



ERRINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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September 23, 2022

Principal's Message

As we approach the end of September I would like to thank you for your support with a positive start to the school year. This year at EES, we will continue to work on our school-wide goal of social responsibility. In particular, we will focus on solving problems in peaceful ways and learning a variety of self-regulation and self-monitoring strategies. This week we sent home our EES Code of Conduct for you to review with your child. I will be including articles in our newsletters that suggest ways that families can promote social responsibility. We will be using the following three pillars that form the basis for all of our expectations:

- We are SAFE
- We are RESPECTFUL
- We are RESPONSIBLE

Along with these pillars, we encourage our students to take care of themselves, take care of each other, and take care of our place. The article below suggests some ways to set the stage for success by promoting respect at school:

Respectful behavior is just as important at school as it is at home. Encourage your child to show respect at school by:

- **Being courteous.** He should say *please* and *thank you* to his teacher and classmates.
- **Doing what's expected.** Everyone in school has a job to do. If the teacher doesn't plan lessons, no one can learn anything. If students don't do their jobs – homework, listening to the teacher – it makes it harder for everyone to learn.
- **Raising his hand.** Imagine having 30 students in a class, each of whom wants attention right now. When your child raises his hand and waits for the teacher to call on him, he demonstrates self-control and respect for others.
- **Addressing the teacher** by name. Just saying "good morning, Mrs. Jones" is an easy way to show respect.
- **Listening to the teacher's** comments. Teachers want students to learn. That means they have to point out mistakes. Your child will do much better in school if he can recognize and accept constructive feedback.

Source: *Elementary School Parents*
October 2016
Vol.28, No.2

Picture Day



Concept Photos will be here to take individual and class photos on October 3rd. Mark your calendars! Re-takes are scheduled for October 28th.

Week of September 26th

A reminder that school is not in session next Monday and Friday next week. Monday, September 26th is a Professional Development Day. Friday, September 30th is a National Truth and Reconciliation Day".





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

Thursday September 29 - Pizza

Friday October 14 – Thalassa

Friday October 28 – Sushi

Thursday November 10 – Thalassa

Friday November 25 – Chinese Food

Friday December 2 – Thalassa

Friday December 16 – Pizza

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

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

Meet the Teacher and Open House

We've had a change in date for the "Meet the Teacher/Open House" event. It will be held on **Thursday, October 13th** (not October 6th as previously planned). This will be the first time we have been able to gather our community together for a school-wide event since the winter concert in December, 2019! We have planned some special activities on this evening. Our event will begin at about 4:45pm with a concert featuring our very own EES Wildcats! Students will be working with musicians Holly Arntzen and Kevin Wright and their "Voices of Nature" program during that week, with a culminating concert on the Thursday evening. The concert will be about 45 minutes, followed by a BBQ dinner and "Open House" where you can mingle with other families, tour the school, and meet your child's teachers. We will even have a "Free Clothing Store" set up! Thank you to our EES PAC who are sponsoring the Voices of Nature program and the BBQ dinner! More details to come in the next newsletter.



Orange Shirt Day – Thursday, September 29, 2022

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, in the spring of 2013. It grew out of Phyllis' Story of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.

The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the coming school year. It also gives teachers time to plan events that will include children, as we want to ensure that we are passing the story and learning on to the next generations.

Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for First Nations, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come. We are encouraging students to wear orange on this day!

See Phyllis' story on the following link: <https://youtu.be/E3vUqr01kAk>



Student Information Forms

This week we sent out some very important forms to fill out. These are annually updated and are required in order to keep our records current. The package includes a sheet called "Student Verification Form" (white form) and a sheet called "Student Health and Emergency Information" (green form). Even if there are no changes to your child's information, we still need you to **sign** those forms and return to the school as soon as possible.

If you are reporting your child's absence from school and the absence is NOT health related, it is helpful to know this so we can avoid some of the necessary follow-up phone calls. You can simply state that the absence is NOT health related.

Emergency Preparedness

Over the next few weeks, our students will be practicing our usual drills and procedures used during emergencies (fire, earthquake, power outages, and threats to school safety). Practicing these drills throughout the school year helps children know what to do in the event of a real emergency.

There have been some questions recently about the various levels of threat to school safety. There are 3 levels of threat, which are consistent among our local schools and schools across Canada. They include "Shelter-in-Place", "Hold and Secure", and "Lockdown". If you would like to know more about these levels of threat and when they are used, the link below will lead you to where they are posted on our EES Website. "Shelter in Place" is a common procedure used and we don't typically send a message home. In the event that we call a "Hold and Secure" or "Lockdown", we will send a message home through the School Messenger service so you are aware and can support your child.

