

Springwood Elementary School

Newsletter #1 September 5, 2025



Message from Principal

SES Families,

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer and are as excited as we are for the year ahead. It has been fantastic to see how smoothly our students have settled in—they've brought great energy and enthusiasm to the classrooms, setting a positive tone for the months to come. You may have noticed some construction work around the school. We're thrilled to share that our new playground is on its way and scheduled to be completed before Halloween. This will be a wonderful addition to our school community.

We would also like to invite you to our Open House on Wednesday, September 10th, from 5:00–6:00 p.m. This will be a great opportunity to meet staff, connect with other families, and see your child's learning environment.

As always, we encourage you to reach out to your child's teacher to introduce yourself and keep communication open. Strong connections between home and school help ensure the best possible experience for your child.

We hope your child has had a fantastic growth, and experiences ahead. Please way.

Sincerely,
Jesse Witte

we look forward to all the learning, h out if you need support along the

Parent Information

Early next week we will be sending home paper forms that need to be verified, filled out and sent back to the office as soon as possible. One is our emergency release form. Even though you fill this out every year, you MUST fill out a new one every year. Thank you for your help with this. You will also receive a verification form. Please review this form carefully to ensure we have all of your students information correct. Please mark up the changes that need to be made on the form provided and return it to the office. Thank you for helping us get off to a great start with the correct student information.

School Cash Online is now open to receive online payments for school supplies. If you are not familiar with this program and need a hand setting up your profile please call or stop by the office. Mrs. Nikirk can help you get set up. School Cash Online is a district wide payment platform that will be used as long as you have a student that attends school somewhere in Qualicum School District. You will receive emails for field trip payment, student fees, activities, prom. You name it, the schools use it for your convenience to pay online and help remove the hassle of trusting kids with cash and cheques. You can find the link for payment on Springwoods website or you can locate it here <https://qualicum.schoolcashionline.com/>

If you have a student in grade 3 or older you should have received an email from our Technology Department through a program called Permission click. This online form is requesting for your student to have access to the internet. All student online access is allowed until September 30th. At that point all student accounts will renew. If this digital form is not signed by September 30th then your student will lose access to their google classroom.



Bell Schedule 2024-2025

NEW Bell Schedule

- School in Session - 9:00 am
- Lunch Bell - kids go outside - 11:55 am
- Lunch Bell - kids come inside - 12:30 pm
- Afternoon Recess - kids go outside - 1:30 pm
- Afternoon Recess - kids come inside - 1:50 pm
- Dismissal Bell - 2:51 pm
- Outside Supervision Ends - 3:05 pm
- Office Hours - 8:00 am to 3:30 pm

Student Absences - Safe Arrival

*Dear School Families,
School District 69 is launching the SafeArrival component of the SchoolMessenger tool. This is a tool that provides multiple ways for parents to report absences when their child will be away and also speeds the process of reaching out to parents when a child is not at school. Please see the attached letter for details.*



In the attached letter you will see that regardless of which option you choose, you will need to provide information that you have provided to the school. Using the app or website will require you to create an account with your email address. Please use the email that the school has on file for you (the one you that is receiving this message). If you choose to use the phone system to report an absence you will be asked to provide the phone number the school has on file for you in order to use the system. This information is what connects you to your child/children in the system.

You can continue to report absences by calling the school at 250-248-2038 but we are strongly encouraging families to use the SchoolMessenger app, website.

Thank you

See the attached PDF with instructions.



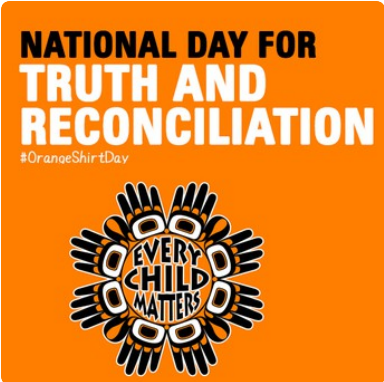
Safe Arrival Letter 2024-2025.pdf

Download
164.6 KB

National Day of Truth & Reconciliation - September 30th - students do not attend

Each year, September 30 marks the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation.

The day honours the children who never returned home and survivors of residential schools, as well as their families and communities. Public commemoration of the tragic and painful history and the ongoing impacts of residential schools is a vital component of the reconciliation process.



