



ESQUIMALT PARENT & STUDENT DOCKER

May 12-16

Monday May 12	PAC Meeting – Executive roles open to nominations	6.30pm. All Nations Room
Tuesday May 13		
Wednesday May 14	Early Dismissal	2.27 pm
Thursday May 15	Student Transition Day – Early Dismissal Grade 8 students arrive to school & tour	12.29 pm 12.30-3pm
Friday May 16	Pro D Day-No school for students	



Save the Date

May 17	International Day Against the Homo, Trans and Biphobia
May 19	Victoria Day-Stat Holiday-No School
May 21	Capstone Gala -3.30 to 5.30/Theatre



Grade 8 Transition Day – May 15, 2025

Our Grade 8 Transition Day will take place Thursday, May 15 from 12:30–3:00 PM. For that reason, the Bell Schedule for that day will change and students will **be dismissed at 12.29pm**. Enjoy the extra-long weekend!

The new ESQ Students will attend a welcome assembly, enjoy a school tour led by leadership students, and wrap up with a treat in the cafeteria. Thanks to all the students who will participate in this activity and our amazing staff for helping make this a smooth and welcoming experience!



Bell schedule for May 15

Block A	8:50 to 9:38am
Block B	9:41 to 10:29am
Break	10:29 to 10:47am
Block C	10:50 to 11:38am
Block D	11:41 to 12:29pm

Transition Day Agenda (Grade 8 students)

- **12:45am:** Grade 8 Students load the theatre
- **1:00pm:** Assembly (30 minutes)
- **1:30pm-:** Leadership students give school tour to new future ESQ High Students
- **2:40pm:** Grades 8s will be brought back to the cafeteria for a treat and dismissal (3:00pm)
- ***3:00pm:** Challenge students will be meeting in the Lower Cafeteria with the Challenge class



- **🗿 IMPORTANT 🗿:** If you/your child is a student of **Shoreline** or **Rock Heights**, they will be walking over with their class.
- **🚌** If you/your children are coming from a different school, then transportation to/from ESQ is the family's responsibility.
- We look forward to meeting everyone!



🌟 4C Challenge Program Updates 🌟

👋 Grade 8 Transition Day – May 15

After the main activities on **Thursday, May 15**, there will be a **Challenge info session** for current Grade 8s (next year's Grade 9s). Current Challenge students will serve as friendly mentors and participate in a Q&A panel. The meeting is at 3:00-4:00 in the cafeteria.

🎉 Spring Challenge Social – Date Change

The **Spring Social** will now take place on **June 24 at 6:30-9:30**. Open to current grades 9-12 Challenge students.

📅 **Late Entry Opportunities.** There are a few spaces open in the grade 11 and 12 cohorts. The number of spaces is not yet confirmed. Any students who want to be contacted with further details should fill out this Google form by **May 22**: <https://forms.gle/RM4fHuuJhVmpMrr9A>

📧 Questions? Contact **Challenge Coordinator** [Omdrea Walker](#)

🎓 GRAD 2025: Capstone and important dates 🎓



Attention Grade 12 students and families: Graduation is just around the corner. Prepare your Capstone presentation and add all the important dates to your calendar. Your big day is almost here!

📅 Important Dates

- ♦ **May 21: Grade 12 Capstone Presentations. 3.30-5.30pm, ESQ High Theatre.**
- ♦ **June 2:** ESQ Grad Recognition Ceremony. **UVic Farquhar Auditorium- 6.45 pm.**
- ♦ **June 21:** Grad Dinner Dance (Tickets go on sale on 20 May, \$90 per person, maximum 2 per grad) – Scottish Community Centre (1803 Admirals Road). Doors open at 5.00 pm/ Dinner starts at 6.30 pm.

Step 1: Register

✓ All grads **must** complete the registration form: [ESQ Grad 2025 Registration](#).

⚠ **This is NOT your ticket order!** This form is required before purchasing tickets.

