



# 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**  
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May 27, 2022

## Principal's Message

We are about to close the month of May and begin the final month of the school year. There are some field trips and special activities coming up and I encourage you to keep your calendars updated and keep in touch with your child's teacher of all the important dates. I would like to take this opportunity to thank our PAC. Through their work this year and with limited ways they have been able to raise funds during the pandemic, they have been able to offset the costs of many of the field trips and special activities your child has had throughout the year and coming up in June. Please take some time to thank our PAC executive and those parents who have been helping with fundraising initiatives, including the hot lunch program.

Although we hope your children are spending lots of time outdoors, we know that many students spend a significant amount of time on various technology devices. Later in this newsletter is a reminder about cell phone expectations at school. We hope you are having regular conversations with your child about cyber safety. The article below gives some tips on how to keep your child safe while navigating the online world:

Technology has changed how students learn and how they socialize. Millions of kids in all age groups are online every day – at home, at school, at friends' homes, at the library– and many are creating online content. To promote online safety:

- **Discuss rules and expectations.** Use software that helps protect children, but supervise carefully, too. Allow your child to communicate online only with people you both know.
- **Set guidelines.** Establish times when technology is not allowed, and set a timer when all devices must be turned off for the evening.
- **Remind your child** not to reveal personal information online, such as phone numbers, school name, passwords, or your home's location.
- **Keep internet use** out in the open. Have your child use computers and digital devices in common areas where you can supervise.
- **Learn about the websites** and apps your child wants to visit or download. Make sure you approve of the content.
- **Encourage your child** to tell you about any inappropriate content, messages, or experiences online. Report concerns to the authorities.

For more safety tips, visit the following website links:

Family Online Safety Institute at [www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting](http://www.fosi.org/good-digital-parenting).

[https://www.kidsintheknow.ca/app/en/social\\_media](https://www.kidsintheknow.ca/app/en/social_media)

<https://protectchildren.ca/en/get-involved/media-kit/>

## **K-12 Daily Health Check**

Thank you for continuing to do 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.

Please 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 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>



### **Families on the Move?**

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. As planning is underway for next year, it is very helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending our school in September.



Kindergarten registration is ongoing! Online registration can still be accessed through the SD69 District Website using the following link:

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

Please contact us at (250) 248-8446 if you have any questions regarding 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.

## **Cell Phone Use at EES**



Cell phones are becoming an increasing distraction for students during learning and break times. We would like to remind parents that student cell phone use is not permitted during the school day, unless pre-arranged with the classroom teacher. We would ask that if you need to contact your student during the day to please use the school phone (250) 248-8446 instead of texting.

We recognize that many students carry a cell phone, for a variety of different reasons. Our school expectation is for students to keep cell phones tucked away in their backpacks before school, during the school day, and after school. If students are not comfortable with this, they can ask their teacher to place the phone in a locked cupboard during the school day. Electronic devices are NOT to be brought outside or around the school at recess or other break times.

Some classroom teachers allow students to use cell phones and other electronic devices in the classroom for research and learning purposes. Please ask your child's classroom teacher about specific guidelines they have around the use of electronic devices.

Devices are a fantastic tool and we continue to help students learn when and how to use them appropriately. Thank you for your support!

## Unsafe Litter



As the weather has been improving, we are spending more time outdoors and planning trips to parks, beaches, and other public spaces. It is a good time to teach/remind our children of what to do if they encounter unsafe litter in our community.

Please take some time to discuss items that are “safe” to pick-up and items that are “unsafe” to pick up. We know that children can be very helpful, but we don’t want to put them at risk for picking up something that could be dangerous to themselves or others. Items such as broken glass, sharp metal, and needles need to be disposed of with care. Images of needles can be easily found online to show your child what they look like.

If your child comes across a dangerous item, we advise them to report to an adult immediately. Sharp items should never be discarded straight into a garbage can. They should be in some kind of container so as not to poke through a plastic bag and injure an employee who is handling garbage bags. There are several “safe” containers available around the community to dispose used needles so as not to put the public at risk. We still encourage everyone to help keep our public spaces free of litter – we just ask that people use extreme caution if they encounter unsafe litter. Many parks post signs with a phone number to call to report concerns.

Excellent health and care for everyone, everywhere, every time.



March 18, 2022

The COVID-19 pandemic disrupted many areas of health care, including routine immunization programs for children. As Island Health winds down operation of COVID-19 mass immunization clinics, our public health teams are turning their attention towards recovery, including helping families with young children get up-to-date on important routine immunizations.

B.C.’s routine immunization schedule includes a series of vaccinations at age 4, timed to coincide with entry to kindergarten. These vaccines provide important protection against illnesses like measles and tetanus. Island Health is scheduling extra clinics this spring specifically for young children to make it as easy as possible for parents and guardians to complete kindergarten vaccinations and get children up-to-date on their immunizations.

In the weeks ahead public health staff will be reaching out to families across Island Health to discuss the clinics and schedule appointments.

#### RESOURCES FOR FAMILIES:

[www.immunizebc.ca](http://www.immunizebc.ca): This site provides extensive information about BC’s routine vaccination schedule for infants, children, teens and adults. It also includes a comprehensive ‘Question and Answer’ section.

<https://www.islandhealth.ca/learn-about-health/immunizations/immunizations>: Learn about immunization programs in Island Health.

