



# 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)

**Vice-Principal: Ms. Florence Wong**  
Email: [fwong@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:fwong@sd69.bc.ca)

February 3, 2023

## Principal's Message

During the month of February, many teachers are focusing on the theme of friendship. When children are younger, you will often see them playing in a big group, with several peers. As they get older, they start to determine who their solid friends are – those who they feel good spending time with, those who share similar interests, and those who they can trust and count on. The number of friends your child has may decrease as they develop more solid friendships. The issue of sharing friends is something we support many students with. We teach students the important skill of sharing a friend with another person who may or may not be one of their own close friends. Sharing friends teaches students about empathy and tolerance. Often the ups and downs of friendships can interfere with learning as students worry about things that are going on with friends, but children learn important skills when they learn how to navigate conflicts peacefully and productively.

The article below suggests ways to boost relationship skills by resolving conflicts productively:

Whether it's a fight with a friend, a misunderstanding with a teacher or an argument with a sibling – all kids experience conflict in their everyday lives. To help your child resolve conflicts productively, encourage him to:

- **Avoid name-calling.** Teach him to use "I messages" to explain how he feels instead of "you messages" that blame the other person.
- **Hear the other person** out and try to understand their point of view.
- **Think before he acts.** Many times, a situation gets out of hand because people allow their emotions to control their actions.
- **Consider a compromise.** Your child is more likely to resolve a conflict successfully if he looks for a solution where everyone gives a little and gets a little, too.
- **Ask for help** when he needs it. Sometimes it takes a mediator to resolve a conflict. A parent or teacher may be able to help.
- **Stand up** for the rights of others who may have been wronged in the conflict.
- **Be willing** to apologize when he is at fault.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (March 2022, Vol.33, No.7)



## Upcoming Non-Instructional Days

A reminder that we have 2 non-instructional days later in February. School is not in session on **Friday February 17<sup>th</sup>** (Professional Development Day) and on **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** (Family Day).



## 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 underway! Please see message below for further information. If you have any questions, feel free to stop by the EES office or contact us at (250) 248-8446.

All new students must register online with their catchment area school. Information for those students wishing to attend a school outside their catchment is below.

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 69 (Qualicum)** **Kindergarten REGISTRATION**  
January 23 to February 3, 2023

Online Kindergarten Registration for the 2023-2024 school year opens on January 23 through to February 3, 2023. To qualify for Kindergarten enrollment in September 2023, a child must become five years of age on or before December 31, 2023. Proof of Age for a student includes a birth certificate or passport. Check out the School District website registration page to see what else you need.

**KINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS OF CHOICE**  
French Immersion - when registering your Kindergarten on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to enroll your child in the French Immersion Program.  
Primary Learning Community - when registering your Kindergarten on-line at their catchment school, please be sure to indicate in the notes field that you wish to enroll your child in the Primary Learning Community Program.  
More information and the application form for the Primary Learning Community can be found on the District website [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca).

**CROSS BOUNDARY INFORMATION**  
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.  
Parents wishing to enroll their Kindergarten child at an out-of-catchment school within the district **MUST FIRST** register their child at their catchment school, and then make their cross boundary request by completing a cross boundary application form. The application process for the 2023-2024 school year will commence January 23<sup>rd</sup> until March 13<sup>th</sup>.  
A fillable cross boundary application form can be found at [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca) > About > Student Registration > Cross Boundary

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR GRADE 7 FAMILIES**

We are in the process of planning for the transition of our Grade 7's from Elementary to Secondary school. Please see the flyers below that outline the open house/information evenings planned at both high schools in our community. We encourage all Grade 7 families to attend both sessions to familiarize themselves with the secondary school programs and other offerings.

KSS and BSS staff will be visiting Errington Elementary School in February to meet with our Grade 7 students, provide them with course selection packages, and answer questions the students may have.

Once the information sessions have taken place, we will provide the paperwork required for those students who wish to attend a school outside their catchment area.

The background image shows the exterior of Kwalikum Secondary School under a clear blue sky. A sign in the foreground reads "KWALIKUM Secondary School" and "WELCOME BACK! GR 8 DAY SEPT 6 8-12 EVERYONE BACK SEPT 7".

# GRADE 7 PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT AT KSS

★  
**Thursday,  
February 16  
6:30pm in the Multi-  
Purpose Room (MPR)**

★  
An information night for  
parents of students  
heading to grade 8 in  
Sept. 2023

★  
**We look forward to welcoming our  
incoming grade 8 students and families to  
the KSS Learning Community**

★  
**An Opportunity To:**

- learn about **Kwalikum Secondary School** and the grade 8 program
- learn about the class selection and transition to high school process
- meet the administration and counselling team
- walk through the school

École Ballenas Secondary School

*Building Successful Students*



## **BSS Open House and 2023-2024 Grade 8 Information Session**

***Thursday, February 9th 6:30–8:00 PM***

All parents and students who plan to attend Ballenas in the upcoming 2023-2024 school year are invited to our annual Open House. All Ballenas programs and departments will be on display throughout the school.

