



L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Friday April 10, 2026

Newsletter #14

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

Dear LEB Families,

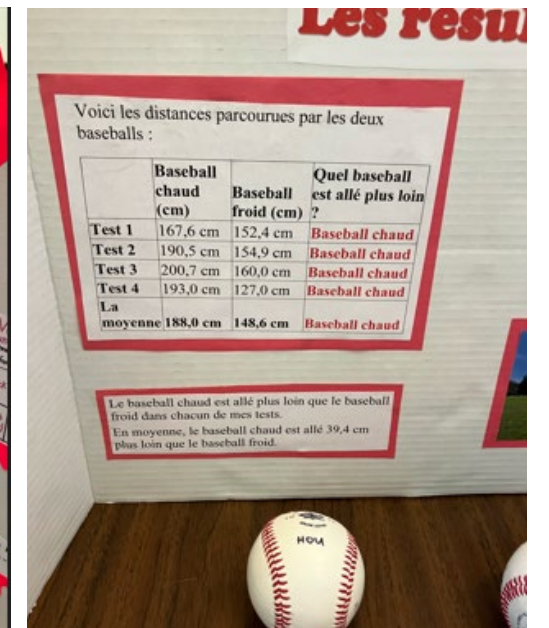
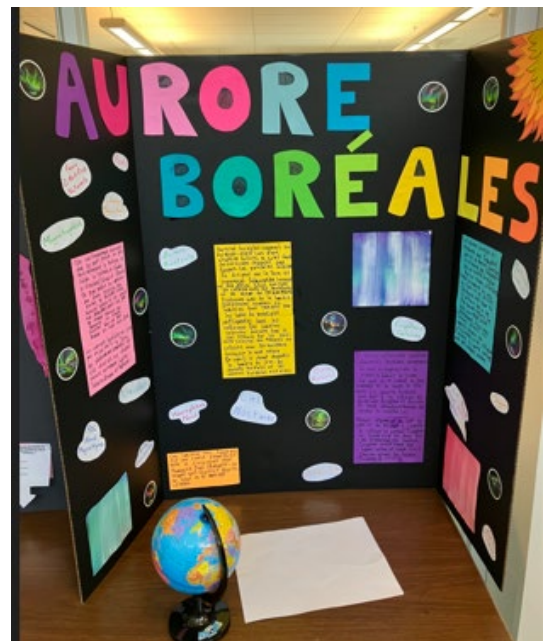
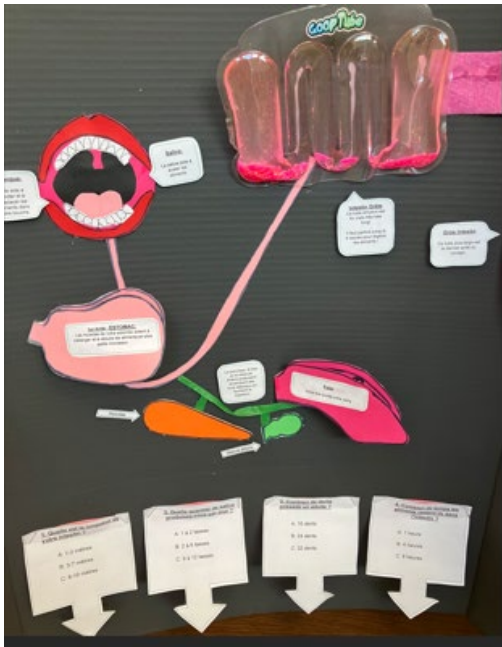
We hope everyone enjoyed a restful Spring Break and long weekend. As we begin our third and final term of the 2025–26 school year, the school is already buzzing with activity. This week's sunny weather has brought a true sense of spring, and students are making the most of their time outdoors—playing soccer and baseball, zooming around the playground equipment, and exploring our growing garden.

Inside the building, learning is equally vibrant. Circus programming is currently underway in the gym, and we invite you to enjoy the photos that capture the energy and excitement of the term already in motion.



Our Grade 3 students have been extending their learning beyond the classroom through a variety of hands-on science inquiry projects. Their investigations include questions such as "Do warm or cold baseballs travel farther?", "How does the digestive system work?", explorations of space, and even experiments in growing rock candy. These projects showcase students' curiosity, creativity, and growing scientific thinking.

Please enjoy a glimpse into this exciting learning!



Toutes nos félicitations to all our Upper Intermediate students who participated in the **Concours d'Art Oratoire**, an extracurricular French public speaking competition that goes above and beyond regular classroom learning. Students explored a wide range of engaging topics and demonstrated dedication and perseverance as they researched, wrote, refined, and memorized their speeches.

