



L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Friday October 2 , 2026

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

Newsletter #4



Hello & Bonjour L'École Bilingue Families,

October has arrived, and with it our classrooms are buzzing with learning as students settle into their routines and find their learning rhythm for the year ahead.

This week, we gathered for a meaningful school-wide assembly in recognition of Truth and Reconciliation. It was wonderful to see so many students wearing orange shirts to honour this important day. A heartfelt thank you to Mme Laura and Division 3 for leading the assembly and helping our students deepen their understanding of Indigenous cultures and histories. Students learned and shared at our assembly, words from several Indigenous languages and explored the importance of language preservation, including the reality that some Indigenous languages are currently endangered.



Thank you to all the families who attended our *Meet the Teacher* event. We hope you found the evening informative and valuable as teachers shared classroom routines, learning goals, and expectations for the year. On October 21 and 22, teachers will be scheduling **Informal Learning Updates**, providing an opportunity for more personalized conversations about your child's progress and experiences at school. As always, if you have questions or concerns before then, please reach out directly to your child's classroom teacher.

A special thank you goes to Kelly Little, Usha Menard, our PAC team, and the many parent volunteers who organized our *Welcome Back BBQ*. Despite the rainy weather, we enjoyed an excellent turnout and a wonderful opportunity to connect as a school community. Events like these help strengthen the relationships that make L'École Bilingue such a special place. PAC organizers also noted the outstanding leadership demonstrated by

many of our older students, who enthusiastically helped run stations, assisted with cleanup, and contributed to the event's overall success.

At L'École Bilingue, we are committed to developing student leadership and fostering a strong sense of belonging, responsibility, voice, and agency. It is always rewarding to see our students step forward, contribute to their community, and take pride in their school.

This afternoon, students participated in our annual Terry Fox Run and truly embodied Terry's spirit of determination by running enthusiastically, in support of this important cause. A reminder that our **"Toonies for Terry"** campaign will continue until Tuesday, October 13. Students are welcome to bring a toonie (or more!) to support the Terry Fox Foundation.

Families who wish to make an online donation can do so here: [Terry Fox School Run](#)



Thank you for your continued partnership and support. We look forward to a wonderful month of learning, growth, and community-building together.

Warm regards,

The L'École Bilingue Team

Evelyn Marcus (Principal), Louise Plante (Vice-Principal) and Christine Fyfe (Office Admin)

Punctuality & Before/After School Supervision

We would like to remind families that the school day begins at **9:00 a.m.** and ends at **3:00 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 3:00 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 (3:00–3:20 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.

Volunteer Conduct Agreement and Criminal Records Check

If parents will be volunteering at school this year (for field trips, coaching or helping in the library for example), we encourage you to complete a volunteer conduct agreement and a criminal records check. The VSB volunteer agreement is linked here and must be completed annually and the criminal records check information is listed below (CRCs are valid for five years). Even if you've already completed a CRC with another organization, we are required to have it linked to our organization – and you can do so by following the prompts on the site. Thank you for helping to volunteer this year!

Criminal Record Check CRC:

<https://justice.gov.bc.ca/screening/crrpa/org-access>

**L'École Bilingue Access Code:
UCQ9JNKQMR**

Your CRC result/clearance letter will be emailed directly to Madame Harcus. CRCs are valid for five years. If you've already completed a CRC for another organization, you can use the link above to link that CRC to our organization. Merci!

Volunteer Conduct agreement link here: [Volunteer Conduct Agreement.pdf](#)

Cross Country and Volleyball – A message from M. Abheeru

CROSS-COUNTRY: PARENT SUPPORT NEEDED!

The cross-country team is off to a fantastic start! With over 100 students participating, **we need parent volunteers to walk with the team** to our upcoming mini-meets at Douglas Park on **October 6 and 13**. If you can help, please meet at the gym at **2:45 PM**. Thank you for your support!

VOLLEYBALL SEASON PREPARATIONS

The volleyball season is about to begin! Students from Grade 5 to Grade 7 are invited to join L'École Bilingue's teams. Because the number of teams we can field depends on how many adults can help, we are also looking for parent volunteers. You can either be coaching/training the players or just as importantly be a game chaperone if you are a VSB employee (no volleyball experience needed). Please note that there may not be enough players, coaches and/or sponsors for Grade 5 teams. If you are interested, please indicate on the upcoming permission form which role you would like to take on and return no later than Tuesday October 13, as VSB registration will close shortly after.

