



SPRINGWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Newsletter #10 April 2, 2026

Principal: Jesse Witte Vice-Principal: Lauren Nikirk
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Message from Principal

Welcome Back from Spring Break

Welcome back! It has been wonderful to see our students return from Spring Break looking rested and ready to learn. The children have settled back into their routines quickly, and it's great to have everyone back together.

By now, you should have had an opportunity to review your child's student learning updates. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher—they will be happy to help.

One area that continues to be a concern is student attendance. In Canadian education research, missing a significant amount of school—often described as around **10% of the school year**—is associated with lower academic achievement, weaker social connections, and an increased risk of long-term disengagement from school, even when absences are excused.

Regular attendance is crucial for learning, building relationships, and maintaining a sense of belonging. If your child is struggling to attend school for any reason, please reach out to us—we are here to support your family.

As the days grow longer and the weather improves, we encourage families to maintain regular routines and structures that support learning and well-being.

Wishing you and your family a wonderful Easter weekend. Enjoy the time together and get outside if you can!

Sincerely,

Jesse Witte

Principal, Springwood Elementary School

QUALICUM SCHOOL DISTRICT - LATE CROSS BOUNDARY APPLICATION

PROCESS FOR 2026/2027 SCHOOL YEAR

On-line Applications for LATE Cross Boundary Requests for students who wish to attend a school outside of their catchment area, as based on their home address, are now available to complete on the district website at:

<https://www.sd69.bc.ca/About/StudentRegistration/Pages/Regxbound.aspx#/=>

LATE Applications will be considered at intervals throughout the remaining school year; however, a decision may not be made until after the first week of school in September.

Submitting an application form **DOES NOT GUARANTEE APPROVAL**. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity.

Please be aware that if approved, the district reserves the right to rescind approval by September 30th if space is required for students who move into the catchment area school.

Transportation for a student choosing and approved to attend a non-catchment area school or program of choice is the responsibility of the parent.

If you have moved out of a school's catchment area since registering and the student wishes to remain at their current school, a cross-boundary form must be completed.

Once approved to attend a cross-boundary school, that becomes the student's catchment area school. If the student wishes to return to their original catchment area school, a LATE Cross-Boundary Form must be completed to request a return. Acceptance will depend on space availability and school capacity at that time of the request.

SPRING SING AND GLEE CLUB

I'm delighted to announce plans for a "Spring Sing" District collaborative choral event set to take place on Wednesday, May 20th with performances scheduled for 1:00pm and 6:30pm at SES in the school gym!

We're anticipating this opportunity to showcase approximately 150 students from QBES, NBES & SES who will be singing together for the students of SES in the afternoon, and an evening Spring Sing choral event for families and caregivers. We're anticipating approximately a 40-45 min concert.

At Springwood Elementary School Mrs. Burn and Mr. Friesen would like to start a Spring Sing Glee Club that would meet on Wednesdays at lunch time. Students from Grades 3 to 7 who want to sing in this glee club choir would come down to the Music Room at 11:35 where they would eat their lunches and then rehearse until the end of lunch recess at 12:30pm.

The glee club would begin rehearsals on Wednesday, April 8. We would hope that you could encourage as many students to join as possible as we are representing our school and hosting other schools.



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



Qualicum School District
Indigenous Education Family Nights presents:

Drumming Night

ts-siye'yu 'u tthu st'ilum (becoming friends through song)
with tsumqwutun (Lawrence Mitchell)

Friday, April 24, 2026 5-7pm
Location: Springwood Elementary
Dinner: Soup and Bannock

Teachings of the drum with tsumqwutun - song
keeper and knowledge holder from Snaw-naw-as



All Families are welcome

tsumqwutun is a relative from the snuwnuwus family. He is a language learner, a singer, and an artist of his nation. Our friend shares what it means to coast salish people: the importance of our relationship with our environment through song, dance, and hul'q'umi'num'. Recently completing his Masters in hul'q'umi'num', he has been working on his language for over 20 years. He is keen on sharing the magic that exists in this world through words, stories, songs and silence.



RSVP



SES Spirit Wear



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.

POPCORN SALES- Every Wednesday

Popcorn Sales are Wednesdays \$2.50 a bag.



DRESSING FOR THE WEATHER

Now that the weather is changing, students are often getting muddy and wet. Please make sure your child has a change of clothes at school, as they will be going outside for recess, gym, and Daily Physical Activity (DPA).

Thank you!



SCENT FREE

Just a reminder our District Policy is that all worksites are Scent Free environment





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



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.

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



SES PAC INFORMATION

Please contact the PAC if you have any questions or concerns at spirngwoodpac@gmail.com



1 - As we move into Spring, this brings warmer weather as well as Field Trips! In addition, our PAC is looking for some solid volunteers for Hot Lunch Days and School Event Days. If you are interested in being apart of these and would like to volunteer your first step is to have a Criminal Records Check done. To obtain one is a quick and easy process. Come by the office with two pieces of ID. After that you will follow the online process for the application. Once approved we will reach out to let you know you can volunteer when needed. Thank you for being apart of our trusted school community!

mabel's labels

FUNDRAISING

The Springwood Physical Education Department is excited to partner with Mabel's Labels! Their products are perfect for school, home, and sports, making organizing and identifying belongings easier and more fun.