In addition, **next year's** Grade 8 students and families are invited to attend a special information session at 6:30 PM in our Auditorium.



Phone: 250-248-5721

Web: <https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS/Pages/>

## Learning Updates

On **Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup>**, your child will receive a "Learning Update" (otherwise known as Report Cards).

Teachers take great pride in their work with students and families. They 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.



## 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 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 needs any warm clothing.
- 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!
- School begins at 8:10am. If you are dropping off your child prior to 8:10am, please use the Lower Parking Lot. If you are dropping off after 8:10am, you may pull up to the front of the school. Students who arrive after 8:15am must report to the office before going to their classroom.
- Please make sure your child's teacher is aware of your child's after school schedule. We need to know if your child is getting picked up (and by who) or taking the bus.

## Student Learning Survey

The Student Learning Survey is for students in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12, their parents, and staff.

The survey covers a wide range of topics and provides feedback on the implementation of the curriculum changes, learning environment, student wellness and satisfaction, student belonging and engagement, and career preparation. Questions were developed with input from partner groups, teachers and experts in educational measurement and special education. This survey will be administered to our Grade 4 and 7 students in the coming months. Parents of Grade 4 and 7 students are encouraged to complete this survey by clicking on the link below.

Parents may access the survey following the directions and link for **Direct Access** below. Surveys are to be completed by parents with children in Grades 4, 7, 10, and 12. A parent may complete a survey for each child in the targeted grades. The parent survey is available in English, French and 16 other languages. Thank you in advance for your participation. The survey is open until midnight on **April 29, 2023**.

### To complete the survey:

1. Go to any computer that has an up-to-date internet browser access. Acceptable browsers include Firefox, Internet Explorer, Chrome or Edge.
2. Go to [www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat\\_survey/access.htm](http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/sat_survey/access.htm)
3. Scroll down to the "Parent" section and select *Direct Access – no logon number required*; then select:
  - District: the name of your child's school district (69 – Qualicum)
  - School: the name of your child's school (Errington Elementary)
  - Language: the language of your choice
4. Complete the survey by clicking on the appropriate circle to answer each question. Move to the next set of questions by clicking on the right arrow in the bottom right corner of the screen. Click on the left arrow to navigate backwards.
5. When you are finished the survey, you will get a message "Thank you for sharing your views".

### Pink Shirt Day

We are encouraging students to wear a pink shirt on **Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** to celebrate national pink shirt day. We hope students may have one from previous years and we do encourage "hand-me-downs" as children grow.

The pink shirt campaign started in eastern Canada by a group of youth who were protesting the treatment of a fellow student who chose to wear pink. Students were making inappropriate remarks about boys wearing pink, so several male students decided to wear pink themselves to stand up to the name-calling and to support their peers who chose to wear pink. They wanted to make a statement about one of our fundamental freedoms of expression. The tradition has continued for several years now. We look forward to seeing a "sea of pink" in our school on February 22<sup>nd</sup>! We continue to help our students learn how to solve problems in peaceful ways. Please see the link in the "general documents" section of our website for an interesting article that describes the difference between bullying, peer conflict, and mean behavior.



The Board of Education of School District 69 (Qualicum) follows an annual Budget Development process each school year in order to establish the final annual budget for submission to the Ministry of Education. This process begins with providing an opportunity for stakeholders to share input toward this decision making. Click **HERE** for more information and a link to the district's 2023-2024 budget survey.

## **Principal Performance Appraisal**

This month I will be engaging in a performance appraisal as part of a new district-wide process for all principals and vice-principals. Information will be gathered from surveys, interviews with staff, parents, and students, and then used alongside my own reflections and my supervisor's observations to create a report, and to help my supervisor and I to set my professional goals for the next few years. I am inviting you to be a part of this process by taking just a few minutes to respond to the questions in this survey and, if you like, adding a few comments.

The link below is attached to a Form only my supervisor (Associate Superintendent Gillian Wilson) can see, and she will be sharing data in chart form only and in comment themes without any names attached. Some quotes may be used in the report that goes into my personnel file, but again, these will be anonymous and content will be paraphrased if the source is identifiable.

<https://forms.office.com/r/JK60F44Gzh>

Thanks for helping out. I really appreciate your time and your feedback.

Sheila Morrison, Principal

Government of Canada – Canada Dental Benefit (Dental Benefit for Kids)

The [Canada Dental Benefit](#) provides eligible parents or guardians with a direct tax-free payment of up to \$650 per year for two years to help cover dental expenses for children under 12 (please click on the link embedded above for full information).

