



L'École Bilingue/Bilingual School

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Newsletter # 2

2017 September 29

Dear Parents, Guardians & Students,

Although barely four weeks into the year, everyone seems to have eased back into fall routines: classes are busy with projects, the PAC has held its first monthly meeting, cross-country running season is up and running. Volleyball is starting shortly and we all thoroughly enjoyed our annual community building fundraiser: Our Welcome Back BBQ and Meet the Teacher Night! Kudos to Dave Worland, Brent Larson and team, Salmons Rentals and the Gr. 7 parents for an outstanding evening of fun, food and community!

Many thanks again to all the parent volunteers and the grade sevens who were excellent leaders and extremely hard workers. Merci mille fois les élèves!

On behalf of the entire staff, we wish all of you – students, parents, grandparents and guardians – a school year filled with learning, growth, sunshine and smiles. As we no longer send paper copies of our newsletters home and if you are not receiving them, please make sure that you have added your email address to L'École Bilingue PAC Email List by going to the following address: lecole-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Safe Arrival

This is a reminder that students who arrive late, after the second bell, must report to the Safe Arrival desk before going to their classes. It would be greatly appreciated if teachers would check

with their late arriving pupils to ensure that they have checked in to the Safe Arrival desk. This will eliminate an unnecessary call home. Thank you from the parents who volunteer their time to ensure that all our students have arrived safely.

Verification Sheets & Earthquake Preparedness

Verification Sheets were distributed to all students on September 14th. Parents and guardians are asked to check these **Blue** forms over carefully and to make necessary additions and updates. Once completed, these sheets should be returned to the classroom teacher. Please do not delay: we need all information to be in before we can update lists for our earthquake shed and for various parent groups.

Important Notice re: Nut Allergies

Several students in our school have severe allergies to peanuts and nuts. Exposure to even a minute amount of these foods could cause anaphylactic shock and, without immediate emergency medical assistance, loss of consciousness and possibly death.

We would ask that parents and guardians of anaphylactic students please communicate with both the office and the classroom teacher(s) as soon as possible. Most of you have already done this. Thank you. When needed, however, we will follow up with letters to specific classes underlining the importance that no nut

products be brought into those classrooms or be consumed at the lunch room table.

In the meantime, all families should be aware of the potential threat and **avoid including peanuts, nuts and nut products in anything that may be shared at school.**

Under the guidance of our nurse, the school will review an emergency plan for these students. We will also promote practices that will reduce the possibility of exposure to substances which cause anaphylactic shock. It is of utmost importance that all students be made aware of this issue and be careful to wash their hands after eating nut-based products. Our school nurse, Sandra McLean, will be implementing an Epi-pen training session for our staff in approximately two weeks.

Prep Time: A Brief Explanation

Each full-time enrolling teacher has the right to one hundred minutes per week of “prep time”. At our school, these periods are covered by M. Ahbeeru, (M.Victor) Mme. Brigitte, and on Thursday, Julia Fleming (Presently a TTOC).

M. Ahbeeru Ricard, our P.E. teacher, offers two periods of gym to all intermediate classes (Grade 4-7), one period per week for Kindergarten, Grade 2 and Grade 3 classes. Mme Brigitte, our teacher-librarian, offers one library period per week to all Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 3 classes. Julia Fleming offers P.E. to K, Gr.1 and Gr. 2 once per week as well.

Cross Country Season

The 2017 season is well underway with running practice every Tuesday and Friday morning from Sept. 19th to October 17th.

Many thanks to M. Abheeru. M. Victor, parent volunteers and **Roy Millen** for their support and leadership. On Wednesday, September 27th we participated in our first mini-meet at Douglas Park: Please note that we have booked busses to transport the 100 plus children over to Trout Lake for the final meet Park. The final district meet will



be held once again at Trout Lake on Thursday, October 19th, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. We will be sending rocketmail announcements if practices and mini meets are cancelled. Other pertinent information was sent already along with the registration form. **Please note that all students in Grade One and Two must be accompanied to the Trout Lake meet with a parent or guardian!** Merci!

Individual Photo Day

On Wednesday, October 04th, Life Touch Studios will be here to take individual student photos, two poses per student. The photographer will start with the Kindergarten classes and proceed up into the higher grades throughout the day.