District Fair Notice Letter - Threat Assessment.pdf

Download
176.4 KB



Info re Board Meetings and Family Accident Reimbursement Plan.pdf

Download
100.2 KB

FALL HOT LUNCH SESSION

Hot Lunch Dates



Order Cutoff

September 25th Dominos/Sam's Sushi	September 18th - 3:00 PM
October 9th Tim Hortons	October 2nd - 3:00 PM
October 23rd Extreme Eatery	October 16th- 3:00 PM
November 6th Chinese Kitchen/The Pretzel Guyz	October 30th - 3:00 PM
November 20th Boston Pizza	November 13th - 3:00 PM
December 4th Dominos/Chinese Kitchen	November 27th - 3:00 PM



PAC Newsletter Information

We're excited to welcome you back for another wonderful school year! If you know of any families who aren't on the PAC email list, please let them know they can send us an email to get signed up. If you're no longer part of our Springwood family, just drop us a quick email, and we'll happily remove you from the list.

🏠 We'd love to see you at the SES Open House on Wednesday, September 10th from 5-6 PM! This is a great opportunity to meet your student's teachers and check out the school. Our PAC executives will be there to say hello and answer any questions you might have. You can also reach out to us via email anytime—don't be shy!

🧑‍🔧 You may have noticed that we recently broke ground for the construction of our new playground at SES! It has been a long road to get here and we are so grateful for all of the support we have received. Huge thank you to the Rotary Club of Parksville for their generous contribution of \$20,000 towards accessible playground equipment, Tire Stewardship BC for their amazing grant to help us include recycled tire surfacing in the playground design, Sunbelt Rentals for donating the excavator rental, and Ucluelet Excavating Inc. for generously donating their time to complete our site prep. THANK YOU to each and every one of you who has continued to support our fundraisers! A very special thank you to all of our PAC executives who are working hard to bring this playground dream to reality. Stay tuned for progress updates!

🍕 Hot Lunch information will be available soon! Stay tuned for all the delicious details.

✎ School supply fees are now available in your School Cash Online account! Fees are due by September 15th.

📅 Mark your calendars for our first PAC meeting on September 18th at 9 AM (Foods Room). It will be a laid-back gathering with some coffee and tea to enjoy. We'd love to have you join us!

SES Spirit Wear

Spirit Wear is back in full force! Every Friday staff and students show their school spirit by wearing their Springwood gear.

T-Shirts \$22.00
Hoodies \$35.00
Hats \$30.00
Toques \$22.00

Please see the front office for purchase. Cash or Cheque accepted.
If you would like to use the online option, please contact Candice in the front office.

Candice Nikirk
School Accounts Secretary
Springwood Elementary
250-248-2038



Upcoming Dates - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Sept 25th - Hot Lunch - Dominos Pizza/Sam' Sushi
- Sept 29th - District Day - Non-Instructional Day
- Sept 30th - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation - students do not attend
- Oct 14th - School Photo Day
- Oct 13th - Thanksgiving Day - students do not attend
- Oct 24th - Professional Development Day - students do not attend
- Nov 10th - Conferencing Adjustment Day - students do not attend
- Nov 11th - Statutory Holiday (Remembrance Day)
- Nov 24th - District Pro-D Day - students do not attend
- Dec 22-Jan 2- Winter Vacation

Photo credit: Nicholas Teichrob

QUALICUM BEACH CULTURE DAYS: LETTING THE LAND AND SEA THRIVE IN 2025

"Common Threads Textiles Exhibition"
Works by Artist Joyce McLellan
Sept 19 - Oct 12 | Qualicum Beach Regional Library, 660 Primrose Street

"Advocacy Through the Arts"
Film, Cello Performance and Eco Fair
Sept 19, 1:00pm - 2:30pm
Qualicum Beach Community Hall, 644 Memorial Avenue

"Oceans of Opportunity Tapestry"
Community Weaving Together
Sept 19, 1:00pm - 4:30pm | Sept 20 11:00am - 3:30pm
Qualicum Beach Regional Library, 660 Primrose Street

"Sound Waves of the Salish Sea"
Film Screening, Performances and Guest Speakers
Sept 20, 1:30pm - 3:30pm
Berwick Qualicum Beach, 120 First Avenue West Qualicum Beach

"The Art of Conservation through Conversation"
Artist Talk with Joyce McLellan
Sept 25, 6:30pm - 7:30pm
Qualicum Beach Regional Library, 660 Primrose Street

CULTURE DAYS
SEPT 19 - OCT 12, 2025
culturedays.ca/bc

Scan for more info

Artwork by: Joyce McLellan

Photo credits: Nicholas Teichrob

SUPPORTED BY
OCEAN WISE, NANAILO-QUALICUM Community Foundation, BERWICK, Georgia Strait Alliance, VANCOUVER ISLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY, TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH, Rotary Club of Qualicum Beach, Ports & Passes, Quality Foods, take a STAND, Qualicum Weavers & Spinners Guild, Clara Standler - SIDEWALK CELLIST, BRITISH COLUMBIA, Canada Council for the Arts / Conseil des arts du Canada, Y.P. HEUNG FOUNDATION, ODLUM BROWN Investing for Generations, bridge, The Hamber Foundation

