



# YOU "OTTER" KNOW

September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>



## Welcome Back!

Bonjour Oceanside Families! ‘uy skweyul!

We hope you are enjoying the last few days of summer holidays. We are so happy to welcome all our new and returning students back to school next week! Here’s a little bit about us:

My name is Jennifer Nichols, and I’m excited to be stepping into the role of Principal at Ecole Oceanside. I have been in Education for 25+ years. I started my career in Coquitlam, where I taught Kindergarten through Grade 8 and worked as a Teacher Librarian before moving into school leadership. I served as Vice Principal at a Middle School and Principal at an Elementary School before moving to beautiful Vancouver Island with my family. For the past year and a half, I’ve been part of the Oceanside team as Vice Principal and have really enjoyed getting to know the students, staff, and parents. This is an amazing community!

My name is Mark McInnes and I am happy to join Ecole Oceanside as the Vice-principal this year. I appreciate all the warmth and kindness I have received from the staff and parents I have met so far, and I can already tell how wonderful a community this is! I am originally from Gold River on the north end of the island, and have spent the last 10 years working at Qualicum Beach Elementary as a classroom teacher, Teacher Librarian, district STREAM teacher, and since 2020, Vice-principal. I look forward to meeting the students on Tuesday!

Each Friday, we’ll be sending out a weekly newsletter to keep you updated on what’s happening around our school. **You will need to sign up for all future newsletters [here](#) (black banner at the bottom of page).** If you prefer, our Newsletters will also be posted on our [Oceanside website](#).


Looking forward to a wonderful year of learning, discovery and fun! GO OTTERS GO!  
Jennifer Nichols and Mark McInnes

## Reconnect Week

For our first week back, we’re focusing on bringing our community together through *Reconnect Week at Oceanside*. Students will have the chance to meet others from different classes and grades, play cooperative games, engage in community art, spend time getting to know our staff. It’s a meaningful way to start the year by building a sense of connection and belonging across the school.

On **Tuesday, Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>**, your child will return to their classroom from last year. Please note that our bell schedule has changed slightly from last year and school will now start at 9:00. New students will meet in the Library to be welcomed and given a tour. On Tuesday, all students will receive a slip of paper indicating their NEW colour group (which may have changed from last year) and the classroom they will go to starting on Wednesday. From Wednesday to Friday, students will stay with their colour group teacher for reconnect activities. Our plan is to have students move into their new classrooms on Friday afternoon.

Kindergarten parents: please follow the gradual entry schedule send home from the Kindergarten teachers.

MONDAY		Labour Day – Enjoy your last day of summer vacation
TUESDAY Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup> 	9:00 11:51	Students return to last year’s classroom Dismissal: Students will bring home a notice with their new Colour Group and information for the week.
WEDNESDAY Sept 3 <sup>rd</sup>	9:00 2:51	Students go to Colour Homeroom Reconnect activities throughout the day Dismissal
THURSDAY Sept 4 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 2:51 Evening	Students go to Colour Homeroom Reconnect activities throughout the day Dismissal Teachers will send email to parents, welcoming new students to their classrooms
FRIDAY Sept 5 <sup>th</sup>	9:00 9:30 Afternoon 2:51	Students return to Colour Homeroom Colour Cheers on the Field or Gym (Weather dependent) Students move to new classrooms Dismissal



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## Class Placement

We plan to have all students report to their new classrooms on Friday. As in previous years, families will be receiving an email from their new classroom teacher on Thursday evening with further information. If you do not receive an email please come to the office on Friday morning.

The placement of students in classrooms takes considerable time and thought. Our class placement process started last spring and involved all of the educators who worked with your child. The staff has worked extremely hard to place ALL children in the best possible classroom environments. If you would like to speak with the admin team about your child's class placement, we ask that you wait until the week of Sept 15<sup>th</sup> to arrange a meeting. We will be unable to take any classroom placement change requests until then. Thank you!

## Bells & Supervision

Our school bell rings to start school at 9:00 and end school at 2:51. We kindly ask that all students and parents/guardians remain outside until the bell rings each morning, however, our school doors will be open before and after these times for students to access the bathrooms or the office.

Please note that supervision will take place every morning from **8:40 – 9:00** and after school from **2:51-3:11pm**.

## School Supplies

School supplies have been pre-purchased by the school and families are required to pay \$50. If classroom teachers use the Agendas, there will be an additional cost of \$5 each. Payment for school supplies is through our School Cash Online or at the school office before September 20th. More information can be found on our website.

## Visitors in the School

Understandably, the first week of school is busy for the students, staff, and families. We kindly ask that parents/guardians minimize entering the school during start up. In the event of inquiries, emergencies or meetings, we ask that you check in at the office.

In order to keep our school safe, all visitors working in the school will be asked to wear a visitor's badge. Please check in at the office if you are volunteering in the school.

## Mark your Calendar – Important Upcoming Dates

Sept 10 <sup>th</sup> :	First Full day for our Kindergartens
Sept 12 <sup>th</sup> :	PAC Welcome to EOES Coffee and Tea for new Kindergarten parents (Kindergarten Playground) Terry Fox Run (Time TBA)
Sept 18 <sup>th</sup> :	4:00 – 5:30 Open House 5:30 – 6:00 Grade 7 Parent Meeting 3:00 – 6:00 First Annual EOES Community Picnic
Sept 23 <sup>rd</sup> :	Individual Picture Day
Sept 24 <sup>th</sup> :	11:00 Truth and Reconciliation Assembly
Sept 25 <sup>th</sup> :	6:30 PAC Meeting in the Library
Sept 26 <sup>th</sup> :	Orange Shirt Day
Sept 29 <sup>th</sup> :	District Pro D Day (No School)
Sept 30 <sup>th</sup> :	Truth and Reconciliation Day (No School)

## New Bell Schedule

9:00 School Begins  
10:40 – 11:00 Recess  
12:45 – 1:20 Lunch Recess  
2:51 Dismissal

*The Qualicum School District resides on Coast Salish Territory and within the shared territory of the Snaw'naw;as and Qualicum First Nations*