

Springwood Elementary School

Newsletter #10 April 4, 2025



Message From Principal

Welcome back! I hope you all had a wonderful and restful spring break. The weather may have taken its time warming up, but it's great to see students outside enjoying the sunshine again. Before the break, Updated Learning Reports were sent home, and I'm happy to share that students are making great progress overall. However, one concern I want to highlight is student attendance. Many students have already missed 20 days or more, which equates to 20% of the school year. To put that into perspective, missing this much school is similar to:

- An employee missing one day of work every week.
- The average yearly salary in Parksville is \$44,880 (20 % rough 9000 less)and the average household income in Parksville is \$78,700 (15 740 less). The average cost of living in Parksville is \$3,777/month for a single person who rents. Imagine trying to live off 20 percent less.
- A TV show skipping one episode every five weeks.
- A sports team playing a season with 20% fewer games.

MY POINT, 20 % less is a lot!

Regular attendance is crucial for learning, building relationships, and maintaining routines. If your child is struggling with attendance for any reason, please reach out so we can work together to support them.

As we head into the final stretch of the school year, I encourage families to:

- ✓ **Keep consistent daily routines.**
- ✓ **Ensure kids get plenty of sleep and physical activity.**
- ✓ **Help them stay organized and prepared for school each day.**

If you have any questions or concerns in the coming weeks, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Let's make these last few months a strong and positive finish for everyone!

Looking forward to a great end of the year!

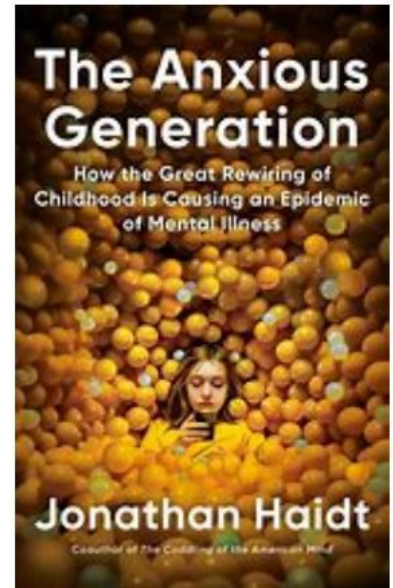
Sincerely

Jesse Witte

The Anxious Generation

On another note, I want to highly recommend a book I read over the break: *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. This book explores the rise in anxiety among children and teenagers and how technology, screen time, and social media play a role. I've included a brief summary, and I strongly encourage families to take a look—it offers valuable insights on raising resilient, well-adjusted kids in today's world. (see below summary)

Jonathan Haidt's *The Anxious Generation* is basically about why so many kids and teens today are dealing with anxiety, depression, and loneliness. He says a big part of the problem is that childhood has shifted from being all about playing outside and hanging out in person to being stuck on phones and social media all the time. Haidt points out that social media, especially for girls, makes everything worse—more comparison, more drama, more bullying, and way less real-life confidence. Plus, kids aren't as independent as they used to be because parents are super protective, which means they don't get to build the resilience they need to handle life's ups and downs. He talks a lot about how important in-person interactions and unstructured play are for kids' mental health and suggests a few fixes: delay giving kids phones and social media, encourage more independence, and change school policies to limit screen time.



Overall, the book is kind of a reality check, but not all doom and gloom. Haidt's basically saying, "Hey, maybe we should rethink how much tech we're throwing at kids and give them more freedom to just be kids." He's got some solid ideas on how to fix things, and the good news is, it's not too late to turn things around.

Student Learning Survey - Province of British Columbia

Your voice matters! The Ministry Students Learning Survey is a crucial opportunity to share your experiences. Your feedback provides valuable insights that allow us to improve programs, enhance resources, and better support your spiritual and academic journey. By taking a few minutes to complete the survey, you contribute to a stronger, more effective learning environment for yourself and future students. Please take the time to participate.

Thank you

<https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access.asp>

Scent Free

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



POPCORN SALES - Every Wednesday

Popcorn Sales are Wednesdays \$2.50 a bag.



Change of Clothes

Just a reminder to be sure to send a **change of clothes** for your child that is to be kept at school as the weather starts to get rainy and wet (if your child comes home with dirty wet clothes, please replace with a new set to remain at school). Rain boots and rain jackets are necessary as well. Thank you!



Also, the lost and found is growing please stop by and see if anything belongs to your child.

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.



Upcoming Dates - MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Apr 10th - Hot lunch - Dominos/Sam's Sushi

Apr 18th - Good Friday - students do not attend

Apr 21st - Easter Monday - students do not attend

Apr 28th - School-Based PRO D Day - students do not attend

Apr 24th - Hot lunch - Chinese Kitchen

May 8th - Hot lunch - Tim Hortons

May 16th - Conferencing Adjustment Day - students do not attend

May 19th - Victoria Day - students do not attend

June 26th - Final Day for Elementary Students - School dismiss three hours early 11:45 am

B. C. Training and Education Savings Program Grant

[B.C. Training and Education Savings Program Grant flyer](#) with families/guardians of students in Kindergarten through Grade 3 to remind them that their child may be eligible for a \$1,200 B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant for their post-secondary education or training.