## NEW WAY TO PAY

Our district has made it possible to pay for any school fees online. If your student's classroom teacher has requested to use agendas, a sheet with detailed instructions on how to sign up for School Cash Online has come home. If your student's teacher is not using agendas this year a detail sheet will come home shortly. On our Errington Website there is a direct link to [www.schoolcashionline.com](http://www.schoolcashionline.com), it is quite easy to sign up. Once signed up you will receive email notifications if there is a fee associated with your student. You are still able to pay for any school fees with cash or cheque, but we are offering the option to pay online.

As always if you need any help navigating this system please feel free to call the office and they will be happy to help you.



Munchalunch Hot lunches is **open** and ready for ordering.

February 10 – Sushi

February 24 – Ricky's

March 3 – Subway

March 17 - Pizza

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

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



## Use of Technology

We value the use of technology as an integral part of teaching and learning. Our handheld devices have become part of our daily routines and give us access to a wide variety of tools, including photographing our students doing all sorts of activities at school. We have noticed that some photos of our students have appeared on social media – we understand that people taking and sharing photos during school sanctioned activities are doing so with good intentions. What people may not realize is that we have a number of students who have media restrictions in place and parents have indicated they do not want their child's photo to appear publicly. In order to respect the privacy of our students, we ask that you do NOT download, copy, or distribute any pictures or other personal information through social media that contain images of students and/or student work other than your child's.



### SPIRIT CLUB – 2021/2022

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

- **Tuesday February 14<sup>th</sup> Peace, Love, Friendship... Valentine's Day (wear red, white, pink)**

### **School District 69 is hiring school bus drivers.**

Come help us deliver the future!  
Minimum Class 2 License with Air Endorsement Required.  
For more information got to [www.sd69.bc.ca](http://www.sd69.bc.ca)



## EES LIBRARY NEWS

This month, we're featuring many wonderful books about the moon, winter season, weaving and storytelling. Come and check them out!

**Coast Salish Weave Collection:** We're very excited to host the Coast Salish Weave Collection in our school starting Feb 27. These 12 pieces will be on display for a week or more as teachers, staff and students learn about weaving, storytelling and Coast Salish design. With special thanks to Tracie Finstad and Indigenous Education.

**Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw:**  Our Seriously Awesome Series Book Draw runs until spring break. Students are encouraged to take out a book belonging to a series, read it, then bring it back with an entry form to the Book Draw. Good luck!

**I Read Canadian Day:** Feb 15 is a celebration of Canadian authors and illustrators. We invite everyone to check out a Canadian book and enjoy our unique storytelling in Canada.



**Gladiators Chess Club:** Our EES Gladiators tournament begins Feb 9 with Grade 5 and 6 players. Grades 4 and 7 will begin on Feb 16. Tournament brackets are posted on the board outside the Library. Our Final tournament will be March 2 which is followed by the District Chess Tournament, date tbc. Intermediate students play on Thursday and Primary students are welcome to play chess and checkers on Wednesdays in the Library. Thank you to our chess leaders for setting up and to Mrs. Spencer-Dahl for supporting our tournament!



**Lost Books:** If you have lost a book, you can replace it with a similar book from home. Please look for overdue books and return them to the Library.

**Your Library Card:** Did you know that your family members can take books out on your student library card? Ask us about bringing great books home for the whole family.

Ms. Richards and Mrs. Cook



**BALLENAS SECONDARY  
WHALEBONE THEATRE  
PRESENTS**

Disney  
**THE LITTLE  
MERMAID**



**FEB 14, 15, 16**

**tues-thurs 21, 22, 23**

**Special 6pm KidStart**

**tickets \$10 adults \$5 kids**

**at the door or online @**

**[www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS](http://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/BSS)**

**"Ballenas Online Store"**

## **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 2021**

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

**Free Zoom Presentation – Childhood Stress and Anxiety: Building Resilience (Feb.16, 2023)**

**Rotary Youth Art Exhibition (Gr.6-7 students) – Mindfulness in May**

**19<sup>th</sup> Annual Qualicum Beach Seedy Saturday – February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**SOS Winter-Spring 2023 Program Guide**

**Invitation to submit rock painting – Parksville Visitor Centre – ends Friday Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

## **Information for Families:**

**Family Accident Reimbursement Plan**

**2022-2023 Board SD69 Public Meetings of the Board of Education**

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

## EES Calendar of Events

<b>February</b>	8	Learning Updates get sent home
	9	BSS Open House/Information Evening for Grade 7 Students and Parents (see info in this newsletter)
	14	Career Fair for Grade 7 Students
	16	KSS Open House/Information Evening for Grade 7 Students and Parents (see info in this newsletter)
	17	Professional Development Day – No School
	20	BC FAMILY DAY – No School
	22	Pink Shirt Day
<b>March</b>	17	Last day of school before Spring Break
<b>April</b>	3	School Re-opens after Spring Break
	7	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	10	EASTER MONDAY – No School
	19	Scholastic Book Fair (In the library) – runs until Apr.25
<b>May</b>	18	Professional Development Day – No School
	19	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	22	VICTORIA DAY – No School
<b>June</b>	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early