We are especially pleased to share some exciting news: two of our students, Nalani and Anna, who represented LEB at the district level, will be advancing to the provincial competition next month. This is a wonderful achievement, and we are incredibly proud of their hard work and commitment. Bonne chance, Nalani et Anna!

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

VSBC Summer Learning Registration Information

Elementary Program registration begins on **Thursday, April 30th at 12pm.**

Summer.vsb.bc.ca



RBC RACE FOR THE KIDS



Join L'École Bilingue Team for the RBC Race for the Kids!

<https://fundraise.bcchf.ca/fundraisers/lcolebilingue>

Sunday, June 7th | 9:00 AM | Riley Park

Training Sessions: DATES AND SIGNUP FOR TRAINING SESSION TO BE COMMUNICATED SOON.

To get ready for the big day, we will hold four morning training sessions on the school field. We welcome parents to participate and /or support with supervision (spotters will be needed on the corners during the morning run).

Training Sessions Time: 8:15 AM – 8:45 AM

How to Join the Team:

1. **Register your family:** <https://fundraise.bcchf.ca/fundraisers/lcolebilingue>
2. **EARLY BIRD ENDS April 15th (save \$10.00)**
3. **Register soon** to ensure your T-shirts are included in the team box.
4. Our goal is to raise **\$10,000** and gather as many team members as possible—students, parents, siblings, and friends!
5. Can't make it to the race? You can still support us by donating through our team page.

About the Event:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1GmgSV82EP/>

RBC Race for the Kids helps fund vital childhood cancer research, treatment programs, and mental health services.

After the run (2 km or 5 km), enjoy a **family-friendly carnival** with live music, face painting, crafts, games, and healthy snacks.

Thank you for supporting such a meaningful cause—we hope to see you there on **Sunday, June 7th!**

Janine Dobry,

L'École Bilingue

QUESTIONS? Please email jdobry@vsb.bc.ca

School Calendars 2026-2029

Please have a look at the following link with proposed calendars for 2026-2029 – and for your advance planning. Merci! [School Calendars 2026–2029](#)

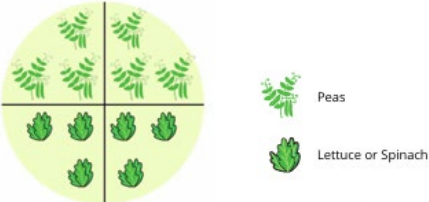
Earthbites Programming:

Planting season is underway and students are busily getting the garden beds ready – turning the soil. Take a look at the potting plan that is included in the student workbook for the spring gardening session and please enjoy some of these photos of Division 10, Mme. Gabrielle’s class hard at work in the garden:

POTTING PLAN


- Our potting plan uses the principles as Square Foot gardening.
- Knowing the size of the adult plants allows you to give each plant adequate space. Plants don't like to compete for growing space.

Spring Garden Plan One



Peas
Lettuce or Spinach

Spring Garden Plan Two











Kale
Radishes

Use this plan to plant your seeds in your pot

SQUARE FOOT GARDENING

- Measure 1 foot x 1 foot (30cm x 30 cm) squares in a grid pattern.
- Each square gets its own plant.
- Plant enough plants to fill the square, based on the size of the square. Some plants can fit 16 per square, while others only a single plant.





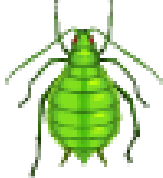

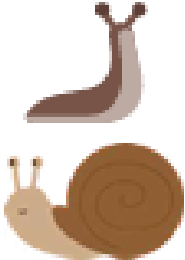
	16 per square (extra small)	
	9 per square (small)	
	5 per square (medium)	
	1 per square (large)	



On your neighbourhood walks and possibly in your own garden, can you spot some of these insects in the garden?

INSECTS IN THE GARDEN

Gardens are a perfect habitat for insects. There is plenty of shelter and food for them to thrive. Some of these insects help our garden grow. Others look at the garden as a free lunch, and can do a lot of damage.

