



Qualicum Beach Newsletter



**'UY SKWEYUL
SI:EM NU SIYEYU
E:NTHU PE' CORLEEN MCKINNON NU SKWISH
TUN' NI' CUN' UTL QUALICUM BEACH
'I KWUMLUXW 'UTL MANITOBA I ONTARIO I GERMANY I
SCOTLAND
'UY QWUNUS 'I LUMNALU**

Dear Families,

Welcome back after what we hope was a refreshing Spring Break holiday. Everyone seems happy to be back into the routines of school and seeing friends again.

Growing our students' capacities for Social Thinking is one of our school goals. We continue to be a WITS school, meaning we are committed to providing a school environment where everyone feels safe, included, and respected through teaching WITS. The acronym stands for Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out, Seek Help. The goal of the WITS Program is to empower students to make safe, positive decisions. Here is how you can incorporate the WITS language into your home:

- Talk about the four W.I.T.S strategies: Ask your child what WITS stands for and what each part means.
- Discuss scenarios: After your child experiences a conflict, ask, "How could you have used your W.I.T.S there?"
- Read together: Check out W.I.T.S-Pick books listed on the WITS website and available at school. These books focus on social-emotional themes.

Reading picture books together is also a powerful way to build empathy and strengthen children's "W.I.T.S" Stories allow children to see situations from different perspectives, recognize feelings in others, and think through how characters solve problems. As you read, pause to ask questions like, "How do you think that character feels?" or "What could they do differently?" to help your child make connections to real-life situations.

Yours,

Corleen McKinnon





Readathon

This year's read-a-thon was a BIG success!
Thank you to PAC who provided the prizes and counted up all
the minutes

(See below!)

AND

Thank you to parents for the diligent record keeping!
Over \$3500 was raised and this will be directed to future
playground expansion projects!

AND

To all the QBES students who participated by reading,
reading, reading!

Congratulations!

Together you read 113,106 minutes.

That's 1885 hours or 79 days!

Pizza Party Winners:

K-3 Mrs. Woods' class 17452 minutes

4-7 Mr. Wilson's class 18794 minutes



Welcoming Kindergarten Students On-Line Kindergarten Registration for 2026-27 is now OPEN!



Read more [HERE](#).



Did you know ...

The QBES Wellness Hub
offers food, social connection and counselling services?

Please contact the office for further information.





SAFETY PROTOCOL

Reminder that adults are asked to enter QBES through the **front door** to check in at the office. Staff need to know who is inside the building. Authorized visitors are issued an identifying approved "Visitor" badge.



Please ensure that students are **ALWAYS** signed out at the office for appointments, early dismissals, or any other early departures. This procedure is essential for maintaining student safety.



DRESS FOR THE WEATHER!

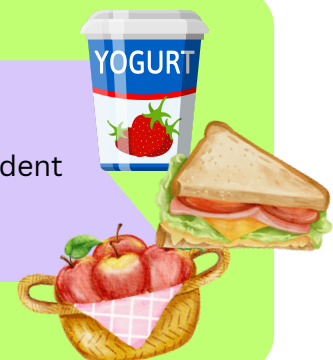
Spring showers have arrived and our QBES field can get very muddy! Please remember to send your student with a **change of clothes** in their backpack.

At QBES we enjoy outside recess in all types of weather and it helps to be prepared!



WE FEED HUNGRY KIDS!

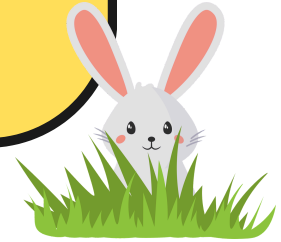
QBES offers lunches and snacks to any student who needs food any day of the week.



Cross Country Volunteers Needed!

A large contingent of volunteers are needed Friday May 8th (8:30 - 12:30) to support the District Cross Country Meet (CRC required).

For further details please contact QBES PE Teacher, Mr. Tom Higgs at:
thiggs@sd69.bc.ca



PETE THE CAT

FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL FAIR

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2026

5:00PM - 7:00PM

**OCEANSIDE PLACE ARENA
830 WEST ISLAND HWY, PARKSVILLE**

**BOOK YOUR
SPOT!**



Registration is appreciated but drop-ins are welcome!

www.oblt.ca

- Meet Pete the Cat
- Climb aboard a school bus
- Free fun activities
- Parent resources
- and lots more...