Step 2: Purchase Tickets

- Sales via **UVic Box Office: \$10 each** (+ 3 box office fees), **max 6 per family** (more may open later). Link to buy tickets in your **Google Classroom** or call **250-721-8480** (Mon–Fri, 9:30 AM–4:00 PM)
 - **Everyone needs a ticket**, including babies (grads do not). **Accessible seating is limited**—please mention if needed
 - **Tickets are sent to students' @sd61learn.ca email**
- 💙 **Need support?** Speak with a counsellor or admin—confidentially

📅 Grad Assemblies (*Important: Dates Subject to Change*) 📅

May 28 – 1:00 PM (Grad Focus)

May 30 – Block D (Cap & Gown Distribution)

June 2 – Rehearsal at UVic (Grads away all day)


June 10 – Last chance to write missing literacy/numeracy assessments


Scholarships: Important Information


Esquimalt High Scholarships and Bursaries

A variety of scholarships and bursaries for students graduating from Esquimalt. This is a “one-application” process-- in other words, one application can be used for multiple awards. Gap year is OK for most (not the Lions Club).

 **Deadline: June 25th.**

 To view the list of awards, [click here](#).


 Applications are found on the Scholarship & Postsecondary Google Classroom. The application itself has TWO PARTS: paper submission and digital submission. Both parts must be completed to be considered for these awards.

 **Fun fact:** the number one reason why grads do not apply for these awards is that they do not have a letter of recommendation. Best get on this right now! 😊

GVTA Dependents Scholarship

Open to any graduating dependent of a member of the GVTA

It is a draw! Get your application in and cross your fingers. Up to four winning students each year.

 Deadline to apply: **May 31st.**

 [Apply here](#)

ICA's Diversity Scholarships


ICA's Diversity Scholarships are awarded to students from a diverse and/or immigrant background who demonstrate in their academic and community work active support for strong community values around diversity, equity, and inclusion in the Capital Region. Awards provide up to a maximum of \$5,000.

 Deadline to apply: **June 20, 2025**

 [Apply here](#)

The Looking Glass Foundation's Reflection Scholarship

The Reflections Scholarship supports students who have lived experience with an eating disorder by helping them pursue their academic and career goals through education. It is awarded in recognition of someone's strength and courage in facing their eating disorder as well as their enthusiasm and tenacity for their chosen academic path and the career they plan to follow. The scholarship divides \$10,000 equally amongst the successful applicants.


 Deadline to apply: **May 31st.**

 <https://www.lookingglassbc.com/scholarship>

Grade 12: Last chance to write Literacy/Numeracy assessment

There is a **last opportunity** to write missing Literacy/Numeracy assessments for our Grade 12. YOU MUST have it written to graduate. If you are unsure whether you have written one of the exams or not, check with your Grad Mentor, Ashley at the Office, or Ms. van der Putten.

Please read your email and the Docker regularly for more information.

 **When?** Tuesday, June 10. Literacy am/ Numeracy pm.

 **Location:** Library



☀️ **New Students to Represent Esquimalt!**

☀️ Congratulations to **Shaye Walker** (Grade 11) and **Glory Wolstenhome** (Grade 10) on their selection to the **District Student Advisory Council**. In this important role, they will represent Esquimalt High by meeting with student leaders from across SD61 and engaging in monthly discussions with the Superintendent on district-wide topics and initiatives.

This is a wonderful opportunity to develop leadership skills, connect with peers from other schools, and contribute meaningfully to the future of our school community.

Lost & Found: Recover Your Valuables at the Office

We currently have a number of unclaimed items in our Lost & Found box, located at the Office. If you have misplaced personal belongings such as glasses, earphones, or keys, please check with our staff. Clothing items (including t-shirts, sweatshirts, and winter wear) are stored separately in a box located under the entry stairs.

Please note: All unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of the school year. We encourage you to retrieve your belongings as soon as possible.



Rhubarb & Container Donations Needed!

Do you have **extra rhubarb** in your garden or **clean plastic containers** (yogurt/sour cream or different size). Our Cooking Program would love your donations!