## 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/>

## 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 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



We're coming up to the end of our school year. We ask that students return all their library books by JUNE 17. Grade 7 students must return their library books before the end of the school year in order to be able to check out textbooks in high school. If books are LOST, please bring in a replacement or the cost to the library.

Free Books table is full, so please have a look and take home books you like. Parents please drop by after June 20th and take books for home.

Senior Leader positions were filled this month with many Grade 6 students ready to take on increased responsibility next year. Congratulations to our Senior Leaders! Thank you to all of our student leaders for their work and commitment to our school this year!



Thank you.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook



Munchalunch Hot lunches are open and ready for ordering:

Thursday June 2 – Thalassa

Friday June 17 - Pizza

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

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

**Oceanside Minor Baseball** is seeking students ages 12 to 18 who are interested in becoming a baseball umpire. Students can earn money and gain valuable school credits towards graduation. And have FUN!

Contact Will Chambers, Umpire Coordinator, at 250-616-4829 or email [oceansideblueump@gmail.com](mailto:oceansideblueump@gmail.com) for more information.

### **Jean Up in Support of BC Children's Hospital**

*Story by Mr. Avis*

My Son Judah was diagnosed with a complex congenital heart defect in utero. He was delivered at BC Children's Hospital and underwent his first open heart surgery at two days old. His little heart would require three surgeries to turn it into one that would be able to function well. Judah is now a healthy, happy and flourishing grade 2 student in Nanaimo. He's got a real twinkle in his eye and is one of the most amazing people I have ever met.

The staff at BC Children's Hospital have continued to amaze us with their dedication, care, compassion and humor they share with patients and families. A will be forever grateful to BC Children's Hospital. They have given me my son.

Please consider donating to our EES Jean Up page at the link below or sharing the link with someone who might be able to donate. My pledge is to dye my hair blue in honor of Jean Up if EES can raise \$2000. If we do even better and raise \$4000 I pledge to dye my hair any color the kids at EES vote on!

<https://secured.bcchf.ca/registant/TeamFundraisingPage.aspx?teamID=979799&langPref=en-CA>



To School District No. 69 Families:

As many of you already know, efforts are well underway to raise funds for a new, rubberized, six-lane community running track at Ballenas Secondary School. The Oceanside Track and Field Club is hosting an exciting new raffle in support of this project. WestJet has generously donated "Two (2) Roundtrip tickets to any regularly scheduled and marketed WestJet destination". Details and ticket information are available online at: <https://oceansidetrack.rafflenexus.com>

Additionally, the Oceanside Community Track Society is holding an ongoing "Community Sponsorship" drive. All businesses and individuals that donate to this project will receive varying levels of advertising as well as tax donation receipts. Organizations and families have the opportunity to have their names listed on Permanent Signage that will remain at the new track for decades to come. Your contribution will be a legacy to our community. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

# FAMILY DAY

SUNDAY MAY 29



PANCAKE BREAKFAST - 8:30-11:30AM @ CIVIC CENTRE  
STREET PARADE - 12-12:30PM @ SECOND AVE  
ACTIVITIES - 1-4PM @ COMMUNITY PARK  
FREE SWIM- 4-7PM @ RAVENSONG

INFLATABLE OBSTACLE COURSES / BMX EXHIBITION  
/ SHOW N SHINE EXHIBITION / SKY DIVING /  
DUNK TANK / MAGICIAN / CIRCUS PERFORMERS /  
PARADE / GAMES & PRIZES



[QUALICUMBEACH.COM/QUALICUM-BEACH-FAMILY-DAY](http://QUALICUMBEACH.COM/QUALICUM-BEACH-FAMILY-DAY)

Please note that any child wishing to participate by bicycle in the Family Day parade can show up on a **decorated** bike at 11:30 and join in

*31st Annual*  
**Coombs  
Community  
Picnic**



**5:30 - 7:30pm**

**Thursday, June 9, 2022**

**Coombs Fairgrounds**

(1014 Ford Road, Coombs)

**FREE hotdogs, hamburgers, cake & ice cream (while supplies last), or pack your own picnic.**

**Bring lawn chairs or picnic blankets and enjoy a spot on the field.**

**Children's Games**

**Fire Department**

**Coombs Memorabilia**

**Children's Railway**

**Live Music**

**Farm Animals**







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](http://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:

Foster Caregivers Needed!

Island Health Triple P Seminars – Power of Positive Parenting

Qualicum Beach Triathlon June 26, 2022 – Registration is now open (online only).

Shane Koyczan Concert June 5, 2022 – Fundraiser for Ali Refugee Sponsorship Group

Oceanside Minor Baseball Registration 2022

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

Summer Camps for Kids @ TOSH (for information please click on the link below):

<https://shop.theoldschoolhouse.org/collections/tosh-classes-and-workshops-1>

### **Support for Parents:**

Multicultural Parent Circle

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=mbTFRRf2BEaQxK7YpNkEs3VK3aLUlsxArawjZ6tQti9UNEozT1pVQkFYs1BHMUK1NjFVTldTWFFJRyQIQCNOPWcu>

Vancouver Island Parenting Circle

<https://www.parentsupportbc.ca/>

## **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

<b>June</b>	3	Professional Development Day – <b>No School</b>
	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early