	<p>Bees</p> <p>Bees are pollinators and help plants grow fruit and new seeds. Bees can be aggressive and sting if bothered. Keep your distance and observe only with your eyes.</p>
	<p>Ladybugs</p> <p>Ladybugs help keep the garden pest-free. They are predators and feed on other insects - especially aphids!</p>
	<p>Spiders</p> <p>Spiders are another excellent predator to have in your garden. They will help keep your garden pest-free.</p>
	<p>Earthworms</p> <p>Earthworms are one of the garden's best recyclers and live in the soil. You can often see them coming up from the ground in cool damp locations. They do not like to be in the sun.</p>
	<p>Aphids</p> <p>Aphids will attach below a plant leaf where they are protected from the sun. They attach to the leaf and stem and suck the sap from the plant. You can remove them by spraying them with soapy water.</p>
	<p>Ants</p> <p>Ants do not actually eat plants, but can still be unhelpful for the garden. They like to farm aphids, which they milk for the honeydew the aphids secrete.</p> <p>If you see Ants in your garden, keep an eye out for aphids!</p>
	<p>Slugs & Snails</p> <p>Slugs and Snails can be deadly in your garden. A single one can devour an entire plant in less than a day. These bugs are mostly nocturnal and only come out at night. During the day they can be found in damp, shady areas or the garden, like under leaves.</p> <p>Re-locate slugs and snails away from your garden</p>

Supporting School Safety: Minimizing Traffic Inside the Building

At L'École Bilingue, the safety and well-being of our students and staff is always our top priority. As part of our ongoing commitment to maintaining a secure school environment, we are asking for your support in helping us reduce unnecessary traffic inside the building during the school day and after school.

Afterschool Program Pickup

Beginning after spring break, all afterschool program pickups will take place at the front doors of the school at the end of program time. Instructors will bring students—with all their belongings—to the foyer for dismissal. The doors to the school- including the front door will be locked after 3:30pm and the building engineer's phone number will be posted on the door if you need access. After school program teachers should also share contact information with families if a student needs to be picked up early.

All of this helps us ensure that we know who is entering the building and allows our staff to maintain clear sightlines and secure access points after school hours.

Arriving Late to School

If your child arrives late to school, please accompany them to the office to sign in, if needed, and say goodbye there. We kindly ask that parents and guardians do not walk through the school after drop-off.

Visitor Procedures

As a reminder, any visitor who needs to enter the school during the day must:

- Sign in at the office, and
- Wear a visitor badge while in the building.

This helps us quickly identify adults in the school and maintain a safe and monitored environment.

Building Access

To support school safety:

- All exterior doors remain locked during the school day, except during the two recess periods.
- The front doors on 14th Avenue are the only entry point during instructional hours, allowing the office to monitor who is coming in and out of the building. And as stated above, the front doors to the building will also be locked at 3:30pm but that the building engineer's phone number will be posted on the door- should you need.

Thank you for your cooperation and partnership in helping us keep L'École Bilingue a safe, welcoming, and secure place for all students and staff. Your support truly makes a difference.

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.

Scholastic Book Fair is coming to L'École Bilingue:

Coinciding with our early dismissal dates for informal learning updates (Wednesday April 29 and Thursday April 30), we will have our school-based book fair in the gym.

If you're interested in volunteering – here is the link:
[2026 Book Fair Volunteers: April 28, 29, 30](#)



April 29 and April 30
2pm - 6pm

- Help clear our Teacher Wish Lists
- Fill your family library
- Every purchase supports our school library

Volunteers needed. Sign up below or email
Erin.Barrett@gmail.com



Student Learning Survey – an opportunity for parents/guardians to share feedback about their school experience here at L'Ecole Bilingue:



Subject: Your Voice Matters – BC Student Learning Survey

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We want to hear from you! Please share your thoughts about your child's learning by completing the **BC Student Learning Survey (SLS)**. This survey happens every year and helps us make education better for all students in BC.

Why your opinion matters:

- It's the only survey that asks parents across BC about their child's learning.
- Your answers add to what students and staff share, giving a full picture.
- Results help identify areas of concern and guide improvements.

Please complete the survey by May 1, 2026:

https://www.awinfosys.com/surveyfull1/central/main/access_Parent.asp

- Available in 18 languages
- Takes about 30 minutes
- Voluntary and anonymous

Your responses are anonymous, securely stored in Canada, and not linked to your child.

Need help?

Call **1-866-558-5339** or email support@awinfosys.com

Thank you for helping us improve education for all BC students!

Sincerely,



David Hosick
Director, Economics & Data Science Lab
Ministry of Education and Child Care
David.Hosick@gov.bc.ca

Link to access survey: [Student Learning Survey - Province of British Columbia](#)

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.

Important Dates:

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

Wed April 29 and Thurs April 30 – **Early Dismissal at 2pm** for informal learning updates

Wednesday May 13 – Class Photos and School Panorama

Monday May 18 – Victoria Day – No School

Tuesday June 23 – Summary of Learning goes home

Tuesday June 23 – Grade 7 Leaving Ceremony and Grade 7 Dance

Thursday June 25 – Last day of school for students