



# Qualicum Beach Elementary School

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October 27, 2023

## Important Dates to Remember

Tuesday, October 31	School Halloween activities: costume parade, classroom activities / games
Wednesday, Nov 1	School Picture Re-takes (AM)
Monday, November 6	Indigenous Map of Canada visits QBES
Thursday, November 9	School Remembrance Day Ceremony 10:00
Friday, November 10	Conferencing Adjustment Day – No School
Monday, November 13	Stat Holiday for Remembrance Day – No School
Tuesday, November 14	School Based Pro-D Day – No School
Friday, November 24	Science Spectacular – school-wide presentation - Thank You PAC!

## Picture Re-take Day



By now you have received your Lifetouch proofs. Our **Re-take date** is the morning of **November 1**. Please note that, in the past, **class photos** have been provided to all students free-of-charge. This year, a class photo will be provided only with each photo package order. Should families be interested in a class photo only, these can be ordered with your Lifetouch code at a cost of \$10.00.

## Halloween Activities

Tuesday, October 31 is an exciting day at school! Children are welcome to dress in their Halloween costumes. Costumes that include **weapons or violence (including blood)** are **not suitable** for school. **Masks** are fun for the activities but can be a safety hazard for some (on the stairs, etc.) and may need to be removed at times throughout the day.



The Leadership class is organizing a Halloween parade and dance battle. Special classroom activities are also being planned for each class so stay tuned to your class communications for details. Note that home-baked goodies are not for sharing in schools, but store-bought and wrapped goodies are okay on this special day. If unsure, please check with your child's teacher before sending.

## Halloween Candy at School

Following the big night, please limit your child's **maximum of two** candy items each day in your



candy consumption at school by sending a child's lunch and snack bag.

## From the World of Pokemon



There's lots of enthusiasm for Pokémon cards these days – collecting them, displaying them, trading them, and socializing over them. Students who share this hobby are deriving some positive benefits. Unfortunately, incidences of unfair trading (even stealing) are on the increase. Networking tells us that some schools have said "No" to Pokemon altogether.

Before taking that step, the QBES staff has said "Yes" to a supervised Pokémon Club. Starting next week, Pokemon cards will remain at home or in backpacks except for Tuesday and Thursday afternoon recess when The **QBES Pokemon Collectors' Club** will meet in the MPR. All Collectors are welcome ... starting Thursday, Nov 2.

## Indigenous Map Coming to QBES

On Monday, November 6 the Indigenous **Peoples Atlas of Canada** coming to QBES. It will be set up in the MPR and classes can visit. All idea of Canada's main landforms. The map also shows the languages and some of the migration routes followed by the ancestors and more. Indigenous Education liaison, Katie Amos, for coordinating this learning opportunity through the RCMP.



**Giant Floor Map** is students will get an spoken in each area Thank you to our

## A Note From the Principal, Ms McKinnon



As the cooler weather settles in, we continue to enjoy sunny skies (for the most part). We haven't missed a recess yet this school year and most students are well-prepared no matter which weather pattern hits us. Rubber boots have been handy and fewer jackets are being shed out on the play fields as students snuggle into their warmer layers. Parents, **thank you for thinking of everything** ... including those extra socks, underwear or pants that ride around in the bottom of the backpack "just in case"!

Staff enjoyed a rich and varied day of learning on Friday, October 20. This was the Provincial Professional Development Day for all BC Educators. Some of us traveled to attend conferences related to an area of special interest, while others joined conferences remotely. As a staff we are really zero-ing in on our Literacy programs which is obviously an integral part of learning during the elementary years. We will be working together on this goal at our next **School-Based Professional Learning Day** which is coming up on **November 14**.

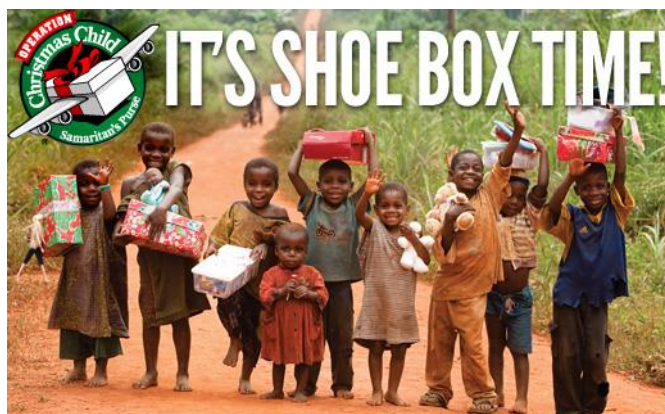
Finally, thanks for turning out in high numbers for **Parent Teacher Conferences** last week. Research literature indicates time and again a positive correlation between parent involvement in a child's education and academic performance as well as social-emotional development. By consistently attending Parent-Teacher meetings, you of course satisfy your own curiosity about how things are going at school, but you also become a partner when you come to understand the teacher's routines and expectations so that you can promote and support that work at home. How lucky your child is to have home and school working together to support them!

If you missed the chance to conference during our official week, please reach out to your child's teacher today to arrange a conference. I know they would love to meet with you.

I need to give a big shout out to our **QBES PAC**. When all the usual farms outlets were sold out of pumpkins this year, our determined PAC executive called around and secured 150 pumpkins that students will enjoy carving in the days ahead. They have also agreed to sponsor "**Science Spectacular**" that will be coming to the school next month. Teachers appreciate the classroom funds that are now in place for all of the "extras". There are several fundraisers in the works to pay for all of that – and more – so thanks for supporting their fundraising efforts.

## QBES Packs Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes

This year QBES Leadership class is out in front and taking the lead on donations for Operation Christmas Child – also known as "**The Shoebox Program**". They have distributed two shoeboxes to every classroom and are hoping that families will donate small items to fill them up. The shoeboxes are then shipped to faraway places (several African and South American countries) and delivered to children in need.



If you are interested in donating to your child's class shoebox, consider sending a **toy** (a jump rope, ball, car, yo-yo, or cuddly stuffy), **school supply item** (pen, pencils, crayons, coloring book, etc.) or an **accessory** (t-shirt, socks, hair clips, flashlight, flip flops, etc.). Note that candy, toothpaste, liquids / gels, war-related toys, and food are not accepted. The deadline for shoebox donations is earlier than you may expect: **November 15**.

\*Full disclosure: Operation Christmas Child is coordinated by Samaritan's Purse, a Christian organization. QBES participates on a secular basis.

## Free Books for Pre-Schoolers



### **FREE Books for Preschoolers!**

THE WONDERFUL WORLD of BOOKS

<https://thewonderfulworldofbooks.com/>

For children born in **2021** and living in Qualicum School District #69

(Bowser to Nanoose Bay)

**Register By November 15th**

**Email: [wwbeec@gmail.com](mailto:wwbeec@gmail.com)**

- Child's Name
- Birthdate
- Parents' Name
- Home Address
- Postal Address
- Phone Number

Further information will be emailed to you!

Children receive free books in the year they turn three years old. One book per month is delivered for two years from January 2024 to December 2025

## Criminal Record Checks

If you plan to volunteer with your child's class on a field trip, outdoor ed, or other activity, you will require a CRC on file with our office. Please email the office at [qualicumbeach@sd69.bc.ca](mailto:qualicumbeach@sd69.bc.ca) for a letter and application form.

## Community Events/Programs and Information Link

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