



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**

So many things are taking shape at the school these days. We have been celebrating kindness all month (a staff-led project) and the decorations are plentiful, showing ways that our students have demonstrated kindness - or ways that they could. On Wednesday of next week we will observe Pink Shirt Day by wearing pink and gathering for a short assembly.

Meanwhile, the students have been learning a lot about various Olympic sports and enjoying some of the competitions. The Olympic theme infuses our Read-a-Thon challenges as well with students earning bronze, silver, and gold levels and, ultimately, some fun prizes and Olympic themed activities (see Read-a-thon info below).

Speaking of sports, our Grade 6 and 7 volleyball teams are really enjoying their season. Weekly game days against other schools are the highlight. Our school has been chosen as the host school for both the boys and girls district tournaments in the week of March leading into spring break.

Another big event is the Brant Wildlife Children's Festival that QBES is hosting on Thursday March 5 in the gym. Many classes are participating by submitting a sustainability-themed project. The gym will be open after school that day if you would like to come and take a look.

Teachers have also been busy preparing a summary of learning for each student. These will go home on March 5 and will provide that important descriptive feedback so necessary for students to understand the steps they need to take to reach proficiency in their skills.

And before we know it we will be on Spring Break coming up March 16 - 27 with fairer weather ahead.



Pink Shirt Day Feb. 25th, 2026
We encourage our students to wear
a pink shirt on Feb. 25th to promote
kindnes and inclusion in our schools.

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



Read more [HERE](#).





BC Student Learning Survey

Parents of Gr.4 & Gr.7 students,
Your Voice Matters.

Please complete the BC Student
Learning Survey (SLS) by clicking on
the link below:

[BC Student Learning Survey](#)

(Information has been emailed to Gr. 4
& Gr. 7 families)



DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME



Remember to adjust your clocks forward
by one hour before going to bed on

Saturday March 7th, 2026

(Spring forward)



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!

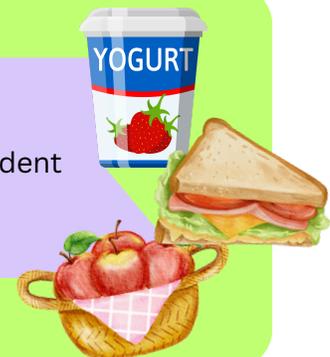
Winter weather is still with us and our QBES field can get very muddy! Please remember to send your student with a **change of clothes** in their backpack.

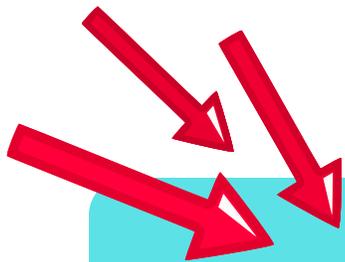
At QBES we enjoy outside recess in all types of weather and it helps to be prepared!



WE FEED HUNGRY KIDS!

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





The QBES Read-a-Thon
is underway until Mar. 8th and
our students are avidly reading!
There are both
individual & class prizes
to be won!



Did you know ...

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

Please contact the office for further information.





Qualicum School District

2026-2027 Budget Development Survey



The Qualicum School District Board of Education follows an annual Budget Development process each school year in order to establish the final annual budget for submission to the Ministry of Education.

To support the Qualicum School District Board of Education in their decision making during the annual Budget Development process, they are seeking input from educational partners, including administrators, employees, parents/caregivers, students and community members, to help inform priorities for the 2026/27 school district budget.

This short survey focuses on understanding what matters most to partners and where funding could make the biggest differences for students. Your responses are anonymous and will be shared in summary form with the Board.

Click [HERE](#) to access the 2026-2027 Budget Development Survey



A message from Lifetouch Photographers:

Here are the dates and times for our upcoming community Pop Up Studio days.

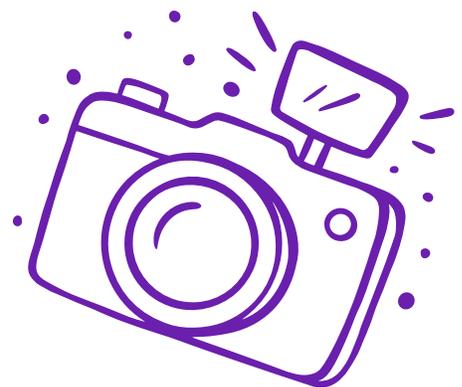
**Please take note of which appointment you are booking.
Fall retakes are the individual school photo for grades K to 12.**

Qualicum and Nanaimo area Pop Up Studio

**4355 Jingle Pot Rd,
Nanaimo, BC V9T 5P4**

**Fall Retake session
March 11th and 12th 9:00am to 3:00pm.**

[Booking Link](#)



News from the library!