INS

Creative Kids

at The MAC

AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

ONLY **\$25**
PER CLASS



AGES 8-15

THURSDAYS 4-6 PM

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

IN THE MAC STUDIO



McMillan Arts Centre (MAC)

133 McMillan Street, Upper Level

Parkville, BC V9P 2H5

(250)248-8185

www.mcmillanartscentre.com

Gallery & Gift Shop Hours: Tuesday-Sunday, 11am to 3pm

School
for the
Creative
Arts



ART-full-ness

AT THE MAC

"SCOOPS OF ME"



Led by local children's author and Recreation Therapist Allison Parry, this creative workshop invites you to craft your own one-of-a-kind sundae using colourful materials and air-dry clay—a soft, easy-to-shape medium that hardens without needing a kiln. Each scoop you build will represent a unique part of who you are.

SUNDAY

SEPTEMBER 28 2025

3:30 PM — 5:30 PM

McMillan Arts Centre

Upper Level

133 McMillan St, Parksville

\$40

AGES 6-12



Text or call

604-506-1980 to register



Parkville Fire Annual Open House - October 5

Parkville Volunteer Fire Department members will host their annual fire prevention week open house on Sunday, October 5 from 10 am to 2 pm at the Parkville Fire training grounds, 1159 Franklin's Gull Road.

The event is a great opportunity for residents to learn about fire safety including home fire sprinklers, smoke alarms and home escape plans. There will be educational displays and interactive activities where you will learn how to use a fire extinguisher, how to perform CPR, try hose and target practice, and a kids' bunker gear challenge.

At 1.30 pm, there will be a live burn demonstration featuring a side-by-side burn with two similarly furnished rooms; one protected with fire sprinklers and the other without fire sprinklers. The demonstration shows how quickly a fire can become deadly versus the quick response and effectiveness of a fire sprinkler system in controlling or extinguishing a fire.

Fire prevention week is recognized by the National Fire Protection Association from October 5 to October 11 and this year's theme is "**Charge into Fire Safety: Lithium-Ion Batteries in Your Home**" to help educate about using these batteries safely. Key safety tips for residents from Parkville Fire:

- Purchase and install only batteries with an approved safety certification mark such as ULC or CSA.
- Always use the cords, charger and accessories that come with the product for charging. Follow all manufacturers' instructions for use and charging. Place your device on a hard surface when charging and do not overcharge. Unplug or remove the battery from your device when it is fully charged.
- Repairs or maintenance to your device should only be done by an authorized repair facility. Batteries should not be thrown into trash or regular recycling because they could start a fire. Visit recycleyourbatteries.ca/ to find a recycling spot near you.

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 5, from 10 am to 2 pm at the Parkville Fire training grounds, 1159 Franklin's Gull Road. Live burn demonstration at 1.30 pm.

RECRUITMENT

Planning has begun for 2026 recruitment; we are seeking volunteer paid on-call firefighters. Stop by Parkville Fire Rescue, call 250 248-3242 or visit parkvillefirerescue.ca for more info.

MORE INFO

Contact Parkville Fire Rescue at 250 248-3242 for info about Parkville activities. For general information about fire prevention and the week, visit nfa.org/fpw, sparky.org and parkvillefirerescue.ca.

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The City of Parkville is located on the traditional territory of the Coast Salish Nations, home to the Snow-Naw-As First Nation and the Qualicum First Nation.

Parkville Fire Rescue
160 Jensen Avenue West (P O Box 1390), Parkville, BC V9P 2H3
Phone 250 248-3242 | parkvillefirerescue.ca



Parkville Curling Club

Junior Curling: Ages 8 – 18

Sessions: Mondays from 3:45 pm to 5:15 pm, starting October 6th and running to Spring Break (mid march)

Place: Parkville Curling Club (Community Park)

Equipment: All equipment needed provided by the club – broom, curling shoes, grippers, stabilizer, etc.

New Curlers: All welcome – come and learn the game

Junior Coordinators: Jim Powell plus 3 other coaches

Email – juniorleague@parkvillecurling.com

Phone (club) - 250-248-3764

Open House – Monday, October 6th No cost to attend, try the game; find out about junior curling!



Follow Us On Instagram!

@springwood_wolves



shutterstock.com · 420838831

Contact Us

Jesse Witte, Principal - jwitte@sd69.bc.ca

Lauren Nikirk, Acting Vice Principal - lnikirk@sd69.bc.ca

Candice Nikirk, Administrative Assistant - cnikirk@sd69.bc.ca

Pamela Horrigan, Administrative Assistant - phorrigan@sd69.bc.ca

Phone - 250-248-2038

Pam Horrigan

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