We also want to thank all the families who have come with the donations. They can always be dropped off at the School Office.

Thank you for supporting hands-on learning in our kitchen! 🍴

Rainbow Week at ESQ High School: Everyone is Welcome

May 17 marks the **International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia (IDAHOTB)**—a Global Day of Action to raise awareness and stand against discrimination and violence targeting LGBTQIA+ individuals. Our District and school support all Human Rights including those of our children and staff who identify as 2SLGBTQIA+ Community.

To honour this important day, ESQ High School is hosting Rainbow Week, and we invite everyone to join in, participate, and celebrate the power of being yourself. Our school will also be flying the Rainbow Flag on Monday May 12th until the beginning of the day on Tuesday May 20th.

✦ Here are the key dates and activities. Let's stand together and celebrate our differences and similarities! ✦



🗨️ **Get Involved: Join the Parent Advisory Council (PAC)**

We warmly invite you to the Esquimalt PAC Annual General Meeting (AGM) this **Monday, May 12 at 6:45 PM** in the All Nations Room.

All executive roles are open for nomination, including:

- President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

At Esquimalt PAC, we work together to support one another and make a positive impact on our school community. No experience needed—just your interest and enthusiasm!

✉️ Email us to esquimaltpac@gmail.com . We'd love to hear from you!

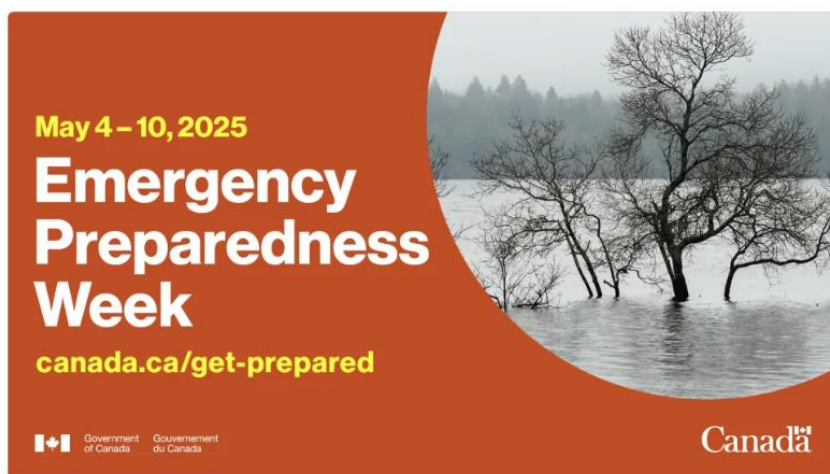
● **Emergency Preparedness Week**

Emergencies can happen anytime—whether it's a fire, earthquake, or extreme weather. Being prepared means having peace of mind and the ability to act quickly when it matters most.

Emergency Preparedness Week (May 4-10) is an opportunity to better protect yourself, your family, and your community during an emergency.

Here's how families can stay ready:

- ◇ **Know the Risks:** Learn what emergencies are most likely in our area and sign up for local alerts to stay informed.
- ◇ **Make a Plan:** Talk with your family about what to do if you're not together during an emergency. Review your plan every year.
- ◇ **Build a Kit:** Prepare to be self-sufficient for at least 72 hours. Include essentials like food, water, flashlights—and don't forget supplies for pets!



Household Emergency

- [Get Prepared](#)
- [Create Your Home Emergency Plan](#)
- [Build an Emergency Kit](#)

Resources

Digital Apps

- [Environment Canada Weather app](#)
- [ALERTABLE](#)

Parent Connect: How to Check Report Cards online?