The **QBES Olympic Reading Challenge** started
February 6th.

Challenges have been sent home by classroom teachers. Our reading challenge is
a great way to also support the **PAC Read-A-Thon.**

Let's get reading, QBES!

FEBRUARY 6 - MARCH 2

Qualicum Beach Elementary's Reading Olympics

*OUR GOAL IS TO COLLECT
200 MEDALS, AT LEAST
50 OF THOSE SILVER
AND 20 GOLD*

*MEDAL WINNERS WILL HAVE
A CHANCE TO CHALLENGE
A TEACHER IN OLYMPIC
EVENTS DURING OUR
SCHOOL OLYMPICS.*

*200 MEDALS = 2 OLYMPIC EVENTS
225 = 3 OLYMPIC EVENTS
250 = 4 OLYMPIC EVENTS
275 = 5 OLYMPIC EVENTS
300 = 5 OLYMPIC EVENTS AND
OUTSIDE CHALLENGES TOO!*

SCHOOL EVENT: BOBSLEDDING (WITH SCOOTERS)

SCHOOL EVENT: BIATHLON (WITH PIES)

SCHOOL EVENT: HOCKEY CHALLENGE
AND MORE TO COME!

**SHOW YOUR
SPIRIT - READ!**



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!



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

Registration is appreciated but drop-ins are welcome!

www.oblt.ca



Ministry of Education and Child Care



Climb Aboard the WOW Bus!

Coombs Fairgrounds – Feb. 4th @ 10am – 11:30am

Springwood Park – Feb. 5th @ 1:15pm – 2:45pm

Qualicum Beach (4 Poles) – Feb. 11th @ 10am – 11:30am

Nanoose Place Community Centre – Feb. 12th @ 2pm – 3:30pm

Family Day Event @ Coombs Fairgrounds – Feb. 16th @ 1pm – 4pm

Errington Community Park – Feb. 18th @ 10:15am – 11:30am

Oceanside Community Church – Feb. 19th @ 2:30pm – 4pm

Meadowood Community Park – Feb. 25th @ 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



**DID YOU
KNOW?**



Ready, Set, Learn!

Qualicum Beach Elementary – Feb. 2nd & 23rd @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Springwood Elementary – Feb. 6th & 20th @ 9:30am – 10:30am
Bowser Elementary – Feb. 9th @ 10:30am – 11:30am
Errington Elementary – Feb. 9th & 23rd @ 1pm – 2pm
Arrowview Elementary – Feb. 11th & 25th @ 1:30pm – 2:30pm
Ecole Oceanside Elementary – Feb. 17th & 24th @ 9:10am – 10:10am
Nanoose Bay Elementary – Feb. 27th @ 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.**

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





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](https://twitter.com/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](https://twitter.com/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.



parent workshop

Inclusive Classrooms

**What They Are, Why They're
Complex, and How Families
Can Support Them**



This parent-friendly workshop helps families better understand inclusive classrooms, why they can feel challenging at times, and how families can support inclusion in meaningful, realistic ways.

Sunday, March 8

4:00- 5:30 pm

In this session, parents will:

- A clearer understanding of what inclusive classrooms are and why complexity is part of the reality
- Insight into how inclusive classrooms impact students, peers, educators, and families
- Practical ways families can support inclusion through conversations at home and respectful school partnerships

Facilitated by Carly Eirikson

Inclusive education & school leadership

This session is intended to be informative and supportive of inclusive education. It does not provide guidance on individual student situations or specific school-based decisions.



Hosted by your DPAC

parent workshop

Inclusive Classrooms

What They Are, Why They're Complex, and How Families Can Support Them



Date: Sunday, March 8, 2026

Time: 4:00–5:30 pm

Location: Live on Zoom

Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88484127588?pwd=SjsAaCbRDhWetw838cLjxQHsLiSlBQ.1>

This parent-friendly session supports families in better understanding inclusive classrooms, why complexity is part of the reality, and how families can support inclusion in meaningful and realistic ways.

The session will explore:

- What inclusive classrooms are designed to support, and why complexity is expected
- How inclusive classrooms can impact students with IEPs, peers, educators, and families
- Practical ways families can support inclusion through home conversations and respectful school partnerships

The workshop will be facilitated by **Carly Eirikson**, who works in inclusive education and school leadership and has extensive experience supporting students, families, and school teams.

Important note:

This session is intended to support general understanding of inclusive education. It does not provide guidance on individual student situations, specific classrooms, or school-based decision-making.