Visit <http://campaigns.mabelslabels.com/> and search for Springwood Elementary School (Parksville)



Purchase labels



Shipped directly to you anywhere



Contact Jessica Threlfall @ jthrelfall059@gmail.com with any questions

Important

Dates

- ***Apr 3 – Good Friday***
- ***Apr 6 – Easter Monday***
- ***Apr 9 - Hot lunch - Chinese Kitchen/The Pretzel Guy***
- ***May 7 Hot lunch - Tim Hortons***
- ***May 14 - MATA District Pro-D - students do not attend***
- ***May 15 - Conference Adjustment Day - students do not attend***
- ***May 18 - Victoria Day - students do not attend***
- ***May 21 - Hot lunch - Extreme Eatery***
- ***June 25 - Final Day for Students - Schools dismiss three hours early***

Community Events



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

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
SD69 SCHOOL FOOD PROGRAM

Book by Claudia Shear and Tim Federle • Music orchestrated: John Clancy • Vocal Arrangements by Chris Miller •
 Ballet music arranged by David Chase • Lyrics by Nathan Tysen
 Based on the novel Tuck Everlasting by Natalie Rabbit

Qualicum Beach School of Dance
 presents

**TUCK
 EVERLASTING**

The Village Theatre, Qualicum Beach

MAY 14th - 17th

TICKETOWL.IO/QBSD

Originally Produced on Broadway by Great Entertainment, Arlene Schnitzer & Michael Jackson, Howard E. & Janet Kagan, and Barry Brown
 World Premier Produced by Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, GA Susan V. Booth, Artistic Director The Alliance Theatre

FORED BC Society
 For Education about our environment & natural resources
www.foredbc.org

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.





National AccessAbility Week Design Contest 2026



Easter Seals BC/Yukon Design Contest

In Celebration of National AccessAbility Week in BC and Yukon, **May 31 – June 6, 2026**, Easter Seals BC/Yukon is challenging you to submit a T-shirt design.

Create Your Own AccessAbility T-Shirt Design

Easter Seals invites students from British Columbia and the Yukon in Grades 5-12 to create a design that symbolizes the theme:

Reimagining Play, Learning, and Community Through Accessibility

Canada's National AccessAbility Week celebrates the valuable contributions of Canadians with disabilities and recognizes the efforts of individuals, communities and workplaces that are actively working to remove barriers to accessibility and inclusion. For 79 years, a core mission of Easter Seals is to make the lives of people with disabilities better in British Columbia and the Yukon.

Two Grand Prizes Include (Age Group A – Grades 5-8; Age Group B – Grades 9-12)

- \$200 honorarium for the winning student
- \$750 for the winning student's classroom to purchase learning materials
- T-Shirts will be produced with the winning designs and will be given to the winning students.
- Finalists will receive a pizza lunch for their classrooms, generously donated by Panago Pizza. *Pizza parties are subject to delivery availability at school locations, and while we will do our best to provide this lunch to winning classrooms, some limitations may apply.

Who Can Enter

British Columbia and Yukon youth in Grades 5-12.

Submission Deadline

Midnight on **Friday, May 1st, 2026**.

Charity Registration No. 119217248RR0001
3981 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V5H 4H5
www.EasterSealsBCY.ca

Easter Seals BC/Yukon is a service of the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities



National AccessAbility Week Design Contest 2026



2026 NAAW Theme: Reimagining Play, Learning, and Community Through Accessibility

Design inspiration ideas:

- How can we improve by re-thinking about play, learning and community?
- What barriers do you see for people with disabilities and how can we lend a helping hand?
- What does accessibility mean to you?
- How can we be more inclusive through play?
- How can we make learning more inclusive?

Artwork Guidelines

- design must incorporate the theme: **Reimagining Play, Learning, and Community Through Accessibility**
- we encourage original artwork, created and designed by students themselves
- no text or lettering elements
- one sided
- size – 1:1 aspect ratio; downloadable templates available on website.
 - If using Adobe Illustrator or similar, create an 8.5" by 8.5" square file
- all parts must be solid colors (any two-dimensional media such as markers, watercolors, acrylic, tempera, pastels, crayon, pencils, collage or computer graphics)
- design should be appropriate for a school setting
- a paragraph of 150 words or less, explaining the symbolism and/or story used in the design, is recommended, but not required.

Not Allowed:

- NO copyrighted material (such as comic strip characters, school or commercial logos)
- NO photography
- NO Metallic or fluorescent colours
- NO AI generated illustrations

How To Submit Artwork

- Entries will be accepted through the online submission site here.
- Files accepted include JPG and PNG and PDF.
- Please include a brief description of your inspiration and explanation of your design choices, 150 words or less

Charity Registration No. 119217248RR0001
3981 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V5H 4H5
www.EasterSealsBCY.ca

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National AccessAbility Week Design Contest 2026



- Entries must be received by midnight on **Friday, May 1st, 2026**.
- Do not put your name or identifying information on the image itself. Include your name in the filename of your design and in the submission form only.
- No files larger than 9 MB please.

Entry Guidelines

- Only one entry per student. Entries that do not follow the above guidelines will not be considered. All entries become the property of Easter Seals BC/Yukon, and the student/teacher/school relinquishes all rights to the design.
- The original winning artwork will be required to produce the T-Shirt design.
- T-Shirts will be available for purchase.

Questions?

Email marketing@eastersealsbcy.ca and we will help as much as we can!

www.eastersealsbcy.ca

Charity Registration No. 119217248RR0001
3981 Oak Street, Vancouver, BC V5H 4H5
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Easter Seals BC/Yukon is a service of the BC Lions Society for Children with Disabilities

Spring 2026 Active Living Guide

Follow us on Instagram!



@springwood_wolves

CONTACT US:

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