ATTENTION Parents and Guardians:
Don't let your child miss out on a **\$1,200 grant!**

The B.C. Training and Education Savings Grant (BCTESG) is available to eligible children for a three-year window only. It can be used for their future post-secondary education and training.



Is my child eligible?

- ☐ Parent or guardian, plus the child are B.C. residents and have Social Insurance Numbers (SINs)
- ☐ The child is between their 6th birthday and the day before they turn 9

Make a plan today!

Step 1: Contact or visit your financial institution and ask if they offer the grant (most will).

Step 2: If you need to:

- ☐ Proof of residency, e.g. BC driver's license, BC Identification Card, BC Service Card, or recent B.C. utility bill
- ☐ Your Social Insurance Number (SIN)
- ☐ Your child's Social Insurance Number (SIN)*
- ☐ *Apply for a SIN: <http://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/sin/apply.html>

Step 3: During your appointment with your financial institution:

- ☐ Open a Registered Education Savings Plan (RESP) for your child (skip if already done)
- ☐ Complete application for the BCTESG. (No need to add any of your own money!)

If eligible, \$1,200 will be deposited into your child's RESP. Apply today!
Learn More: <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/BCTESG> or contact: BCTESG@gov.bc.ca




Ministry of Education
Service and Technology Division
Student Achievement Branch


Mailing Address:
40 West 2nd Street, 17th Floor
Vancouver, BC V6B 1P9

Upcoming erase Training

Upcoming *erase* Training

- Families:
 - April 8 – [Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities \(virtual\)](#)
 - NEW OFFERING – April 23 – [Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion \(virtual\)](#)
 - May 7 – [Establishing Safe, Caring and Respectful Digital Communities \(virtual\)](#)
 - May 21 – [Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion \(virtual\)](#)
 - June 3 – [Establishing Family Practices for Safeguarding against Cyberbullying and Sextortion \(virtual\)](#)






Oceanside Building Learning Together

PETE THE CAT FIRST STEPS TO SCHOOL FAIR


THURSDAY, APRIL 17, 2025


5:00PM - 7:00PM



Qualicum Commons
744 Primrose Street
Qualicum Beach

Meet Pete the Cat,
climb aboard a school bus, fun activities,
parent resources, and lots more ...









Registration is appreciated
but drop-ins are welcome!

WWW.OBLT.CA

Presented by
OBLT, Qualicum School District,
and Ready, Set, Learn







VIRTUAL LEARNING | New Parent Workshop Supports Digital Resilience

MediaSmarts has launched “[Raising Digitally Resilient Kids](#),” a self-guided workshop designed to help families navigate digital challenges. Drawing on youth research, the session explores online risks and strategies to promote safe, balanced media use. Parents and guardians gain tools to evaluate apps, set household media guidelines, and support children's well-being in a connected world. With handouts and practical resources, the workshop fosters informed conversations about digital literacy at home and in schools.

[→ LEARN MORE](#)



Kids Try Tennis!

Qualicum Beach Tennis Courts

March 28, April 21, April 28, May 19

3:00-4:00 p.m.

All kids, all ages, no experience needed

Racquets and balls provided

Prizes

Register for free with name and age: arrowsmithtennis@hotmail.com





6:00pm - 9:00pm
Thursday, May 1, 2025



SIGN UP WITH YOUR TEAM OF THREE OR FOUR.
ENGAGE IN FUN, FRIENDLY GAMES.
WIN PRIZES. FREE PIZZA AND COOKIES.

REGISTRATION:
[ARROWSMITHRECREATION.CA/CLASSES](https://arrowsmithrecreation.ca/classes)
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 25

TRACYCARGO-WHITE:
TRACY.CARGO@OUTLOOK.COM
250-947-5272



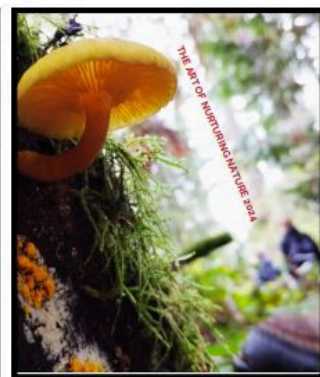
COOMBS FAIRGROUNDS GYMNASIUM
1014 FORD ROAD, COOMBS

Funding support provided by:
 REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

Mindfulness in May

“Have Your Say” 2025 Art Exhibit
Open Call to Youth for Submissions

Grades 5-12 in SD 69 & surrounding areas,
including home learners



Early Submissions by **March 21st** for a chance to be featured on the
exhibit posters and win extra prizes!

All Media - Digital (non-AI), Fabric arts, Mixed Media, textiles, Sculpture etc

3 Categories: Visual Arts, Photography, Literary Art



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

Pam is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters

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