Ministry of
Education and
Child Care



Climb Aboard the WOW Bus!

- Qualicum Beach (4 Poles)** – April 1st @ 10am – 11:30am
- Nanoose Place Community Centre** – April 9th @ 2pm – 3:30pm
- Springwood Park** – April 15th @ 10:15am – 11:30am
- Oceanside Community Church** – April 16th @ 2:30pm – 4pm
- Qualicum Bay Resort** – April 22nd @ 10am – 11:30am

WOW Bus is a free drop-in outreach program for children from birth to kindergarten age and their adult. Families are invited to climb aboard the WOW Bus and join us for healthy snacks, playtime, songs, and stories.

Check out our website for more details about the WOW Bus and other free early years programs: www.oblt.ca





R S L

Ready, Set, Learn!

Ready, Set, Learn is a free drop-in program for children from birth to kindergarten age and their caregiver with the intent of supporting children's transitions into school.

WHY ATTEND?

- Give your child a confident start to kindergarten.
- Build early skills through fun play, stories, songs, and art.
- Meet local families and school staff.
- Help your child feel comfortable in their future school.
- Get tips and resources from **Early Childhood Educators**.

Check out our website
to book your spot:
www.oblt.ca



Ready, Set, Learn sessions are free for families and are funded by the BC Ministry of Education and Child Care.

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/early-learning/support/programs/ready-set-learn>

To access other helpful early learning resources, check out the Early Learning Framework: A Guide for Families, which was created by the BC Ministry of Education and Childcare

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/education/early-learning/teach/earlylearning/elt-a-guide-for-families.pdf>



Check out our website for more information:

www.oblt.ca



admin@oblt.ca
(250) 947-8252



BIRTH TO KINDERGARTEN

Follow us on social media:
@OceansideBLT



What is Ready, Set, Learn?

Ready, Set, Learn is a free, drop-in program for children from birth to kindergarten age and their caregiver.

Led by licensed Early Childhood Educators, the program invites families to local elementary schools in the Oceanside area, offering a welcoming space for learning, play, and connection. Facilitators support children as they build skills and confidence to help ease their transition into school.



Why attend?

- Help prepare your child for a successful transition to kindergarten right from birth.
- Support your young child's early learning and development through play and hands-on activities such as reading, singing, creating art, and exploring together.
- Give your child a sense of familiarity and confidence by becoming part of the school community.
- Connect with other families in your neighbourhood and within your child's catchment area, and take the opportunity to meet the school staff.
- Access Early Childhood Educators who can answer questions and provide guidance to community resources.



How do I register?

- Ready, Set, Learn sessions are **FREE** for children birth to kindergarten and their caregiver.
- Registration is appreciated but drop-ins are always welcome.
- Monthly schedules are posted at: <https://oblt.ca/calendar> and sessions can be booked weekly.
- Follow us on social media @OceansideBLT for updates.
- Each local elementary school hosts 1-2 sessions per month.
- Families are welcome to attend sessions at any school regardless of catchment area.



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Ready, Set, Learn!

Ecole Oceanside Elementary – April 7th & 21st @ 9:10am–10:10am

Bowser Elementary – April 13th @ 10:30am–11:30am

Errington Elementary – April 13th @ 1pm–2pm

Arrowview Elementary – April 15th & 22nd @ 1:30pm–2:30pm

Springwood Elementary – April 17th @ 9:30am–10:30am

Qualicum Beach Elementary – April 20th @ 10:30am–11:30am

Nanoose Bay Elementary – April 24th @ 10:30am–11:30am

**Ready, Set, Learn is a free drop-in program for children
from birth to kindergarten age and their
parents/caregivers with the intent of supporting
children's transitions into school.**

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PHOTO, VIDEO & ART CONTEST FOR CANADIAN INDIGENOUS YOUTH

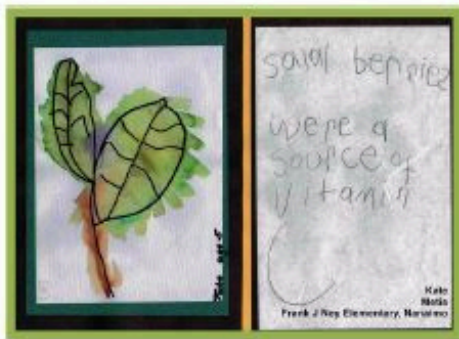


Celebrating the rich cultural & heritage traditions of Indigenous people, FORED sponsors this annual contest with cash prizes for Indigenous youth.

