



# L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Friday February 20, 2026

## Newsletter #12

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



Dear LEB Families,

Happy Lunar New Year to all in our community who celebrate this occasion! On Tuesday, we enjoyed a wonderful Lunar New Year assembly and lion dance performance to mark the celebration. Portia, a proud Grade 1 student from Division 15, delighted us by sharing some of her family's traditions.



The past couple of weeks have been full of activity. Our Earth Bites workshops have begun again, and many of our classes have been out engaging in exciting field studies, including the Grade 6 students attending the First Peoples' Festival at the Museum of Anthropology, and our Division 1 and 2 students participating in Eco Theatre programming, rehearsing onsite and then performing on stage at Granville Island.



We will conclude the week with a Wednesday assembly in recognition of Pink Shirt Day. For more information about Pink Shirt Day, please see the link provided. [PinkShirtDay](#)  
We hope you are keeping well and warm despite the recent temperature drop, and we wish you a wonderful weekend ahead.

Take care,  
Evelyn Harcus, Principal  
Louise Plante, Vice-Principal

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## What is Bullying?

At school, we help students understand that *bullying is not the same as a conflict or a one-time unkind moment*. Bullying has three key components:

1. **It is persistent and repeated.**  
Bullying happens more than once or is very likely to happen again. It is not a single argument, disagreement, or mistake.
2. **There is a power imbalance.**  
One person has more power—this may be physical strength, social status, popularity, age, group size, or another advantage that makes it hard for the other person to defend themselves.
3. **The behaviour is intentional and harmful.**  
The purpose is to hurt, embarrass, exclude, or control someone else.

Bullying can take different forms, including:

- **Physical** (hitting, pushing, damaging belongings)
- **Verbal** (name-calling, threats, insults)
- **Social/relational** (spreading rumours, excluding others, influencing peers to mistreat someone)
- **Digital/cyberbullying** (sending hurtful messages, sharing images without permission, online exclusion)

At school, we focus on helping students recognize the difference between *unkind behaviour, conflict, and bullying*, and we work together to support caring, safe, and respectful relationships.

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## Reminder: Before and After School Supervision & Punctuality

We would like to remind families that the school day begins at **9:00 a.m.** and ends at **2:58 p.m.** Students are expected to arrive on time so they can begin the day with their peers. Punctual arrival supports a positive start to learning, establishes strong lifelong habits, and minimizes disruptions to the classroom.

We also ask that families ensure children are picked up promptly at 2:58 p.m. Teachers' duty of care for students is during the instructional hours of the school day.

In exceptional circumstances, if you anticipate being late for pick-up, please notify both the classroom teacher and the office. In these situations, we can provide short-term supervision for younger students in the office.

Please note that while staff are outside providing general supervision before school (8:40–8:55 a.m.) and after school (2:58–3:18 p.m.), this supervision is limited and intended to ensure overall safety. It is not the same as the direct supervision provided during the instructional day.

We recognize that many intermediate students travel to and from school independently and may spend time on the school grounds after dismissal. We also welcome families of primary students to use the playground after school; however, parents and caregivers must remain on site and provide direct supervision for their children.

Thank you for your attention to this important safety information and for your ongoing partnership in supporting our students.

## **Math Mania at L'Ecole Bilingue- Looking for Parent Volunteers!**

In collaboration with the **Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIMS)**, Math Mania will be at L'École Bilingue on:

- **Tuesday, April 14**
- **Friday, April 17**
- **Tuesday, April 21**

Students will explore **20 fun, hands-on math stations** featuring games, puzzles, demonstrations, and mathematical paradoxes to show how engaging math and computer science can be. Thank you to parent Luna Oni for helping to bring Math Mania to our school!

We are looking for **20 volunteers** to help run the stations. **No math skills required!**

### **Schedule:**

	Tuesday, April 14 <sup>th</sup>	Friday, April 17 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday, April 21 <sup>st</sup>
	Division Number		
9:30-10:30	17, 18	15, 16	13, 14
11:00-12:00	11, 12	7, 8	3, 4
1:15-2:15	9, 10	5, 6	1, 2 (1:15-2:30 for div 1, 2)

Please sign up and help make Math Mania a success! [\*\*SIGN UP HERE\*\*](#)

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## Counsellor's Corner:

Dear L'École Bilingue Families,

Tuesday, February 17<sup>th</sup> marked the Lunar New Year, the start of Ramadan, and Mardi Gras. It got me thinking about the incredible diversity of cultures and traditions in Vancouver, and what a privilege it is to work in such a culturally rich and diverse area. I wanted to focus on ways that families can support diversity and inclusion, and how we can all work together to create more open and accepting school communities.

For children, diversity shows up in many everyday ways:

- Different family traditions and cultures
- Different languages spoken at home
- Different learning styles and strengths
- Different personalities, interests, and comfort levels
- Different ways of expressing emotions

Acceptance grows when children learn to approach differences with curiosity rather than judgment. We encourage students to:

- Ask respectful questions
- Listen to others' stories
- Notice what makes each classmate unique
- Recognize that everyone has strengths and challenges

How families can support at home:

- Talking openly about differences in a positive way
- Reading books that feature diverse characters and experiences
- Encouraging your child to include classmates who may seem different from them
- Modeling kindness and flexibility in everyday interactions

One great book that I would recommend is **Together a Forest: Drawing Connections Between Nature's Diversity and Our Own**, by **Roz MacLean**. I love this book for the diverse learners it portrays, and how it builds empathy and understanding for the ways different children interact with the world. I love the connection with the forest ecosystem, and how all the differences are vital for creating a thriving community.



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## Conflict Resolution Process

At times during the school day and in the classroom or on the playground, students may experience occasional conflict with peers. These situations can include unkind words, misunderstandings, or physical interactions. Learning how to navigate social interactions, resolve disagreements, and play safely with others is an important part of students' growth and development at school.

We would like to remind families that when concerns arise during the school day, the school is best positioned to work directly with the students involved to address the

situation in a timely, thoughtful, and developmentally appropriate way. We encourage families to contact their child's teacher and/or school administrators if they have concerns, so we can work collaboratively to support students.

While play can sometimes become overly physical, silly, or unsafe, these moments provide valuable opportunities for teaching students about respectful communication, problem-solving, and safe, healthy play. Our staff are committed to guiding students through these learning moments.

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## School Closures in the event of extreme weather:



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## Dress for the weather

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.

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## LEB PAC NEWS

### 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](mailto:hello@lebpac.ca).

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**Important Dates:**

**Tuesday March 10** – Learning Update #2 goes home (Spaces Edu is the new platform for report writing, so reports will reflect the same information but will look a little different. Term 3 we are going paperless and parents will be able to download a PDF copy of the summary of learning report and all reports going forward).

**Friday March 13** – Last day of school before spring break

**Monday March 30** – First day back after spring break

**Friday April 3** – Good Friday – No School

**Monday April 6** – Easter Monday – No School

**Monday April 20** – Indigenous Focus Day – No school for students