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/school/EES/Documents/Threats%20to%20School%20Safety.pdf>

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) 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 at the school (250-248-8446).

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.schoolcashonline.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.

Terry Fox Run



Students participated in the Terry Fox Run on Thursday, September 22nd. We are still collecting donations to be put towards cancer research. We have EES families who are impacted by pediatric cancer and we appreciate all donations that are made as they support cancer research. We thank you for your support! We will be collecting donations until next Thursday, September 29th. You can send cash donations to the EES office or use the online link below:

<http://www.terryfox.ca/ErringtonElementary>

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.
- 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.

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 publically. 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.



Inclement Weather and Clothing

Although we have had sunny days, we know that soon the rainy weather will be upon us! It is extremely important for students to have appropriate clothing and footwear for outdoor use, along with a pair of inside shoes to change into when inside the building. These shoes are also used for gym use. We expect students to wear warm coats (hoods are a good idea) and we recommend boots, hats, gloves, and umbrellas. In general, students go outside to play during recess and lunch breaks, even if it is raining or snowing. Each day, we assess the combination of weather, wind, and temperature to determine whether or not it is suitable for the students to play outside. We recommend that students have a spare change of clothing kept at school in case of various emergencies. We have a very limited supply of clothing available



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:

SOS Fall 2022 Program Guide

Artists Callout – Short Doc Film Festival – McMillan Arts Centre

Parksville Curling Club – Junior Curling (Ages: 10-18)

Ravensong Waterdancers – See it, Try It Event

<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#/>

6 Sessions

**FIND OUT THE RISKS &
WHAT PARENTS/CAREGIVERS NEED TO KNOW:**

Positives & negatives the internet provides
Challenges for youth today
Technology as a distraction
Media over consumption
Online predators
Challenges for parents & caregivers
How online information is collected & used
Opportunities technology provides
Data tracking & collection
Privacy
Personal online legal consequences
Concerning signs to look for
Sleep concerns
Account management
Exploitation
Nudes & sexting



**ALL SD69
PARENTS / GUARDIANS /
CAREGIVERS / STAFF INVITED!!!**

(Intended for an adult audience - you do not need to sign up in advance to attend)

- ✓ A new Link & Password to each session will be added to the SD69 District Website (calendar) the week before the event
- ✓ A Recording of the session will be made available for 48 hours after each broadcast
- ✓ Attendees will be able to download The White Hatters FREE web book: *Parenting in an Online World*

Questions? Email: sd69DPAC@gmail.com

SD69 DPAC Welcomes

The White Hatter

www.thewhitehatter.ca

Internet Safety & Digital Literacy!

Mark your Calendars!

- 1 Thursday, September 22nd @ 7pm-9pm
Social Media Safety and Digital Literacy
- 2 Thursday, October 6th @ 7pm-8:45pm
Online Predation & Exploitation
- 3 Tuesday, October 18th @ 7pm-8:30pm
Online Gaming - Concerns, Balance, Addiction & Opportunities
- 4 Thursday, November 3rd @ 7pm-8:30pm
Online Pornography, Radicalization, Shaming, and Disinformation
- 5 Thursday, November 17th @ 7pm-8:30pm
Supporting Youth Being Targeted by Aggression, Cyberbullying, Threats, Hacks, and Violence Online
- 6 Thursday, December 1st @ 7pm-8:30pm
Teen Sexting, Nudes, Distribution of Intimate Images, and the Law

EES Calendar of Events

September	26	Professional Development Day – No School
	29	Orange Shirt Day
	30	National Truth and Reconciliation Day – No School
October	3	Photo Day
	10	THANKSGIVING DAY – No School
	13	Meet the Teacher and Open House – 4:45pm to 7:00pm
	20	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	21	Professional Development Day – No School
November	10	Remembrance Day Assembly – Time to be determined
	11	Recognition of REMEMBRANCE DAY – No School
December	16	Last day of school before the Winter Break
January	3	School Re-opens after Winter Break
	30	District Wide Planning Day – No School
February	17	Professional Development Day – No School
	20	BC FAMILY DAY – No School
March	17	Last day of school before Spring Break
April	3	School Re-opens after Spring Break
	7	GOOD FRIDAY – No School
	10	EASTER MONDAY – No School
May	18	Professional Development Day – No School
	19	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
	22	VICTORIA DAY – No School
June	29	Last day of school, ends 3 hours early