

Registration Dates for Non-siblings: Students who wish to register for the Early Immersion Program but do not have a sibling already in the program, will have the opportunity to register on-line commencing Monday, January 24, 2022.*

**Student selection for the Early French Immersion program will be held by lottery. Parents will be notified regarding the outcome.*

Lost and Found – Now Online!

Has your child misplaced a jacket that was just purchased? Can't find a favourite sweatshirt? Looking for a single boot or a cloth mask? There's a good chance that it has been left somewhere at school.

We have created an online site that aims to reunite children with their lost and found items. It is set up like an online store – only there's no payment! During the checkout process, make sure you've included: Your name, contact information, child's first name and child's teacher's name. Once you've placed the 'order', we'll collect the item(s) and return it to your child. It is so easy! Check out our Wildcat Lost and Found Store using the link below.

<https://ees.itselementary.ca/>

Just Be You Club



Once again, we will be starting up a “Just Be You” club for interested students in Grades 4 to 7. The purpose of this club is to create a safe space for students to build awareness and acceptance, create friendships, and develop leadership skills within our school community. Our school counsellor (Ms. Fernandez) and classroom teacher Ms. Armbruster will be facilitating this group. They will be exploring various topics of interest to participants. If you would like more information about this opportunity, please contact Ms. Fernandez or Ms. Armbruster at the school (250-248-8446).

Learning Updates

On Wednesday, February 9th, 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.

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.

- 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!
- 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.
- 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.

News from Your Library



Welcome to new and former members of our **Gladiators Chess Club!** We play every Thursday at lunch in the Library and are hoping to hold a tournament next month.

January is **Fairy Tales and Folk Tales** month in the Library, we've got tons of great stories - old, new and twisted - for students to take out 😊



Our **Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw** is on now until Spring Break. Students are invited to check out and read a series book, fill out the form from your class, enter to win! Prizes will be given out the week of March 7.

Drop Everything and Read takes place on Wed Jan 19 from 11:05 - 11:35 am. Love Your School Library Day celebrating books and libraries in our life! PJs and a great book encouraged!

Return Your Library Books! Take a look under the couch and beneath your pillow! When you return a book, someone else gets to read it! Thank you!

Lost books can be replaced with a book of similar quality and genre from home.

Thank you.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook

Parking Lot Safety



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. Please also take caution and drive slowly in our new parking area. There is a slight incline that tends to get slippery.



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

Jan 28 – Sushi
Feb 11 – Thalassa
Feb 25 – Sushi
Mar 11 – Pizza Day

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

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



SPIRIT CLUB – 2021/2022

Mark these dates in your calendars and have your student join in some EES Wildcats Spirit fun:

- **JAN.28** **CHARACTER DAY**
- **FEB.18** **DRESS IN RED, WHITE, PINK**
- **MAY.20** **SUNGLASSES DAY**

Free Virtual Event!

CHILDHOOD STRESS & ANXIETY BUILDING RESILIENCE

EMPOWERING STRATEGIES

EFFECTIVE SUPPORTS



ZOOM Presentation and Discussion By:

Julie-Anne Richards, M.A., R.C.C., C.C.C.

Registered Clinical Counselor, Psycho-educational Consultant

www.JulieAnneRichards.com

6:30-8:00 pm

Tuesday

February 1, 2022

**REGISTER TO RECEIVE
ZOOM LINK**

Tailored for Parents,
Caregivers and Educators
supporting children
ages 5 – 12 years

**The ZOOM Link will be
emailed to you on
February 1**

THIS IS A FREE EVENT; HOWEVER, REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

(you may need to copy/paste link below in browser)

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/free-zoom-presentation-on-childhood-anxiety-by-julie-anne-richards-tickets-243232784807>

This Presentation is structured for an Adult Audience

Sponsored by the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC) of

School District No. 69 (Qualicum)

Funded by the Eric Foundation www.ericfoundation.com



To Enhance **Life-Long** Learning



**WE'RE
OPEN!**

**Errington After School
Licensed Child Care**

Kindergarten to Gr. 5
Monday to Thursday
2:00 pm to 5:30 pm.

For more information
please call
250-954-3027
or visit our website
www.oblt.ca/childcare



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:

Other Community Events & Programs 2022

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

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

Information for Families:

Family Accident Reimbursement Plan

2021-2022 Board SD69 Public Meetings of the Board of Education

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

EES Calendar of Events

January	28	Favourite Character Spirit Day
February	7	District Planning Day – No School (re-scheduled from September 30 th)
	17	Red, White, and Pink Spirit Day
	18	Professional Development Day – No School
	21	BC FAMILY DAY – No School
March	11	Last day of school before Spring Break
	28	School Re-opens after Spring Break
April	15	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	18	EASTER MONDAY – No School
May	4	Grade 6 Immunizations
	19	Sunglass Spirit Day
	20	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	23	VICTORIA DAY – No School
	25	Grade 7 Health Fair`
June	3	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early