



OUR VSB

L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Monday, December 9, 2024

Newsletter #8

Evelyn Harcus, Principal
Alice Jungclaus, Vice-Principal
Christopher Wong, Director of Instruction

Dear Families,

We hope you're all staying warm and feeling relaxed despite the busyness of the season.

This month, we are wrapping up the volleyball season. We had junior and senior teams for both girls and boys, and all teams enjoyed a fun and successful season. This week our senior boys will compete in the city championships - bonne chance! A big thank you to all the parent volunteer coaches and to all VSB sponsor teachers. Your time and coaching efforts are invaluable, and we know how important sports engagement is for our students.

Another THANK YOU goes out to the LEB community as a whole for their support in collecting soft plastics for our November challenge. I am happy to report that we filled four super sacks, and we will soon find out from Recycle BC how much we earned on top of the \$200 for participating in this awesome challenge. Thank you to Lori who has volunteered to help keep this soft plastics recycling initiative going at the school level. More details to come!

Next Monday the 16th, students will return home in the afternoon with their first written learning update of the year. Please take the time to go through and read the learning update with your child. Celebrate their successes this first term and discuss as a family the goals and areas of growth to work on for next term. These learning updates are student-centered and strength-based, so it is ever so important for your child to be part of that discussion about how they performed this term. If there are any questions about the learning update, please direct them to the classroom teacher. There should not be any surprises, as any behavior concerns or other issues were communicated in email or phone conversations prior to and during the informal learning update in October. The next learning update, #2, will go home prior to spring break in March.

Since this is the final newsletter of the year, from all of the LEB staff, we wish you all the very best this winter holiday. We hope the two weeks off will allow you some special family time engaging in fun activities and some restful moments as well. All the best for 2025!

Warm regards,

Evelyn Harcus, Principal &

Alice Jungclaus, Vice-Principal

Understanding Elementary CSL reports

A reminder that the district sent out an email to all families last Tuesday in which they offered a virtual session for parents/caregivers on elementary reporting on December 16th from 6-7 pm.

Topics Covered:

Reporting system:

Learn about the proficiency scale and how it benefits children's learning.

Report card structure:

Understand the parts of the report card and the importance of descriptive feedback.

Reporting requirements:

Get a clear overview of what is required for K-7 students.

What to expect:

Find out what to expect from the reporting process, including written and informal updates.

Parental/guardian support:

Find out about more ways to support your child and work with the school.

Vancouver Hawks Field Hockey program

The Vancouver Hawks will be at our school during the week of December 9-13th to teach our students about field hockey.

Please see the attached flyer about the Vancouver Hawks Field Hockey program.

Be in the know, winter is coming!

- Follow VSB on social media to stay updated about school closures due to severe weather.
- During extreme weather conditions (heavy snowfall, extreme cold, freezing rain, extreme heat, etc.) VSB schools will remain open if possible. If a District-wide closure is necessary, it will be announced by 6:30 a.m.
- **Stay updated:**
 - Facebook: [Vancouver School Board](#)
 - Instagram: [@vsb39](#)
 - X: [@VSB39](#)
 - VSB website: vsb.bc.ca/weather

Preparing for Grade 8

For families of Grade 7 students, preparing for Grade 8: having the right information can help alleviate stress during this transition period.

The VSB has a new Webpage where all the relevant information is gathered:

[Preparing for Grade 8/What to know during the Grade 7 year](#)

Safety Reminders - Be seen, be safe!

A reminder for all students to ensure that they are properly outfitted for the season. Students riding a bike or scooter to and from school should be properly outfitted with a helmet and should also wear bright gear so that they are highly visible. This is especially important as it is now getting dark before 5pm. Be seen and be safe! The Vancouver Police Department Traffic Safety officers will be out to visit our school in January for an important assembly about pedestrian safety.

SAFE ARRIVAL – how to notify the school

If your child will be **absent from school** or **arriving late**, please inform the office by contacting the Safe Arrival line before 9am:

Safe Arrival phone: 604-713-4585

Safe Arrival email: lec-safearrival@vsb.bc.ca (You can CC your classroom teacher!)

Please note that telling the classroom teacher is not sufficient, as a teacher may be away, and the office will not receive the information.

Also please note that the L'École Bilingue voicemail is not checked in a timely manner due to the busy nature of the office; please leave any time sensitive messages on the Safe Arrival phone line.

Dress for the weather

It looks like the rainy and cold weather upon us! Students are expected to be outside during our two recesses, therefore, please ensure that your child is coming to school dressed to play outside. Sending a change of clothes is a good idea.

Kindergarten Registration

Early Kindergarten registration began on November 1st 2024.

More details can be found on the VSB website: [Priority Kindergarten Registration](#)

Holiday Gift Bags for the Downtown Community Health Centre

Thank you so much for your generous contributions so far. Let's fill up those blue bags in the classrooms/pods!
The deadline is December 17th.