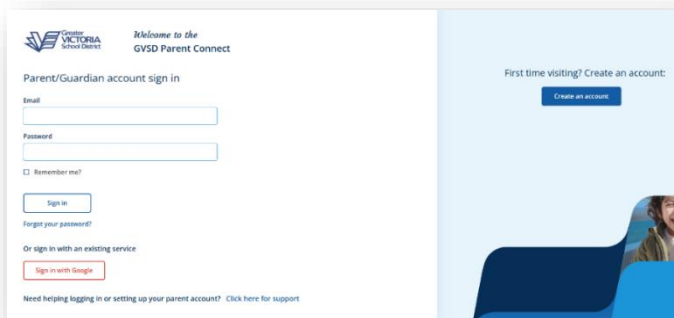
Our Learning Updates (Report Cards) are updated in the [Parent Connect Online System](#). The service reduces the amount of paper forms and allows parents and school staff to review a student's consent information on-demand.

Considering that 20% of the students in SD61 speak different languages than English and French, the service also includes Google Translate to support parents who prefer to communicate in other languages.

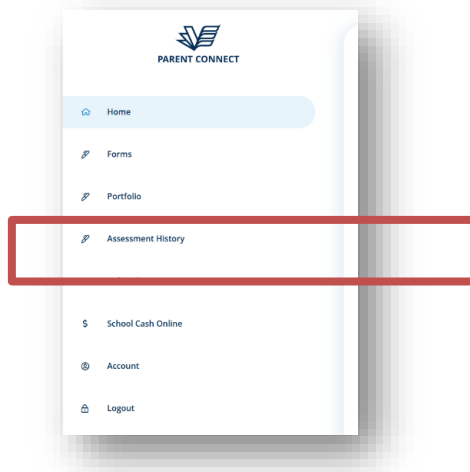
Paper copies will only be available **upon request** in person from the office.

How to create an account and access the system: [Parent Connect instructional video](#) or [PDF Instructions](#)

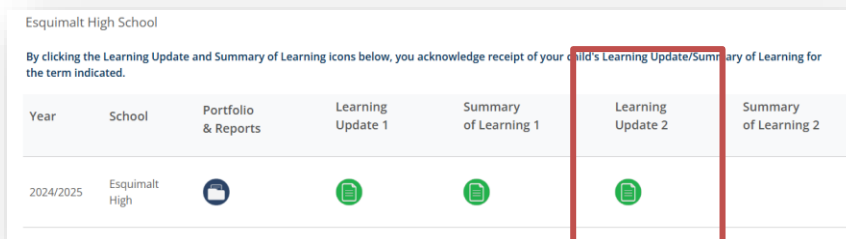
How to access to the Learning updates? Here are the steps



1. Log In to the system with your email and password or with your Google (Gmail) account.
2. If is your first time, click in the blue bottom "Create an account".



3. On the left side panel click on Home. Click on the name of your student, if you only have one Student in the District.
4. Click on "Assessment History".



5. Click on "Learning Update 2". A PDF file will download.
6. Check your Downloads file. Open the Report Card for your student.

YOU'RE INVITED TO™



THE SPRING MASQUERADE

*An enchanting night of music,
mystery, and fun!*

ESQUIMALT HIGH SCHOOL
THURSDAY, MAY 22
7:00PM – 10:00PM



GAMES & ACTIVITIES



FACEPAINTING



**CONCESSIONS SPONSORED BY
BIPOC AWARENESS CLUB**

TICKETS ON SALE @ LUNCH
MAY 13 – 22 • \$5 PER TICKET

Upcoming Track Events

Track & Field Updates:

- 📍 Lower Island Championships – May 14
- 📍 Island Championships – May 20 & 21


➡ Please see [Ms. Thornber](#) to sign up and get more details.

💛 ❤️ Thank you for representing Esquimalt with dedication and spirit! 💛 ❤️



Dockside Dispatch: Student News in Action




We're excited to share **Dockside Dispatch**, our school's own news production featuring **student-created stories, reports, and more!** Catch the latest episodes and explore past features by visiting the **Dockside Dispatch Archive**:
[🔗 Dockside Dispatch Archive – Click here](#)
Stay informed and support our talented students!
[New video!](#) 

Upcoming Info Session: Camosun College & Accessibility Services

Camosun College is hosting an **Information Session** specifically designed for future students, including those who may benefit from connecting with the **Centre for Accessible Learning (CAL)**. This supports students who self-identify with a documented, diagnosed disability in achieving their educational goals.