Parents may submit general questions in advance (no individual student/classroom questions):

Deadline: Wednesday, March 4

Email: inclusivedesigninmind@gmail.com



NEW for Nanaimo in 2026!

KIDOVATE Market Day is Saturday, April 18th
Nanaimo North Town Centre Mall
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

About Kidovate

Kidovate is being offered in Nanaimo in 2026! Kidovate is a fun, FREE, youth entrepreneurship initiative of the University of Victoria's Gustavson School of Business. Last year 238 young entrepreneurs participated in Kidovate Victoria.

Anyone in grades 6-12 can participate! Registered youth receive access to a free table on Kidovate Market Day where they can sell goods or services that they make, re-purpose, or re-sell. Space is limited so register today at www.kidovate.ca

Participants receive a graphic novel-style workbook to help think through some of the key decisions Kidovate micro-entrepreneurs need to make. Participants can also be connected (virtually) with UVIC Business student mentors who help youth decide what to sell and how to sell it.

Questions? Check out our website at www.kidovate.ca or contact Dr. Brock Smith at smithb@uvic.ca

Follow us on Instagram @kidovate_nanaimo and on Facebook at KidovateNanaimo



THE POWER OF Stewardship

Celebrate local stewards and the knowledge of our diverse communities this International Mother Language Day!

Saturday Feb 21, 2026 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Qualicum Beach Civic Centre

9:00 am - Doors Open

9:30 am - "Importance of understanding the connections between history and language in relationship to place." Jesse Recalma Qualicum First Nations

10:45am - "Leaving a Legacy for Nature" Nancy Randall will work through all the stages and 14 different ways you can leave a legacy for nature.

- Celebrate International Mother Language Day
- Participate in interactive Q&A sessions
- Meet local stewardship organizations and sign up for memberships
- Learn about the Mid Island Stewardship Caucus www.mabr.ca/misc
- Discover ongoing and upcoming projects and how to get involved



Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region

124 West 2nd Ave Qualicum Beach

250-594-0405

www.mabr.ca



Mindfulness in May

The Art of Empathy and Kindness 2026

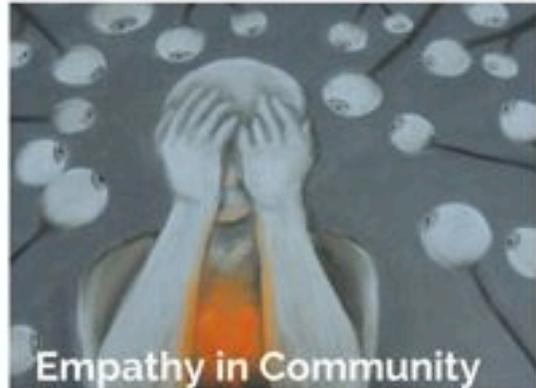
Open Call to Youth for Submissions

Grades 5-12 in SD 69 and Surrounding Area

Including Home Learners



Kindness for Nature



Empathy in Community

EARLY SUBMISSIONS BY **FEBRUARY 14TH** FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED ON THE EXHIBIT POSTERS AND WIN EXTRA PRIZES

Visual Art: drawing, fabric art, painting, mixed media, sculpture.
Literary Art: poetry, song, music. **Photography:** digital, and print.

ALL WORKS DUE BY MARCH 13TH

Submissions will be displayed at the Qualicum Library during BC Youth Week and National Mental Health Week

SUBMIT ONLINE HERE:

<https://mindfulmay.artistquarter.com/>

Sponsored By:



EXHIBITION: APRIL 28TH - MAY 10TH

For questions or more info, contact Diane at moraninthemoon@gmail.com

CALENDAR OF DATES

Mon Feb 23	Ready Set Learn
Wed Feb 25	Pink Shirt Day
Mon Mar 2	Ready Set Learn
Thu Mar 5	Brant Children's Festival (QBES Gym)
Fri Mar 6	Reports Home
Tue Mar 10	Dist Boys Vball Tournament at QBES
Wed Mar 11	Dist Girls Vball Tournament at QBES
March 16 - March 27	Spring Break
Mon Mar 30	School Reopens
Fri Apr 3	Good Friday - No school
Mon Apr 6	Easter Monday - No school
Tue April 21 - Thu April 23	Student-Led Conferences
Wed Apr 22	Earth Day
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
Fri June 19	Reports Home
Tue June 16	Beach Day
Wed June 24	Shriner's Pancake Breakfast
Thu June 25	Farewell Assembly
Thu June 25	Last day for students - Early dismissal

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](#)

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 Events](#)

