



Qualicum Beach Elementary School

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October 3, 2023

Important Dates to Remember

Monday, October 2	Stat Holiday for National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No school
Tuesday, October 3	First PAC Popcorn Day (Order through Hot Lunch website)
Wednesday, October 4	Parent-Teacher Conference Booking opens
Thursday, October 5	Individual Picture and Class Photo Day
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving Monday – No School
Thursday, October 12	Fire Prevention / Fire Safety Day – QB Firefighters visit
October 16 - 19	Parent-Teacher Conferences at QBES
Friday, October 20	Provincial Professional Development Day – No School

School Picture Day – October 5

This Thursday, October 5 is Picture Day at QBES. Lifetouch is sending 3 photographers to capture individual smiles indoors and – weather permitting – the class will be photographed altogether outside.

After the photos are complete, parents will preview and make their selections online. No money will be collected at school. Information packages will be sent home.

Meet the Teacher Night Well Attended

Despite the unpredictable weather, staff report that more than half of all of our families were able to come out on September 19 to Meet the Teacher Night at QBES. The PAC Welcome Back Picnic was repositioned to the front of the school and made use of the gym and MPR for games and eating spaces. A few parents jumped on the barbecue and pizza and many enjoyed the great cuisine offered from a pair of local food trucks. Thanks to all who attended and a special shout-out to PAC for bringing the school community together!



Parent – Teacher Conferences Are Coming!

Over the week of October 16 to 19 staff are making themselves available to conference with parents. This is earlier than in recent years. We have always reported on 5 points of progress, but this year is a bit different as Teachers will provide 3 written reports (December, March & June) and 2 in-person conferences (October & April). Parent – Teacher conferences in the fall are the first best opportunity you get to really talk about your child's learning. What strengths has the teacher noticed? What goals is your child setting for their learning? What examples of learning have been produced already? Stay engaged in your child's learning by booking your conference on our school webpage under Online Parent/Teacher Appointment Booking or follow [THIS LINK](#). This link is live tomorrow, Wednesday, October 4 for you to begin booking your appointments.

A Note From the Principal, Ms McKinnon



The month of September has certainly raced past us and as we settle into the routines of the school year I am often reminded of our good fortune to live in this beautiful place. I spend many hours outside on recess supervision and watch your children run and play and climb and swing surrounded by forest and ocean under a wide sky. We are truly blessed to live here and share in this generous and caring school community.

On Friday it was great that so many students acknowledging Orange Shirt Day here at school. Hopefully your family used the National Day of Truth & Reconciliation to participate in some remembrance or any act of listening or learning that helps move Canada forward. Personally, I spent some time listening to some of CBC's informative and reflective stories including the repatriation of the Nisga'a memorial pole that had been in a museum in Scotland for nearly one hundred years. As a nation, we certainly have more work to do.

We have exploratory classes up and running for Grade 5 to 7 students. This is a big part of the culture of this school. As we watch the Mountain Biking group head out all geared up, the Rock & Pop Band starts tuning up down the hall, and the Photography class walks by with their iPads in search of the perfect shot. Students in the Shop are finishing up their safety training, the smell of fresh-baked muffins comes wafting down the hall, there is coding happening on the Library computers and shouts of excitement coming from the gym. I can't wait to see what the Leadership and Musical Theatre classes are planning and rehearsing!

Although it feels as though you were just here on September 19, we invite you back the week of October 16 to 19 to have a more meaningful conversation with your child's teacher. Sharing your understanding of your child and your aspirations for their learning helps the teacher plan and guide the next steps. Take the opportunity to partner with your child's teacher and to take a look at some of the evidence of learning that is already happening in the classrooms. From Kindergarten to Grade 7, I know you will be impressed at what your child is learning at QBES. By all means, YES, your child can be part of the conversation with you and their teacher!

Our New Indigenous Liaison is Here!

A big welcome to our newest staff member, Katie Amos. Katie has joined the staff from her last stop-off as a pre-school teacher here in Qualicum. She hails from Sechelt and Cowichan Coast Salish heritage. Katie will be at QBES on Tuesdays and Thursdays all year. Katie will work with classroom teachers and she is happy to work with individual or small groups of students on cultural activities. If your family would like to reach out to Katie her contact is kamos@sd69.bc.ca.



QBES Recognizes Orange Shirt Day

QBES students dressed in orange on Friday September 29 to mark Orange Shirt Day and show support for the Truth & Reconciliation that is happening with First Nations across Canada. The Leadership class hung a GIANT orange shirt in the foyer and each class received a beautiful framed orange shirt to display. A drone was deployed from the STREAM program to capture an aerial photo of everyone outside where many of the orange shirts were visible despite the rainy weather.



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

- 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 for a letter and application form.

Community Events/Programs and Information Link

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