 **Date:** **Wednesday, May 14, 2025**

 **Time:** 6:00–7:00 PM

📍 **Location:** Online via Zoom

 **[Click here to register](#)**

This session will provide valuable information for students with:

- ADHD/ Mental health challenges
 - Learning disabilities
 - Autism and other neurodivergent experiences
 - Chronic health conditions, physical or sensory disabilities
- ...and others who may require academic accommodations or accessibility supports in college.

BIPOC AWARENESS CLUB PRESENTS:

A.A.P.I HERITAGE MONTH MOVIE NIGHT

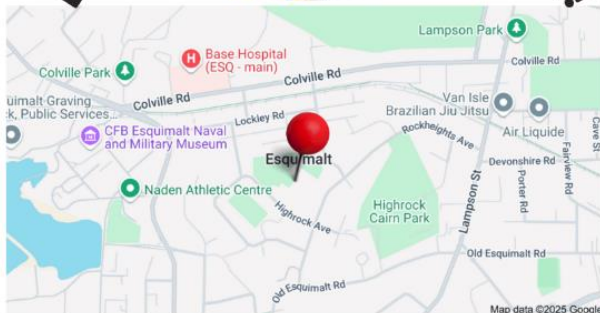
MAY 14 | 6:30 PM
LOWER CAFETERIA

REGISTER BELOW!





BEE A GOOD NEIGHBOUR!



REMINDERS

Bee a Good Neighbour!

A reminder that our Student Code of Conduct extends beyond the walls of our school and into our community!

Please respect our neighborhood businesses and the private property of homes in the area.

Thank you for showing our neighbours how amazing ESQ students are!



All students must get a parking pass from the office.



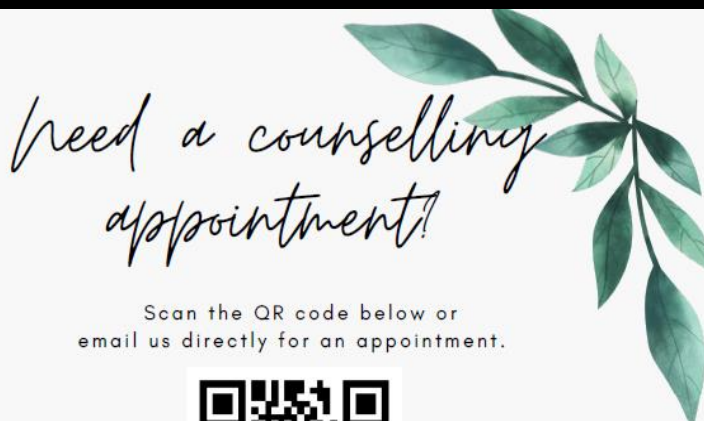
Student Parking is located at the far end of the upper parking lot.



ALL SUBJECTS/PROOFREADING SERVICES AVAILABLE

ESQ Peer Tutors are here to help!

bit.ly/esqtutorrequest



Need a counselling appointment?

Scan the QR code below or email us directly for an appointment.



SCHOOL BASED COUNSELLORS

Personal counselling, course changes, post-secondary and academic advising.

Allyson Hoffman (she/her)

(A to K): ahoffmanesd61.bc.ca *Monday to Friday

Anastasia Andrews (she/her)

(L to Z): aandrewsesd61.bc.ca *Monday to Friday

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ADVISING

Tim Zemanek (he/him): tzemanekesd61.bc.ca

YOUTH & FAMILY COUNSELLORS (YFC)

Personal and family counselling. NOT COURSE CHANGES.

Bob Beattie (he/him): bbeattieesd61.bc.ca *Monday to Wednesday

Michaela Louie (she/her): mlouieesd61.bc.ca *Tuesday to Friday

Tanya Hadley (she/her): thadleyesd61.bc.ca *Monday, Wednesday & Thursday

Emily Stark (she/her): estarkesd61.bc.ca *Fridays



Supporting Our Students: Food Programs at Esquimalt

At Esquimalt, we believe that no student should go through the day hungry. Our **Breakfast and Lunch Programs** are here to support those facing financial hardship, ensuring they have access to nourishing meals. If your family can provide meals from home, we kindly ask that you leave these programs available for those who need them most.

