



L'Ecole Bilingue/Bilingual School

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Newsletter #4

2016 November 30

Dear Parents, Guardians and Students,

The past month has been an extremely busy one for students and staff at the school. Since our last newsletter, we have experienced the excitement of Hallowe'en and all its related activities, completed our volleyball season and held our annual Remembrance Day assembly! As always, thank you to all for creating such a positive and exciting learning environment for our students! Thank you to all the parent "crossing guards" who devote their lunch hour to keeping our children safe.



Happy Holidays to all!

However you celebrate this season – as Hanukkah, Christmas, the Winter Solstice, or whatever – our entire staff wishes all our families a restful and joyous holiday of song, good food, fresh air, exercise and lots of cheer. We look forward to seeing all of you at **our new school on Tuesday, January 3rd 2017**, when classes resume in the New Year.

Emergency Preparedness: Measures in Place

All Vancouver schools are required to establish policies and plans around emergency preparedness and to hold various drills throughout the year. As a general rule, the first of each of these exercises is pre-announced with subsequent ones usually a surprise, even for staff. We held our first fire drill and earthquake drop and cover practice and will be holding our first Code Red practice sometime in the New Year. In all

cases students are well prepared in advance. The two basic exercises we undertake each year are as follows:

1. **Fire Drills:** These are similar to those that parents are familiar with from their own school days and generally take place six times a year.
2. **Earthquake Drills:** You are no doubt aware that we prepare students for the possibility of an earthquake as well, scheduling at least three practices each year: a simple inside drill, a general evacuation, and the full-scale district-wide "Big One at Two" in May.

We will be practicing these drills in the very near future.

New this year is the need to coordinate plans for a possible **off-site evacuation** of the entire school grounds. In the unlikely event that we had to leave the site, we are required to name two alternate sites where students and staff would assemble. Families should note that our two choices in our South Hill location are:

- a. Memorial Park
- b. Sunset Community Center

With these shorter days and increased precipitation and frost it is critical that you make yourself clearly visible to cars and buses during your sustainable commute. Consider adding reflective sticker tape to your back pack or your clothing. A bright hat, scarf and mittens also help. Bikers, it may be time to replace the batteries in your lights and remember, a self-generating bicycle light makes a great gift.

Have a safe and happy Winter Holiday!

F.I. Registrations and Info Night

Families wishing to register children in Kindergarten for September 2017 should note that the registration period takes place from November 01st, 2016 to January 31st, 2017 at your neighborhood English catchment school. If you wish to register your child in a choice program, i.e., French Immersion, you must register online. If you wish to register your child in Grade One French Immersion, you must go to your catchment F.I. school to register. Full details are available on the VBE's website, www.vsb.bc.ca, link to French Immersion.

All schools will host their Information Night for new parents on Wednesday, January 10th, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Current school parents wishing to register a younger child for September will benefit from sibling priority providing they register during the registration period. Do not delay!

Online registration for K choice programs is from January 09^h until February 06, 2017 and all parents with children already in the school need to follow this process.

Remembrance Day Assembly

On November 09th we held our Remembrance Day assembly. Once again this year L'École's student council organized and carried out the assembly. They acted as emcees, presenters, decorators and leaders, as well as sound, set up and clean up crews. Thank you to the student council for the outstanding way that you handled yourselves throughout the assembly. We would also like to thank our student presenters: **Ella Collins** and **Virginia Elliott** who shared a reading titled, "Remembrance Day" and **Miriam Paris, Samantha Doughty** and **Isabella Prior** for their reading of, "The First Poppies" and to **Eliana Silver** and **Malvina Chhina** for their rendition of, "In Flanders Fields." The poem, "Why Wear a Poppy," by **Cordelia Wangen** and **Bryce Orchard** was beautifully presented as well. Thank you also to **JP Fraga**, and **choir leader, Diana Zlateva** for their excellent piano and renditions. We were also proud of

our MCs **Aberdeen Roy** and **Shayla Kirshin** for their excellent introductions. We would also like to congratulate our three Grade One students, **Ella Benndorf-Puder, Asha Lui** and **Denver Jory** for their poignant participation as well. The choir was outstanding and their songs touched us all!

To all the students in the school, we are proud of the exemplary behaviour that you displayed throughout the assembly. You truly demonstrated respect for those who have been touched by war and to those who gave their lives for our freedom. Bravo les élèves! A special thank you to war veteran **Vicki Ferg** and **Alex Galloway** for their moving presentations!

