



L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Friday December 12, 2025

Newsletter #8

Evelyn Marcus, Principal
Louise Plante, Vice-Principal
Christopher Wong, Director of Instruction

Dear LEB Families,

Happy December! With just a week before the winter break we're seeing lots of playful sweaters and headwear to tis the season, winter activities and crafts are on-going in classrooms and there is a general buzz of excitement in the building!

On **Tuesday, December 16**, Term One Learning Updates will be sent home. We encourage you to review these updates with your child, celebrate their achievements, and discuss areas for growth and ways to support their learning both at home and at school.

Please note that student progress is reported using the **Provincial Proficiency Scale** (see infographic below). Each subject area is represented by one level on the scale, and there are no longer "in-between" indicators.

If you have any questions about your child's report, please reach out to their teacher directly to discuss or arrange a meeting—ideally before the two-week winter break.

For additional insight, the VSB's *After the Bell* podcast offers an episode on Learning Updates that you may find helpful: [After the Bell: LIVE! \(ep. 41\) Learning Updates](#)

Thank you for your continued support and partnership.

Core Competencies

"The ultimate goal is for learners to employ the core competencies every day in school and in life, and for the core competencies to be an integral part of the learning in all curriculum areas," (BC Ministry of Education). The Core Competencies run through all of the areas of the curriculum and will guide teacher planning. However, assessment of the Core Competencies is to be done through student self-assessment.



Communication



Thinking



Personal and Social

Using these Core Competencies students will be able to set personal targets, self-assess through personal reflection, and report out on their development at least one time per year.

STUDENT PROFICIENCY SCALE (in relation to grade level expectations)

| The Provincial Proficiency Scale | EMERGING | DEVELOPING | PROFICIENT | EXTENDING |
|----------------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | The student demonstrates an initial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning. | The student demonstrates a partial understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning. | The student demonstrates a complete understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning. | The student demonstrates a sophisticated understanding of the concepts and competencies relevant to the expected learning. |

Since this is our very last LEB newsletter before the winter break, we'd like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a wonderful two-week winter break. Please enjoy this time off from school to enjoy some family time, relax, sleep in, bake together and make some wonderful memories together as a family.

From all of the LEB staff, we wish you a very happy holiday! We hope to see all students back on Monday January 5th for the start of the 2026 portion of the school year.

All our best,
Evelyn Marcus, Principal & Louise Plante, Vice-Principal

School Closures in the event of extreme weather:



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

VSB Vancouver School Board

Thank you for supporting our Art Card fundraiser!

We are thrilled to share that, thanks to our wonderful families, our Art Card orders raised **\$3,105.96** this year. All proceeds will go directly to supporting our sister school, Grandview Elementary.

Thank you for making a difference!

For those students who will be joining our LEB school community for kindergarten for the 2026/27 school year – a learning opportunity:



On Our Way to Kindergarten
DROP-IN PROGRAM
Caregiver Must Attend

Get to know our schools!



FREE

Inclusive Early Learning Experiences



Build Kindergarten Confidence

Join Us

Who: Pre-school age children
When: 9:00 am - 12:00 pm
Every Tuesday and Wednesday
from January 7 to March 11, 2026
Where: Hudson Elementary
Room 146

Explore

- Play-based classroom
- Social interactions
- Open-ended art
- Basic routines
- Circle time

Registration Not Required

earlylearning@vsb.bc.ca 604-713-4445

Extended Absences

At this time of year, some families choose to extend the winter break by adding extra vacation days. While we value family time and understand that some students may be traveling to visit relatives, we want to emphasize the importance of regular school attendance—not only for academic progress but also for maintaining social connections.

If you are planning an extended absence, please contact Mme Marcus as soon as possible. There are specific procedures for extended absences, and please note that students who miss **20 consecutive school days** may be withdrawn from enrollment.

For more information, please refer to the VSB Administrative Procedures.
[ap_300_admission_to_school.9be67c14473.pdf](#)

Volunteering at LEB: Volunteer conduct agreement and CRC

Thinking about volunteering at L'École Bilingue this year?

Whether you plan to coach a team or help supervise a field trip, please ensure you complete both a **Volunteer Conduct Agreement** and a **Criminal Record Check** well in advance.

Criminal Record Checks are free of charge. Using the link and user code provided below, your clearance letter will be sent directly to Mme Marcus and kept on file at L'École Bilingue for the full five-year validity period.

Volunteer Conduct Agreements are valid for one year and must be renewed annually.

Criminal Record Check CRC: <https://justice.gov.bc.ca/screening/crrpa/org-access>

L'École Bilingue Access Code: UCQ9JNKQMR

[Volunteer Conduct Agreement.pdf](#)

[VBE Guidelines for Adults Interacting with Students](#)

[VSB AP 490 Volunteer Guidelines](#)

Punctuality

A friendly reminder to all that **school starts at 9:00am** and we would like to emphasize the importance of punctuality. Arriving at school on time is crucial as it sets a positive tone for the day and helps establish good habits that will benefit our students throughout their lives.

Please note that if you are late for school, the clipboard for late sign-in is on the table outside the office. Parents/students are asked to say goodbye by the office area and students are expected to walk to class on their own. Thank you for your understanding.

Student Highlight

Trevin P., one of our grade three students was late to school the other day but for very good reason: He had occasion to be a weather assistant on CTV news and will appear on Friday morning's CTV broadcast. Way to go Trevin! What a neat experience!



