



# 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 16, 2023

## Principal's Message

We have been appreciating the sunshine and seeing some early hints that spring is just around the corner! Many important learning activities have been taking place. Last week, teachers sent home a Learning Update. It has been a pleasure reading these documents that provide a "snapshot" on your child's learning at this point in the year. If you have any questions about the Learning Update, please reach out to your child's teacher. Stay tuned for more information about our "Celebration of Learning", which will take place in mid-April. This will be a chance for you to visit your child's classroom and see all the learning that is happening!

As learning activities become more challenging, expectations are increasing, and students move towards greater independence in their learning, we often see a tendency for some students to want to "give up". The article below shares some strategies on how to help your child develop the important skill of perseverance, also known as "grit". Researchers say "grit" is key to your child's school success:

What do spelling champions and West Point cadets have in common? It's a quality known as *grit* – the ability to stick with something even when it's hard.

Current research shows that grit is important. People who persist when a task gets challenging are most likely to be successful. To promote grit:

- **Teach your child to focus** on how good it feels to finish a tough task. "You did your homework. Now you can relax and enjoy yourself."
- **Emphasize starting.** People with grit don't put off unpleasant tasks. So, help your child develop the habit of getting started. "You work on homework and I'll clean these drawers. Let's see what we can finish in 15 minutes."
- **Stress effort over ability.** Tell your child that success requires dedication and effort as much or more than intelligence. Notice every bit of hard work your child does and every small step of progress he makes.

Source: *Elementary School Parents* (March 2016, Vol.27, No.7)



## Upcoming Non-Instructional Days

A reminder that we have 2 non-instructional days coming up. School is not in session tomorrow, **Friday February 17<sup>th</sup>** (Professional Development Day) and on **Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>** (Family Day). Enjoy this long weekend with your family!



## 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 flyer below that outlines the open house/information evening planned at Kwalikum Secondary School. The Ballenas Secondary School session took place last week.

KSS and BSS staff will be visiting Errington Elementary School next week 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.



# 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

**WELCOME**

We would like to welcome the following student teachers to our school:

- Hannah Boas has been working with Ms. Virgin and her Kindergarten/Grade 1 class.
- Tiggy Cooper joined us this week and will be working with Ms. Armstrong, Ms. MacLeod, and their Grade 2/3 class.

## Washroom Etiquette



Once again, we are noticing that the student washrooms are getting very messy each day. Toilets aren't flushed, urine is often on the floor in front of the boys' urinal, there are things in the toilets that should not be there (food and food wrappers, pens/pencils, etc.), there have been cases where graffiti has been written on the walls, and we've had crumpled and wet paper towels on the ceiling and walls. This has caused plumbing issues and as we have had to close washroom stalls down during the day for cleaning, it reduces the number of toilets available for student use throughout the day. It also causes additional time to clean in the evenings when the custodial staff should be concentrating on cleaning the rest of the school properly. We are very concerned about the state of the washrooms and have been monitoring them throughout the day. We hope that you will help by reminding your children about responsible washroom use and taking care of our place.



### 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 am engaging in a performance appraisal as part of a new district-wide process for all principals and vice-principals. Information is being 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. If you haven't done so already, I am hoping you will take just a few minutes to respond to the questions in the survey and, if you like, add 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 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.



### **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!



**Gladiators Chess Club:** Our EES Gladiators tournament began Feb 9 with Grade 5 and 6 players. Grades 4 and 7 took place today, 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:

**BCED.GOV.BC Presents ERASE (Expect Respect & A Safe Education) – online sessions:**

<http://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/bulletin/20230210/erase-student-and-parent-sessions.pdf>

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

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

**SOS Winter-Spring 2023 Program Guide**

<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>	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