Important dates:

- **Information meeting:** Tuesday October 6 at 12:10p.m. in the gym
- **Registration opens:** Tuesday October 6
- **Registration closes:** Tuesday October 13
- **Permission forms due:** Tuesday October 13
- **Season:** begins the first week of November and lasts approximately 6 weeks.

Daily announcements regarding registration times are being made at school until signup closes. Please remind your child to register only if they are certain they can commit to the game schedule below. If they realize they can no longer participate, please ensure they remove their name before the deadline.

Game times:

Games will be from 3 PM to approximately 4:30 PM

- Junior boys (grade 5-6) on Mondays
- Junior girls (grade 5-6) on Tuesdays
- Senior boys (grade 7) on Wednesdays
- Senior girls (grade 7) on Thursdays

Practices:

- each team usually practices twice a week either before school or at lunch time
- Day and time TBA

Thank you for your support,
Abheeru Ricard
PE teacher

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.

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 the building engineer's phone number will be posted on the door- should you need.

After-school Program Pickup

- 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. 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 makes a difference.

Safe Arrival

Absent/Late: If your child will be **absent from school** or **arriving late**, please inform the office by contacting the Safe Arrival line before 9am. Children who are not reported absent will receive a phone call from our office staff to ensure their safety.
If your child is arriving late, they must **sign in at the office before heading to class**.

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

Safe Arrival phone: 604-713-4585 School Code 97

Please remember to state the STUDENT'S FULL NAME, division, and reason for absence.

Leaving Early: if a student is leaving school early, **parents - please present yourself at the office to sign the student out**. We will call the student down to the office. Thank you for your cooperation with this important safety measure.

Toys at School

We would like to remind students and families that toys - including items such as baseball cards and Pokémon cards, should be kept at home. These items can be easily lost, damaged, or lead to disagreements, particularly when trading cards that may later be considered unfair.

As we approach spring, we want to encourage students to use recess time to play actively, socialize, and enjoy outdoor activities. Toys brought from home can sometimes create distractions and may go missing.

Thank you, families, for your ongoing support in helping us maintain a positive and active recess environment for all students.

Data and Image Consent for School Yearbooks

The Vancouver School Board (VSB) and its schools are authorized to collect, use, and disclose student personal information in accordance with the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* ("FIPPA"). At the start of the school year, your child's photo will be collected for operational purposes such as attendance or ID verification in accordance with section 26(c) of FIPPA.

As part of its commitment to protecting student privacy, the VSB is providing notice to you regarding the collection, use and disclosure of your child's personal information and image(s) for the purpose of creating a school-specific publication of the school year (a yearbook) and, if applicable, featuring their school photo, class composite photo, and other images (ex. Sports teams or clubs), in accordance with sections 32(a) and 33(1), respectively.

If you do not wish for your child's personal information or photographs to be included in the yearbook, **please email the school Principal by November 30, 2026.**

Production of this year's yearbook will be coordinated by the school PAC. If you do not wish for your child's image and personal information to be included, that will be shared with the PAC. Unless withdrawn, this consent is effective immediately from the day of receipt and lasts until June 30th of the current school year.

For inquiries about FIPPA, please contact privacy@vsb.bc.ca.

Growth Mindset

A growth mindset is the knowledge that we can get better at something through effort, practice, and learning from mistakes. It means understanding that our abilities aren't fixed—they can grow over time. For example, instead of saying "I'm just not good at math," a child with a growth mindset might say, "I'm still learning math, and I'll get better if I keep trying." Even the simple use of the word "yet" can help shift a child's thinking. Instead of saying, "I'm not good at skateboarding," they can say "I'm not good at skateboarding yet."