Counsellor's Corner: Holiday Gift Ideas for Social-Emotional Wellness

Hello L'École Bilingue Families,

Can you believe we are in mid-December? I hope you are all keeping well and looking forward to a well-deserved Winter break. Today I wanted to share with you some gift ideas for promoting wellness for your children. I LOVE picture books for teaching about SEL topics, and I find students really enjoy them too.

Books for Grades K–3

- *The Snurtch* by Sean Ferrell — self-regulation and big feelings (one of my favourites!!)
- *My Monster and Me* by Nadiya Hussain — anxiety
- *Beautiful Oops* by Barney Saltzberg — perfectionism
- *The Whatifs*, by Emily Kilgore — worries and anxiety
- *The Invisible String* by Patrice Karst — love and grief
- *Stick and Stone* by Beth Ferry — friendship
- *Elephant and Piggie* series by Mo Willems — variety of SEL topics
- *The Bad Seed* series by Jory John — variety of SEL topics

Books for Grades 4–7

- Raina Telgemeier graphic novels (*Smile, Sisters, Drama, Guts*)- range of SEL topics including friendship, siblings, and anxiety
- *The Miscalculations of Lightning Girl* – friendship, self-acceptance, personal growth
- *New Kid* by Jerry Craft — identity, belonging, friendship
- *The City of Ember* series — resilience and friendship
- *The Mysterious Benedict Society* — truth and loyalty

Non-Book Gift Ideas / Stocking Stuffers

- Calming aids: Nee-Doh nice cubes and other Nee-Doh products
- Crazy Aaron's Thinking Putty — colorful, sensory fun
- Kinetic Sand
- Arts & crafts kits: sewing, crochet, knitting, melting beads
- Journals: blank or structured for reflection
- Weighted blanket or weighted stuffy
- Card games: Uno, Sushi Go, Sleeping Queens
-

I hope that these suggestions are helpful and I wish you all a warm, restorative holiday season!

Warm regards,
Laura Robertson
Area Counsellor

VSB Voices - Call for volunteers!

Parents and caregivers, are you interested in sharing your voice and shaping important decisions for our schools? We are looking for volunteer participants to join VSB Voices, a trusted group of students' families and caregivers who provide feedback about different topics through surveys, focus groups and panels. Your voice matters and it is vital in shaping important decisions for our schools. To join VSB Voices for the 2025/2026 school year, please take five minutes to complete the [following questionnaire](#) by December 15, 2025.



More information on VSB Voices can be found [here](#).

Cold & Flu Season Reminder

Cold and flu season is here, we ask that families keep children home if they are feeling unwell, especially if they have a **fever, persistent cough, or excessive nasal congestion**, as these symptoms can be highly contagious.

Your help in keeping our school community healthy is greatly appreciated.

HOLIDAY SERVICE PROJECT

For the eighth year, our school community is preparing Holiday Gift Bags for the Downtown Community Health Centre on Powell Street, which supports individuals on the Downtown Eastside. For many clients visiting during the last week of the year, this may be their only gift; our support truly matters.

We're asking divisions/pods to collect **100 of their assigned items** (see list below) so we can once again fill 100 gift bags. There will be blue IKEA bags available by classrooms and **the deadline for collection is Friday, December 12.**

In addition, the whole school community is invited to donate:

- Gently used toques and gloves (collection bag outside front office)
- \$5-\$10 Tim Hortons gift cards (collection box inside front office)

No time to shop? You can send an e-transfer to our incredible PAC treasurer, Heather, at treasurer@lebpac.ca (please reference *Holiday Bags*). Any amount is appreciated and will go directly toward completing the gift bags.

Thank you for your continued support with this essential project.

Questions? Please reach out to Erin Barrett, Elizabeth Lefor, Zoe Laviolette & Tessa Wilson tessa.cm@gmail.com



| Divisions | Requested Items - Goal: 100 of each item to put 1 per bag Please no children's items please, no used items (apart from toques / gloves), |
|-----------|---|
| 1 & 2 | Menstrual products (30 packs of Pads, 30 packs of tampons) men's/women's deodorant |
| 3 & 4 | Adult toques (new or gently used okay) |
| 5 & 6 | Adult finger gloves (new or gently used okay) |
| 7, 8 & 9 | Socks: men's/women's- wool, synthetic preferred (new) |
| 10 | Small-sized shampoo & conditioner, lip balm/ChapStick |
| 11 | Soap: bars, small sized body wash, lip balm/chapstick |
| 12 & 13 | New Hand Towels (small) |
| 14 | Individually packed soft snacks, cookies, cereal bars |
| 15 | Individually packaged holiday treat of chocolates or candy or gum |
| 16 & 17 | Toothbrushes & Toothpaste |

LEB PAC NEWS

Pizza Lunch on Thursday December 18th is cancelled due to the winter concert. Munchalunch accounts will be credited. Please pack a lunch for your child(ren) for that day. Thanks for your understanding!

PAC Updates - Subscribe!

The school newsletter shares official school information only. Updates from the LEB Parent Advisory Council (PAC) - such as early notice of lunch and after-school programs, PAC-led events and initiatives, volunteer and fundraising opportunities, and how PAC funds support LEB students come through the PAC bi-weekly newsletter.

Subscribe at <https://lebpac.ca/newsletter> so you don't miss out on important updates. Join other LEB families and stay in the loop. Questions? Contact the PAC at hello@lebpac.ca.

Important Dates:

Tuesday December 16 – Term 1 Communicating Student Learning Reports go home

Thursday December 18 – Winter concert at 11am – families are invited to attend

Friday December 19 - Last day of school before winter break

Monday January 5 – First day back after winter break

Monday January 12 – Pro-D day – no school for students