Theme: **Traditional Knowledge & Medicine** Prize: **4 x \$150 prizes** with at least one national winner. *Group work shares prize.* 💰

DEADLINE:
MAY 22, 2026

Interview a local elder about homemade salal tea on video? All creativity is welcomed.



Contest Details: Use our easy [website entry form](#). Entries may be mailed to address at bottom.

- Eligibility: youths aged 5-18 of First Nations, Inuit, Métis, or self-declared ancestry.
 - Participants must include their name, band affiliation/ancestry, home address, phone & email, parent & teacher contact, grade & school on [website entry form](#) or by mail.
 - Please include a brief description of how your artwork relates to traditional knowledge and medicine.
 - **DEADLINE: May 22/26**
- All original work accepted: i.e. crayon, paint, collage, photos, animations, videos etc. (.jpg, .pdf, .png, .mp4, .MOV). Minimum image size 2MB. Videos must be less than 3 min. Please have someone take a photo of you with your artwork if possible.
 - By entering, winners agree their names & entries can be published in local & social media, or displayed on BC Ministry of Education sites for Indigenous People's Day & our [website](#).
 - All entrants qualify for complimentary, honorary youth membership. No commercial use of entries.
 - Mailed entries won't be returned. Only winners will be notified.
 - See how Indigenous volunteer mentors integrate traditional knowledge into natural resources practices on our [YouTube](#). [Follow us on social @foredbc](#).
 - Complimentary teacher & youth activities by age group on Indigenous culture available [here](#).

Questions? Email education@foredbc.org.

FORED BC is a charitable association established in 1925. We work with volunteers on community-based sustainability projects. We thank our generous donors; the Province of BC & the Vancouver Foundation.



#213 - 4481 W.10th Ave. Vancouver, BC V6R 4R8
P: 604-737-8555 E: info@foredbc.org W: foredbc.org

Support balanced **education** about our **environment** & sustainable **natural resources**. Trusted since 1925.





Brant Wildlife Family Festival



Sunday, April 12, 2026

12:30 PM – 3:00 PM

Oceanside Place


830 West Island Highway • Parksville 

- ✓ Free Skating & Rentals
- ✓ Face Painting
- ✓ Light Show with Music
by DJ Connor
- ✓ Educational Displays & Activities

Fundraiser supporting the
SD69 School Food Program!

Helping provide healthy meals for local students

**Bring your family & friends for a fun day of games,
music, and skating while supporting our community!**



BRANT
WILDLIFE
FESTIVAL

www.mabr.ca/brantfestival

MOUNT
ARROWSMITH
BIOSPHERE REGION



CALENDAR OF DATES

Fri Apr 3	Good Friday - No school
Mon Apr 6	Easter Monday - No school
Mon Apr 13	Class Photos
Tue April 21 - Thu April 23	Student-Led Conferences
Wed Apr 22	Earth Day - lunch picnic
Thur May 7	Grade 7 Health Fair
Wed May 13	Moose Hide Assembly and Walk
Thu May 14	MATA PD Day - No school
Fri May 15	Conference Adjustment Day - no school
Mon May 18	Victoria Day - No school
Thur May 28	Science World visits QBES
Fri June 19	Reports Home
Tue June 16	Full School Beach Day
Tue June 23	Grade 7 Celebration Event
Wed June 24	Shriner's Pancake Breakfast
Thu June 25	Farewell Assembly
Thu June 25	Last day for students - Early dismissal
Fri June 26	Administration Day



IMPORTANT LINKS

Please take a moment to click on the links below to familiarize yourself with important school information:

[**QBES Code of Conduct**](#)

[**QBES Enhancing Student Learning Plan**](#)

[**Fair Notice Letter**](#)

[**QBES Student Hot Lunch**](#)

[**School Cash Online**](#)

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:

[**Community Information Programs and Events**](#)