Here are some tips to help foster growth mindset in your children:

Growth Mindset and the Power of "Yet"

1. Praise Effort, Not Just Results

- Instead of saying "You're so smart," try: *"I'm proud of how hard you worked on that."*

2. Normalize Mistakes as Part of Learning

- Talk openly about mistakes and what they teach us.
- *"What did you learn from that?" or "Mistakes help our brains grow."*

3. Model Growth Mindset Language

- Use phrases like:
 - *"I haven't figured this out yet."*
 - *"This is hard, but I can keep trying."*
 - *"Let's find a new strategy."*

If you are interested in learning more, there are some great resources available.

Here is a [FREE Mindset Course for Parents](#)

There is also a [31-day growth mindset challenge for families](#)

Earthbites: It's time to Garden!

EarthBites programming began last Wednesday, and students will be busy throughout the fall months harvesting the last of our summer crops, planting fall and overwintering crops, and preparing the garden for the winter season.

As part of our learning, we recently enjoyed popcorn, a summer crop with a fascinating history!

Here is a recipe along with some fun facts about popcorn.



Corn & Popcorn: Facts & Fun Facts

A Staple Through Time

Corn, also called maize, is one of the oldest cultivated crops in the world. It was first domesticated approximately 9,000 years ago in southern Mexico from a wild grass. Corn spread across the Americas and became a staple food for many Indigenous peoples. Today, it's grown on every continent except Antarctica.

The "Three Sisters"

Corn is one part of the traditional Three Sisters planting method used by many Indigenous communities:

- Corn grows tall and provides a natural pole for support
- Beans climb the corn stalk and fix nitrogen in the soil
- Squash spreads along the ground, keeping weeds down and soil moist

Together, they form a mutually beneficial system.

Pollination Power

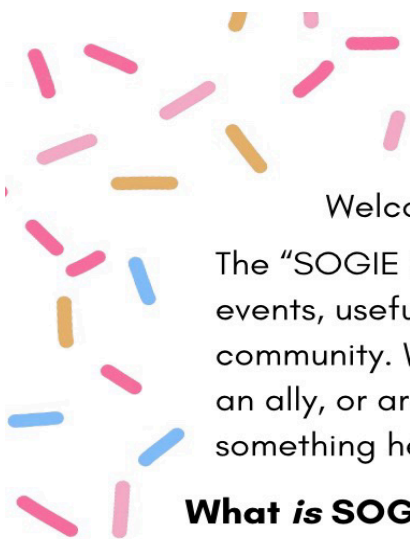
Corn is pollinated by wind, not insects. Each tassel at the top of the plant releases thousands of pollen grains. The silk on each ear (the corn cob) is actually a long tube leading to a kernel. Every kernel needs its own piece of pollen to grow: so no pollen, no kernel!

Nutrition at a Glance (per 1 cup cooked corn)

- Protein: 5g
- Fat: 2g
- Fibre: 3.5g

Vitamins & Minerals: rich in vitamin C, folate, magnesium, and antioxidants like lutein and zeaxanthin (good for eye health). Corn provides energy and is naturally gluten-free. You can eat it fresh, dried, popped, or ground into flour.

WELCOME TO THE SOGIE SPRINKLE!



THE SOGIE SPRINKLE

Welcome to this new little corner of the L'EB newsletter!

The "SOGIE Sprinkle" will aim to share resources, fun facts, events, useful links, etc. related to SOGIE for the L'École Bilingue community. Whether you identify as 2SLGBTQ+, consider yourself an ally, or are looking to learn and support others, there's something here for everyone. Here's this week's "sprinkle":

What *is* SOGIE?

SOGIE stands for Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression. SOGIE-inclusive education helps ensure that *all* students feel safe, supported, and represented in our classrooms.

WITH LOVE, THE L'EB SOGIE COMMITTEE



Important Dates:

Monday, October 12 – Thanksgiving – No school

Tuesday, October 13 – Photo Day! (Retakes on Nov.6)

Tuesday, October 20 – Cross-Country Final meet at Trout Lake (afternoon)

Wednesday October 21 and Thursday October 22 – early dismissal at 2:00pm for informal learning updates (teachers will be contacting families to schedule conferences)

Wednesday October 21 & Thursday October 22 - Scholastic Book Fair in the gym 2:00-6:00p.m.

Friday October 23 – Pro-D Day – no school for students

Friday October 30 – PAC sponsored Halloween Haunt event 5:00-7:00p.m.

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.