Snow Closure Policy



In the event of a serious snowfall this winter, the Vancouver Board of Education may decide to close certain schools or the entire system. In such a case, a clear announcement regarding the closure will be made no later than 6:00 a.m. on all local radio stations. When the schools are closed, it will be assumed that other programs, e.g. night school and committee meetings, will also be cancelled. If you are unsure as to the status of L'École Bilingue, we suggest you check the VBE website (www.vsb.bc.ca) or turn on one of the following radio stations as soon as you get up:

**CBC Radio One (AM 690, 105.7FM)
CKWX (1130 AM) CKNW (98AM)
FAIRCHILD (CJVB AM 1470/CKHG
FM 96.1) BCTV Global (cable channel
11) City TV (cable channel 13)**

If you are still in doubt, call and check with a classmate's family. Have your emergency child care arrangements in place. When schools are closed, roads are often in poor condition and transit is slow, so school staff may have difficulty getting to work or may not get here at all. Do not assume that someone will be at the school to look after your child if the schools have been closed due to snow.

Volunteer Driver Forms

A suggestion: If you anticipate wanting to drive on a field trip or sporting event, consider coming in early to take care of the paper work in advance. The Volunteer Driver Form needs to be signed by the principal or vice-principal who are not always here or readily available. Once a form is filled in, it provides excess third party liability until the end of June, 2016.

Important: If you are not the owner of the vehicle that you will be driving, you must get the owner to sign the bottom of the form. Please note that you will not be able to drive if the owner has not signed the form.

Important Dates and PAC Information

If you would like to see the most current schedule of happenings at L'École Bilingue, check out the school calendar on the L'École Bilingue web-site: <http://lecole-bilingue.vsb.bc.ca/>, where you can see all scheduled events to date, for the current school year. The PAC link provides information on PAC activities and committees and provides a PAC Executive e-mail address (nfoecolebilingue@gmail.com) Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Seismic Update

It is official! We are moving to our new school over the winter break! School will commence on **JANUARY 03 at 1166 W 14th**

Please peruse **the Nov. 28th PAC minutes as dates and requests for parents' assistance are included.** Please also watch for info and communications coming via rocket mail over the next few weeks.

A Request from Grade Six Rainy Day monitors

Rainy Day Monitors are in need of more new and used supplies for the students to use over lunch hour. Please consider donating old games, especially those you think your kids won't use anymore after they get new ones at over the holidays. You can bring them to main office, please.

Sports Update

Volleyball season is now almost over.



Most of our junior and senior teams played at various schools for the season. Félicitations les filles et les garçons et bravo!

Our L'École Bilingue teams have been demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, skills development and keen team building skills. Please feel free to come out and support our teams. A special thank you goes to teachers; M. Abheeru and to our parents; Ruth Weber, Joyce Mark, Al and Theresa Cuerrier. Many thanks to you all for your support and commitment to our volleyball teams! Well done tout le monde!

Immunization for Grade 6 Students

An Immunization Clinic took place here on Thursday November 24th, 2016. Many thanks to our school nurse, Ms. Shannon Wright, and her team for an extremely well organized and smooth clinic this year!

Basketball News from Abheeru

Basketball season will soon be upon us. Registration for all interested intermediate students will commence soon. As we anticipate several teams, we are inviting parents interested in coaching to contact M. Abheeru as soon as possible. More details to come so please stay tuned.



After School Programs

Ever wondered how the After Schools programming comes about? It usually takes a few people with some ideas to get together and continue existing programs. Or implement new programs that might be of interest to students and can be housed in the school. New talents and programs are being sought for the 2017 year for both winter and spring terms. **New programs will commence in our new school in February so please watch for more information!**

Interested people can contact Jen Uegama, or contact a member of the PAC Executive.

Cycling Map

Re: Bike Routes to L'Ecole Bilingue on 14th: here is the link that shows the map of cycling routes.

<http://vancouver.ca/files/cov/map-cycling-vancouver.pdf>

Important Dates

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| Dec. 05 | PRO D school not in session |
| Dec 08 | Choir Concert 1:30 & 7:00 pm |
| Dec. 09 | Last day to collect for Grandview Hampers |
| Dec 16 | Winter Assembly: 9:15 am |
| Dec 16 | Last day of school before winter vacation: Report Cards issued |
| Jan 03 | School reopens after break in <u>our new school!</u> |
| Jan 09 | online registration for K choice programs commences |
| Jan 10 | Info Night for K and Grade 1 entry 2017, 7:00 p.m. in our multipurpose room |
| Jan. 16 | PAC meeting 7:00 pm |
| Jan 30 | PRO D : school not in session |
| Feb 06 | Online registration for K Choice Programs ends |