Parents can expect to receive the proof approximately two weeks later. All orders need to be returned to the school by the due date indicated on the envelope. **Late orders must be sent directly to Life Touch studios by parents; these are subject to a \$10 late fee and may not be ready before the Winter Break.** Parents may direct any inquiries to Life Touch's office: 604-294-5838.

Photo retakes – and first photos for anyone absent on the 4th of Oct. – are scheduled for Nov. 09th.

Grade 7 Students!

The VSB publication, *Options*, will be sent home shortly. Grade 7 students and their parents are strongly encouraged to keep this brochure and/or to consult the district's website (www.vsb.bc.ca) to learn about the various secondary school programs. Information Nights for district programs (mini-schools, etc.) will be listed as will be instructions on how to register online for the required cognitive Math and English tests. This information will be sent home via your children as soon as we receive them. **Please check the time lines carefully.**

Code of Conduct

As we mentioned above, senior students reminded students of our school's Code of Conduct at our last assembly. Virtually all students can no doubt recite the three phrases of our Code: ***Je prends soin de moi, je prends soin des autres, je prends soin de mon école...*** or in English: **I take care of myself, I take care of others, I take care of my school (my environment)**. Thank you, to our student council, for sharing our Code of Conduct with all our learners at our assembly this month.

The **Code of Conduct** is available for all families on our school's website, and a copy will be sent out with this newsletter. In upcoming newsletters, you will find additional information and an explanation of "Progressive Discipline". Please take the time to review and discuss these matters with your family. **Remember, too, that the Code belongs to all of us: students, staff, parents, guardians and grandparents.** Our code is the basis of our Social Emotional learning goal and you will be hearing more about The Zones of Regulation and how staff will be incorporating this into their lessons.

Feeling Congested?

Parents wishing to alleviate traffic congestion problems near the school may help by:



- No stopping in the bus zones
- Respecting the **No Stopping Areas on 14th and 15th Ave.**
- Parking illegally may result in your vehicle being ticketed by traffic enforcement officers.

Our thanks go out to those who respect the traffic signs thus keeping our children safe.

Our School Goals and Assessment for Learning

This year our school plan continues to focus on Literacy and we have incorporated a new Social Emotional Learning goal as well.

Our formal goal is:

Social Emotional Learning: (SEL)

Social Emotional Learning (SEL): What strategies can our staff, learners and school community develop to foster knowledge, skills, and empathy in regards to the strands of the Social Emotional Curriculum?

Multimodal Literacy:

To encourage and improve written communication skills through the use of authentic oral experiences and technology with a focus on all learners, but paying particular attention to boys.



Assessment for learning (a District initiative) has been part of teachers' Professional Development as well this year. During the past five years several teachers and Mr. Frenzell have attended the District's workshops and reported back to the staff. This year we again continue to formulate and refine our school plan of improving writing and Social and Emotional Learning around the three questions related to assessment for learning. Where are we now? How is it going? Where do we go next? We also have several teachers involved in **Inquiry learning with regard to the newly redesigned curriculum and these align with our goals above.** These involve sessions in writing and SEL as well as the use of technology as it relates to teaching and learning among our pupils.

Parent /Teacher Interviews

This year our annual **goal setting** parent / teacher conferences will be held on November 08th and 09th. Please note the early dismissal time of **2:00 pm** on both days!

We will, once again, be using an online booking system. Stay tuned for more information from your child's teacher.

Lost & Found

Most items that children misplace in the hallways, gym, cafeteria, or on the grounds generally find their way to one of the white cabinets and tables directly across from the main office.



Sometimes children or parents come to collect lost items, but in many cases, they sit on the tables for months. When items are displayed in the hallway at the end of each term, some are claimed but most remain.

This year, we again will be more proactive. At the end of every month, we will put all lost items on display in the main hallway, just outside of multipurpose room. Children will be asked to come by and claim anything that belongs to them. Items remaining after this tour will be bagged up and will be donated to a charity. **In other words items will be kept for one month only and then donated to needy families!**



Parents are encouraged to write their child's name on everything that can go missing: lunch bags, hoodies, water bottles, outerwear, sports equipment, etc. to increase the chances of reuniting items with owners! **Please check the lost and found tables in hallway as we already have a large amount of items waiting to be claimed.**



Immunization Clinic

There will be an immunization clinic for Grade 6 students on **November 28th, 2017**. This is to catch up your child on those immunizations that are recommended for his/her age. Only those with a signed consent form will be immunized. If you have any questions, please contact the school nurse, Sandra Mclean, at sandra.mclean@vch.ca or 604-714-3442.