In addition to the division items, we are also collecting \$5-\$10 *Tim Hortons* gift cards to complete the bags. No time to shop? Direct cash donations to LEB PAC (email address: treasurer@lebpac.ca and reference Holiday Gift Bags) are gratefully accepted. All money collected will be used to supplement and top up the donation items.



Items for divisions:

- Divisions 1 & 2 - Menstrual products and men's/women's deodorant
- Divisions 3 & 4 – Adult toques (new or gently used okay)
- Divisions 5 & 6 – Gloves/mittens (new or gently used okay)
- Divisions 7 & 8 - Socks: men's/women's- wool, synthetic preferred (new)
- Division 9 - Band-Aids and/or lotion (small/average size)
- Division 10 - Shampoo & conditioner (small/average size)
- Divisions 11 & 12 - Body wash (small/average size) and lip balm
- Divisions 13 & 14 – Hand towels (new/small size)
- Division 15 - Individually packaged snacks, cookies, granola bars, candies, etc.
- Division 16 – Hand sanitizer and hand/body lotion (small/average size)
- Divisions 17 & 18 – Toothbrushes and toothpaste

Questions? alliemitche@gmail.com

Thank you!!

Allison, Sarah, Tessa and Erin

Art Cards

Thank you to all families for their tremendous support.

Art cards were a phenomenal success this year with \$2532.38 raised in support of our sister school, Grandview Elementary.

Thank you for supporting your child's artistic endeavors all the while supporting another VSB school. Merci!

COUNSELLOR'S CORNER

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Supporting children in managing anxiety and building resilience is an essential part of their development. As part of our commitment to student well-being, I am excited to introduce you to **EASE at Home** (Everyday Anxiety Strategies for Educators), a program adapted for families to help children cope with anxiety and navigate their emotions effectively. The EASE at Home program offers simple, practical strategies that families can use together to support mental wellness. These include activities for:

- **Creating comforting routines and rhythms** to build predictability and security.
- **Recognizing and managing worries** through child-friendly techniques and creative expression.
- **Learning calming strategies**, such as mindful breathing and muscle relaxation.
- **Building emotional awareness** and encouraging positive thinking.

Whether your child is in kindergarten or nearing secondary school, there are tailored suggestions to fit their developmental stage. The EASE program empowers caregivers with tools to make conversations about emotions approachable, all while strengthening the connection between you and your child.

I have included PDFs for **EASE at Home K-3** and **EASE at Home 4-7** for your reference. These documents provide detailed activities and suggestions that are easy to implement at home. Feel free to explore these resources and reach out if you have any questions or need further support.

Warm regards,

Nancy Chong, School Counsellor
nchong@vsb.bc.ca

PAC NEWS

Winter extracurricular program update

Check out the schedule and register here: <https://lebpac.ca/programs>

During the winter term (January to March), the gym is unavailable for external rentals due to VSB basketball. As a result, we're offering a more limited selection of programs during this period. We will be updating our website and WhatsApp with Choir details when they are available.

As usual, these programs are not school-sanctioned nor supervised by the PAC or L'École Bilingue staff. The instructors rent school space from the VSB Rentals Department and are fully responsible for the supervision of the students. Please ensure your child knows exactly where and when to go.

Pizza & Sushi Ordering for 2025

Session 2 Ordering will be the following dates.

Sushi: November 25th to December 8th (session starts Jan 7th) *Now!*

Pizza: December 9th to December 20th (session starts Jan 9th)

[Order Here](#)

Please note this will cover January 1st to March Break. This is a fundraiser for LEB families - thank you for your support!

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Thank you!

Sport Equipment Donation

THE LEB PAC is looking for used and new sport equipment donations. Items such as bouncy balls, skipping ropes, soccer balls, basketballs, footballs, frisbees, hula hoops, even sidewalk chalk and bubbles will be valuable in helping to keep our students engaged in sports and play during our outside recess times. If you have a donation, please place it in the baskets that are located under the tables just outside the school office. Thank you for your contributions. We have our wonderful playground leaders who are volunteer grade four and five students who help to facilitate safe and healthy play with our grade one and kindergarten students on the back playground. This donated play equipment will be especially valuable in helping to teach and promote safe fun play.



IMPORTANT DATES

Monday December 16th – Learning Update #1 goes home to families

Tuesday December 17th – Parent/staff vs students volleyball games (at lunchtime)
Involved parent coaches and teachers will play our students for a few fun games.

Wednesday December 18th – Ugly sweater and/or festive sweater day (student council initiative)

Friday December 20th – Pajama and stuffie day (student council initiative)

Friday December 20th – Last day before winter break

Monday January 6th, 2025 – First day back to school