



# EES Newsletter

We are safe. We are respectful. We are responsible.

## Principal's Message:

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to the Wildcat community. Having just completed my second week as principal at EES and feel fortunate to be following in the footsteps of Mrs. Morrison, who has created a warm, welcoming school. I thank her for all her years of work at Errington Elementary. She will be missed, but luckily, we will still see her around when she checks in at the school with the district programs she oversees.

With the days starting to get longer, it has been lovely to see the sunshine and notice some signs that winter is on its way out. This month we have many important activities happening in the school. Our grade 6/7 classes will be switching to their fourth term of exploratories next week. As a whole school we will celebrate Valentine's Day with a DJ Connor and a dance party in the gym, and we will have an assembly on Feb. 28th, for Pink Shirt Day.

Students are busy demonstrating their learning, and teachers are getting ready for term two learning updates which will go home prior to our March break. Students and staff have been helpful and encouraging, and I feel fortunate to join a learning community where teachers, students and parents care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth. Please pop in and say hello, or feel free to contact me at 250-248-8446 x 70470 or at [lmmarshall@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:lmmarshall@sd69.bc.ca), if you have questions or concerns.

Lori Marshall  
Principal

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**Families on the  
move**

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**Grade 8 Info  
Sessions**

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**Library News**


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**Dressing for the  
Weather**



## Families on the Move?

Please let the school office know if your family will be moving next year. We are beginning to plan for next year, and it is helpful if we are aware of any students who will not be attending EES in September.

## Grade 7 Parent/Student Information Night at KSS



# GRADE 7 PARENT/STUDENT INFORMATION NIGHT AT KSS

- ★ **Thursday, February 15**  
**6:30pm in the Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)**
- ★ An information night for parents of students heading to grade 8 in Sept. 2024
- ★ **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
- ★ **incoming grade 8 students and families** ★  
**to the KSS Learning Community**

# EES Library News

This month in our Seasonal Rounds we celebrate Cold Time and Moon of the Little Child. This is a great time to look for patterns in nature. We have some great books on ferns and patterns in the Library! We are celebrating oral storytelling and our Canadian authors and illustrators.

February is Black Canadian History Month - we have some wonderful books in the display at the Library door. Check them out!



Gladiators Chess Players have begun to gather in the Library this month. Tuesday lunch recess is for Intermediates Grades 4-7, Wednesday lunch recess is for Primary Kindergarten to Grade 3s. We will be holding our EES chess tournament at some point this month. Gladiators in Grades 4-7 will compete and our winners will go on to the District Chess Tournament at QBES in March.

**Feb 7** is World Read Aloud Day - we're celebrating the art and magic of reading stories aloud all month long. We have a whole section of great award-winning Read Aloud books in the library office. You can grab one and go, knowing that it's a great story that your students will love.



**Feb 10-25** - Gung Hay Fat Choy! We have lots of great Lunar New Year books and resources out in the Library including picture books, great historical fiction and non-fiction. It's the year of the Wood Dragon, so we've also put out our wonderful Dragon books! Check them out!

**Feb 21** - Celebrate our School Library and Read A Canadian Book! We are very fortunate to boast some fabulous authors and illustrators in Canada - we have lots on display.

**On Feb 21, we invite you to celebrate our School Library and Read a Canadian Book Day! We'd like to hold a Drop Everything and Read a Canadian Book at 11:05-11:35, join us!**

Happy busy February everyone!

Janet Richards and Dee Cook

# Photo Gallery

## Chess Club in the Library



# National Pink Shirt Day



Wednesday, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>

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 28th! 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.

## School District Budget Survey

The school district is starting its annual budget process for the 2024-2025 school year. The link below leads to a survey that parents can fill out to provide input to the district regarding financial priorities:

<https://forms.office.com/r/FxN1MsiGjL>



The Ministry of Education and Child Care, in partnership with adolescent Clinical Psychologist, Dr. Hayley Watson, will be hosting free virtual sessions on youth substance use for parents/guardians, caregivers and caring adults. Dr. Watson will provide valuable insights, practical tips, and resources to equip participants with the tools needed to guide their children and youth toward making positive choices when it comes to substance use.

### Key Takeaways for Participants:

- Learn why children/teenagers are drawn to substances.
- Understand what causes and maintains substance use disorder and needs.
- Increase your child's ability to make positive choices about substances.
- Acquire practical conversation tools for discussing substances in the home.

**Participants must register in advance** due to limited capacity. Session dates are:

- February 20, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST - [Click here to Register](#)
- February 22, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST – [Click here to Register](#)
- February 28, 6:00 – 7:30 pm PST - [Click here to Register](#)

Email the Mental Health and Substance Use Branch at [educ.mentalhealth@gov.bc.ca](mailto:educ.mentalhealth@gov.bc.ca) with any questions.

# Daily Lunch available @ EES

Our daily lunch program is underway and while we have experienced some hiccups along the way in launching this new program, we are grateful to be able to provide meals at school for students.

Our dedicated PAC continues to offer Hot Lunch on specific Fridays. Ordering for both programs will be done through Munch-a-Lunch, however, it will be through separate accounts.

\*\*Please note that the ability to order lunches is a week prior to the date of the lunch.

<b>EES Lunch Program</b> (daily lunch)	<b>EES PAC Hot Lunches</b> (select Fridays only)
<a href="#">Errington School Meals</a> If you already have a PAC account use: <a href="#">ADD Errington School</a>	<a href="#">PAC Hot Lunches</a>

## KEY DATES

**FEBRUARY**  
 14 - Dance Party with DJ Connor  
 19 - BC Family Day (no school)  
 28 - Pink Shirt Day + Assembly

**MARCH**  
 1 - Pro-D Day (no school)  
 15 - Last day of school before Spring Break

**APRIL**  
 2 - School reopens  
 29 - Pro-D Day (no school)

**MAY**  
 17 - Conferencing Adjustment Day (no school)  
 20 - Victoria Day (no school)

**JUNE**  
 27 - Final day of school - early dismissal

## Community Programs & Events

We get numerous advertisements for community programs and opportunities to include in newsletters. Please click on the link below to view the events/programs offered within the community – access is via the Qualicum School District Community Page:

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

### RDN – REC Connect

RDN Recreation and Parks offers programs and services year-round.  
 Link: <https://www.getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect>

Information for Families:

- [Family Accident Reimbursement Plan](#)