- Tips for a Successful Immunization Day:
- <Eat a good healthy breakfast
 - <Wear a sleeveless or short sleeve shirt
 - <Practice relaxation techniques
 - <Bring a treat for after the immunization

School Supplies Fees/Agenda Costs

This is a quick reminder to all parents that School Supplies Fees (\$25.00 per child) and Agenda costs (\$5.00 per child – Div. 1 to 18) are now due. Please make your cheques payable to L'École Bilingue. Please do not combine these fees/ costs on the same cheque – one cheque for School Fees and one cheque for Agendas.



Thank you to all parents who have already paid the above fees or costs.

Safe Arrival

When your child will be away ill or arriving late, a quick call to **Safe Arrival 604-713- 4585 and then when prompted please dial 1**. This will ensure that the Safe Arrival Volunteers do not trouble you with a call.

October is International Walk to School Month

iWALK Week - October 02 – 06, 2017.

Celebrate your sustainable commute all week long. Contact lapeb.sustainability@gmail.com for more information.

Our **fruit and veggie program** has had two deliveries thus far: strawberries and cherry tomatoes. Thanks to Denise Cousineau, parent volunteers, Valerie Carriere and the Gr. 4s for their assistance and support of this nutritious and healthy initiative!

VOLLEYBALL ORGANIZATIONAL REGISTRATION AND MEETING

The volleyball season is about to begin shortly! Students from Grade 4 to Grade 7 are invited to join L'École Bilingue's teams. Please note that there might not be enough players, coaches and/or sponsors to offer Grade 4 and 5 teams.

Important dates:

- **Registration opens:** TBA (sheets will be posted on the gym hallway)
- **Registration closes:** TBA
- **Season begins on October 30**
- **Practice times to be announced**

Game times:

Games are from 3 PM to approximately 4:30 PM

- Junior boys (grade 4-5-6) on Mondays
- Junior girls (grade 4-5-6) on Tuesdays
- Senior boys (grade 7) on Wednesdays
- Senior girls (grade 7) on Thursdays

Practices:

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

We are also **looking for parent volunteers to help with coaching at the games and holding the practices** as well as driving the children to and from the games.

If you are interested, **please sign up on the permission form your child will be bringing home.**

Thank you for your support,
Abheeru Ricard and Victor
PE teachers

Earth Quake Comfort Kits

As part of L'École Bilingue's emergency preparedness plans, parents are encouraged to prepare a comfort kit for their child(ren) that will be stored in a locker.

The locker also contains water and first aid supplies. Shortly, parent volunteers will be sending home last year's kits for updating, and parents also have the opportunity to order pre-made kits from a commercial supplier through Munchalunch.



The new kits will also be sent home for personalizing. Parents should return all kits (new or refreshed) to the classroom by **Oct. 30, 2017.**

Parent volunteers will then move them back to the storage locker.

Please watch for a rocket mail message with further information regarding these comfort kits.

Important Dates

Wed. Oct. 04	Individual Photo Day
Wed. Oct 04/ 11	Mini meets @ Douglas Park
Mon. Oct 09	Thanksgiving Day Holiday (school not in session)
Thur. Oct 19	Cross-Country District Finals: Trout Lake, 1:00 p.m. – 2:15pm
Fri. Oct 20	Non Instructional Day: School not in session (District Wide)
Mon. Oct. 23	PAC meeting Speaker series. 7:00pm
Fri. Oct 27	Halloween Haunt 5:30 to 8:00pm
Sun. Nov. 05	Day light saving ends
Wed. Nov. 08	Goal setting parent/ teacher Conferences: 2:00 p.m. EARLY DISMISSAL/ Book Fair
Thur. Nov. 09	Goal setting parent/ teacher conferences: 2:00 p.m. EARLY DISMISSAL Book Fair
Thur. Nov 09	Remembrance Day Assembly 11:00 a.m. (parents welcome)
Thur. Nov. 09	Photo retake day
Fri. Nov. 10	PRO-D Day – school not in Session
Mon. Nov. 13	Remembrance Day Holiday – School closed
Mon. Nov. 27	PAC meeting: 7:00 pm
Tues. Nov. 28	Gr. 6 Immunization day