For **everyone in our school community**, the **Rainbow Kitchen "Fridge of Love"** is always open! Students and staff are welcome to grab a snack—no questions asked, just kindness shared. 😊

Thank you for helping us take care of one another!

Student and Family Affordability Fund

In March 2024, the Ministry of Education and Child Care provided districts with one-time **Student and Family Affordability Funds (SFAF)** to help families struggling with school-related costs. These funds offer **temporary, flexible, and private** assistance for school supplies and fees, ensuring support without stigma.

Funding use includes, but is not limited to:

1. Goods:

- Providing basic school supplies that might otherwise be purchased by parents, guardians, and students (e.g., pens, paper); and
- Supporting with clothing/footwear required for school sports or other school activities.

2. Fees:

- Waiving education-related fees (e.g., additional supplies for shop, culinary and craft classes, workbooks, camps, field trips, relevant cultural events, other student society meetings including those related to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and instrument and equipment fees or other fees charged by school districts); and
- Fees for school sports and other school activities.

If your family or student have any questions or require support, please reach out to Sarah Garr (Principal) by phone or email sgarr@sd61.bc.ca

CAFETERIA

The ESQ Café menu offers a hot lunch, salad and a variety of baked goods daily. The Café accepts reloadable cafeteria cards and cash. [Cards purchases or re-loads](#) will be ready for pickup at 11:30am in the office one business day after purchase.

ESQ Café Menu –May 12-15

Monday	Hot wings. House made house coated chicken wings, blue cheese dressing, celery sticks, potato salad
Tuesday	Shawarma, halal chicken, flat bread and pickled cucumbers
Wednesday	Bacon wrapped sirloin steak, carrot puree, shoestring fries, green peppercorn demi-glaze
Thursday	Early dismissal at 12.29pm, no service.
Friday	Pro D Day- No School



Esquimalt High School’s student newspaper, *Esquimalt Ink*, started off the month of May with the seventh issue of the school year.

Read all about:

- ✓ **Mother’s Day gift ideas→ May 11**
- ✓ An interview behind the scenes of ESQ’s school musical, *Legally Blonde*
- ✓ Red Dress Day on May 5th, in memory of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women
- ✓ Victoria Day: history & events

You can access to our lasts issue and all the publications from the last 10 years on [our school website!](#)

Student Connect: Stay in Control of Your Digital Choices

[GVSD Student Connect](#) lets you manage your privacy and choose which online tools and services you want to use at school.

- ☑ **Review your consent choices** at the start of each school year.
- + Need a new tool for a class? You can add consent anytime!
- ✗ Changed your mind? You can remove consent if you’re no longer using a tool or if tech is being misused.

🔑 Key Consent Items:	💻 Acceptable Use of Technology (Digital Tools You Control):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 📷 Yearbook & School Photos/Videos 📢 School & District Media 📺 Broadcast Media 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◇ Google Workspace for Education 🎨 Adobe Creative Cloud 📐 My Blueprint ✍️ Canva



Reminder about taking photos and filming at Esquimalt

CONSENT is important.
 BEFORE taking a student or staff members’ photo or filming, you must **ask for permission** first.



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



Dockers **Badminton**

Teams Shine!

Our **Junior Boys and Girls Badminton teams** competed at a tournament hosted by Belmont Secondary on **Saturday, May 3**. We're proud to share that we placed **Second in Grade 9 Boys Singles and Grade 10 Doubles**—congratulations, Team Dockers!

Our **Senior Girls Badminton team** also wrapped up the city playoffs last week. A huge congratulations to all of you—and a special shoutout to our **Grade 12 players**. We'll miss you next year and wish you all the best in your next chapter!





SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



May 5 – Red Dress Day

Red Dress Day or Red Dress Campaign is an annual event held by the REDress Project in memory of the lives of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People across Canada.

In 2010, [Métis artist Jamie Black](#) began this project as an art installation that hung hundreds of empty red dresses in public spaces to remind people of the First Nations, Métis, and Inuit women and girls lost because of gender-based violence. According to a report published by the RCMP in 2014, 1,017 women and girls who identified as Indigenous were murdered between 1980 and 2012 — a homicide rate that is almost 5 times higher than that of all other women in Canada.

Annual Tri-District gathering 🌿 🚣

We had an outstanding day packed with engaging activities, including beading, archery, drumming, canoeing, art, and cedar harvesting specifically designed for our Grade 12 Indigenous students at the annual Tri-District gathering. A big thank you to School





SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



🍷🍷 Food Safe: 125 students complete their certification in 2025

This past Tuesday, the Esquimalt High Careers Team offered the final Food Safe Level 1 certification session for this year. Throughout the past year, more than 125 students have gained essential food safety knowledge and earned a valuable certification to add to their resumes—an excellent asset for those seeking summer jobs!

Our Career Program is always offering opportunities like this because having a certification is a great addition to any resume when students start looking for a job, as it shows a commitment to learning. The Careers

Team invites interested students to participate in these opportunities every time they become available. Stay tuned!



Reminder for participants: Please remember to check in with your teachers and catch up on any missed classwork from that day.



🍷 Girls Rugby to the Zone Championship

Congratulations to our Girls Rugby Team as they have qualified to represent Esquimalt at the **Zone Championships in Duncan** next week, on **May 12 & 13**.

Good luck and a huge cheer to our team!

🍷💛❤️ #GoEsquimalt #RugbyStrong

#GirlsRugby #Champions



🍷 Way to Go, Ultimate Otters!

Congratulations to our **Ultimate Otters** for qualifying for this year's **Island Championships in Courtenay!**

Your teamwork, skill, and spirit continue to make us proud. #GoOtters 🍷💛❤️



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS



🎭 ***Legally Blonde: The Musical* – A Great Success with Sold-Out Shows** 🎭

We would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to our **Musical Theatre Company** for the incredible work and passion they put into all six performances of *Legally Blonde: The Musical*. The second week saw **every show sold out**, with a waitlist of audience members eager to attend. Way to go!

Our Principal, **Sarah Garr**, shared: “This production was the result of countless hours of preparation, and aside from the amazing, finished product of the performances themselves, I know it will provide a lifetime of memories for the students involved. Special thanks to our teachers **Kaehlen Allison** and **Kristi Martinsen**, as well as to the many other staff members, family members, and volunteers who helped with the thousands of details that go into a production of this size.”



Behind this production was a dedicated team of **over 60 student performers and crew**, a **live band of community musicians**, and even **two very talented dogs**—all working together to bring this story to life on our stage. Bravo to everyone involved! 🎭

🎵 **Support the Esquimalt Music Program**

If you'd like to support our **Music Program**, here's how to make a donation online:

1. Visit esquimalt.sd61.bc.ca and click on “**Make a Donation**” (left-hand side menu)
2. Choose “**Esquimalt High School**” as the donation destination
3. In the **Tribute** field, select “*In honour of*” Enter “**Music Program**” as the **honoree name**
4. You'll also have the option to receive a **tax receipt**

Thank you so much for your generosity and continued support! 🎵 ☀️



SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

Europe Trip **2025**

A delegation of ESQ High School students travel to the commemoration of the 81th anniversary of the D-Day in Normandy.





SHARING OUR STORIES OF SUCCESS

(continue)

They participated in many activities, like "Rising to the Challenge," an exhibition marking the 100th anniversary of the Royal Canadian Air Force and its role in the Second World War.

Between 1939 and 1945, nearly 250,000 Canadians served in the Royal Canadian Air Force. Of the 45,000 Canadian servicemen who lost their lives, some 18,000 were airmen, representing an exceptional and essential part of Canada's war effort.

