



# L'ÉCOLE BILINGUE

Friday, February 2, 2024

Jacque Lavoie, Principal  
 Alice Jungclaus, Vice-Principal  
 Christopher Wong, Director of Instruction

## Newsletter #16

Dear L'École Bilingue families,

February is upon us, with lots to acknowledge and celebrate such as Black History Month, Pink Shirt Day, Valentine's Day and even Leap Year! Stay tuned to learn how L'École Bilingue is acknowledging and celebrating these events.

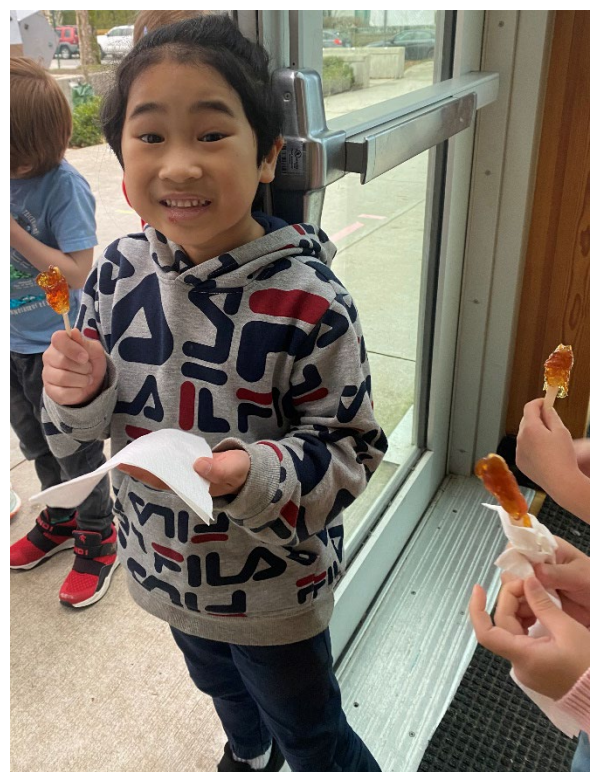
On Friday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, L'École Bilingue celebrated *Carnaval*, with a visit from the Maple Man, René Turmel. Students participated in a one-hour workshop with The Maple Man, and learned about French-Canadian traditions such as playing the wooden spoons and how maple syrup is made.

Students watched a video created by René himself, which was filmed at his sugar shack in Quebec, about the process of transforming maple sap into maple syrup. Then students watched in amazement as René poured the maple syrup onto snow, yes, real snow, and wrapped the sticky maple syrup taffy around a popsicle stick, which was then savored by the students. Yum, Yum! It was very evident that all students and staff thoroughly enjoyed this special treat!

The fee for this workshop was covered by French Immersion federal funds, which all French Immersion schools receive and use at our discretion, to support French Immersion learning.

Warm regards,  
 Mme Lavoie & Mme  
 Jungclaus





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## UPCOMING CONFERENCES

Our second set of Parent-Teacher conferences is taking place on **Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**. Please note the early dismissal time of **2:00 pm** on both days, to allow time for all parents and families to meet with your classroom teacher. Your classroom teacher will be communicating with you the format that they have selected for these conferences, as well as the sign-up schedule.

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## A FEW FRIENDLY REMINDERS

- Please report student absences before 9am:
  - Safe Arrival Phone Line: **604-713-4585 Press #1**
  - Safe Arrival Email: [lec-safearrival@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:lec-safearrival@vsb.bc.ca)

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## SALEEMA NOON BODY SCIENCE WORKSHOP

Every second year, all L'École Bilingue students participate in a Body Science workshop with Sexual Health Educator Saleema Noon. This year, the Body Science workshop for students is taking place on March 1 & 4. Prior to the student workshop, parents are invited to a Body Science Boot Camp workshop for Parents.

Parenthood never arrives with a rulebook, and when it comes to explaining the world of sexual health to your child, it can be hard not to end up a bright shade of red. Using humor and straight talk in an open, interactive environment, Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators will show you how easy it is to convey healthy, positive messages about sexual health to kids.

### **In this workshop parents will learn:**

- Why we need to talk to children about sexual health at a young age
- How to reduce risk of child sexual abuse
- What children should know at each stage of development, with specific examples of how to explain concepts and processes
- How to become their kids' preferred source of sexual health information
- How to normalize open, honest sexual health conversations in their family
- How to effectively answer even the toughest questions kids ask
- What will be covered in Body Science workshops for students

**Join us via live Zoom on Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.** (Zoom link to be shared closer to the date)

For more information about Saleema Noon Sexual Health Educators go to [www.saleemanoon.com](http://www.saleemanoon.com).

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## Provincial government announces restrictions on cell phones in schools for September 2024

On Friday, January 26, the provincial government announced measures to improve student safety online. This included information about restricting cell phones in schools to be put in place by the next school year.

Currently, in the VSB, several measures are in place to guide appropriate use of cell phones and other devices. These including the [District Student Code of Conduct](#) and [Acceptable Use of Technology](#) administrative procedures. Staff will work with the Ministry of Education and Child Care to ensure that any necessary changes are implemented before September 2024. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Learn more about the provincial government's [announcement](#)

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## PAC NEWS

### SUSHI LUNCH TUESDAYS

Thank you for all the volunteers! Without you, sushi lunch won't happen. Please sign up to volunteer. This is a Great volunteering opportunity! This program raises money for Grade 7 special events therefore is being run by grade 7 students and led by grade 7 parents. Parents volunteers are needed for 35 minutes to help deliver sushi lunch on Tuesdays from 12:40-13:15.

<https://signup.com/go/FHfXYcB>

***Important notification: Sushi lunch will not be able to operate without volunteers. We need a minimum of 3 volunteers each Tuesday.***

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### IMPORTANT DATES

- **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>: Prince of Wales Secondary GRADE 7 PARENT INFO NIGHT - 7:00 PM ONLINE.**  
Please register here: <http://tinyurl.com/4ehjcekj>
  - **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14: EARLY DISMISSAL 2PM – Parent Teacher Conferences**
  - **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15: EARLY DISMISSAL 2PM – Parent Teacher Conferences**
  - **FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – NO SCHOOL**
  - **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19: FAMILY DAY – SCHOOL CLOSED**
  - **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27: SALEEMA NOON PARENT WORKSHOP ON-LINE – 6:30 PM**
  - **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28: PINK SHIRT DAY**
  - **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29: PAC MEETING 7:00 PM**
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