



Willoughby Elementary School

Newsletter #3 September 16, 2025

20766 – 80th Avenue

Langley, B.C., V2Y 1X6

Phone: 604-888-6033 / Fax: 604-888-9598

<https://willoughby.sd35.bc.ca>

Principal: Mrs. Karin Muuren

Vice Principal: Mrs. Lara Gray

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Mya Bainbridge



Upcoming Events

September 18:	Meet the Teacher Evening 6 PM
September 19:	Terry Fox Run
September 21:	International Day of Peace
September 26:	Orange Shirt Day at school
September 26:	Hot Lunch
September 29:	School Improvement Day – No students in session
September 30:	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No students in session
October 1:	Yom Kippur
October 5:	World Teachers' Day
October 10:	Individual Photos
October 10:	Hot Lunch
October 13:	Thanksgiving Day – School not in session
October 16:	Great Shake out and Reunification Drill
October 23:	Learning Updates issued
October 23:	Halloween Dance - PAC
October 24:	Pro D – No Students in session
October 31:	Halloween- Costume Twirl



Reminders

- **Our Meet the Teacher Evening for Gr. 1 – Gr 5 is Thursday evening from 6-7 PM.**

Please come to our gym, where you will be introduced to our teachers. You will then have the opportunity to visit the classes with your children and meet the teacher. There will be Food Trucks available starting at 5 pm and you will be able to visit the Food Trucks after meet the teacher night until 8 pm.

- **Friday, September 19 - Terry Fox Run – Please donate \$2 cash or online**
- **All school fees for all grades have been posted on SchoolCash online.**
- **Grade 5 Special Hoodie orders are due this Friday.**

Terry Fox Run



This week, our students are learning about Terry Fox and why he is a hero to us all. It is so important to us to make the students aware of our “why” and why we take part in certain activities at school. The students learned that Terry ran his Marathon of Hope and was determined to make everyone aware of cancer research while he faced his own battle with cancer.

Students discussed their own reasons for running and some even dedicated their running effort to someone they know who is a survivor or dealing with cancer.

On Friday our students will take part in their own Terry Fox run. Parents are welcome to join us outside on the field at 1:45 PM.

We will reveal the final amount raised for the Cancer Foundation in next week's newsletter. Thank you very much to all parents who are donating to this worthy cause. Please send your child with a Toonie to contribute to the Terry Fox Foundation. Online donations are open until Friday, September 27 on school cash online. All monies raised will be forwarded to the Terry Fox Foundation to further the cause of cancer research. Let's keep Terry's dream alive to find a cure for cancer!

Photo Day October

Parents are encouraged to stay in the know by signing up for photo day reminders, date changes, and notifications regarding proofs at edgeimaging.ca/photoday. Any additional questions related to photo day are likely addressed in our FAQ section at edgeimaging.ca/FAQ.



Communicating With Your School

Schools and families continue to work together to ensure success for students. If you have an issue or concern but don't know who to speak with, the District encourages you to read these helpful Communicating with your School guidelines for parents/guardians found on our District website [here](#). As an additional reference, review this one-page resource [here](#).

Student Accident Insurance Plan

The District is offering two options for a voluntary student accident insurance plans for students. This plan is voluntary, but provides significant benefits for accident insurance coverage for families.

Please note, enrolment in the program can be done online only, through one of the following options:

Insure My Kids

OR

Study Insured

Corresponding digital support materials for above service providers can be accessed via following links:

Insure My Kids:

[Insure My Kids - School Resources](#)

Study Insured:



[Study Insured - Support Material](#)

Community Resource: Raphael House

Raphael House is a community-based non-profit in Langley dedicated to supporting families experiencing food insecurity. They provide access to healthy, fresh food through our food distribution programs, as well as opportunities for community connection and support. Registered families are welcome to come weekly for fresh groceries.

The program is available to Langley families with children under the age of 18. Families can learn more about registering for food support by emailing info@raphaelhouse.ca.



Raphael House exists to be a resource for the community by offering practical help and creating spaces where families feel cared for and supported.

ICBC Back to School Awareness

Please share the information below in your next communications with families:

"With the start of the school season, we're asking drivers to avoid distractions and watch for children, especially near schools, parks and residential areas," said Leanne Cassap, local ICBC road safety coordinator. "We encourage parents and caregivers to

give their children a refresher on road safety and practice their route to and from school if they'll be walking or cycling." Please see the attached info sheet for parents and caregivers.

Teach your child to be a safe pedestrian. Good habits start at home. <https://www.icbc.com/road-safety/teaching/road-safety-for-your-kids>.

Parent Consent Request

Each year, Langley Schools asks families to complete a set of parent consent forms for their child. These consent forms are required by our schools to ensure the health, safety, and security of all students. Langley Schools uses a secure web form to collect this information. Beginning mid-September, please watch for an email request (subject Parent Consent Request) that contains one link for you to submit consents for all children in your family attending any Langley School. If your email address or contact information has changed, please call your school to correct it in our files. If you have not received an email regarding Parent Consent Request by the end of the month or have any questions/concerns, please contact your school administrator.

Talk with Me, Play with Me, Learn with Me

Talk with Me, Play with Me, Learn with Me is a fun and engaging Langley Literacy Network program designed for Kindergarten students and their caregivers. The program will run Saturday mornings from 10-11am, October 4 - November 22, 2025 in the Family Place portable on the grounds of Shortreed Community Elementary. It is an opportunity to read, play, learn, and connect. Each week, families will explore new books and activities that support early literacy and learning. Plus, every participating family will take home eight new books to build their home library!

Registration is required, and space is limited - sign up today at:

<https://langleyliteracynetwork.com/talk-with-me-play-with-me-learn-with-me/>

Langley Community Services Men's Group

There is a Men's Group on Anger Management being held by Langley Community Services. If you would like to share the attached flyer in your next school communication, please feel free to do so.

School Health Resources

Fraser Health's [***Healthy Back-to-School Guide***](#) has information on back-to-school anxiety, nutrition, safe travel to and from school, sleep and immunizations.

Fraser Health [***School Health Web Resource***](#) has answers to the most frequently asked health related questions from parents, teachers and school administrators.

Fraser Health Immunization Information for students in Kindergarten to Grade 5.

[All routine school-aged immunizations](#) are free in British Columbia.

It is important that all students stay up to date with their immunizations.

For Kindergarten - Grade 5:

Check your child's immunization record: Log in to Health Gateway at HealthGateway.gov.bc.ca to see what's on file.

Get immunized: If your child is missing any vaccine, book an appointment with public health or check with your local pharmacist, family doctor, or nurse practitioner.

Report your immunizations:

If vaccines your child has received aren't on their public health record, get a copy from your provider and upload it at fraserhealth.ca/immunizationform.

Records can be submitted in any language.

Learn more at fraserhealth.ca/immunize.



Back to School Immunization – Fraser Health

The district's community partner Fraser Health is sharing important information with families regarding Vaccination Status Reporting and Regulation (VSRR). Families are encouraged to review the following newsletter to help keep our community health and safe:

[Keep Immunizations Up to Date - Elementary](#)

For other languages read [here](#).

Friendly reminders:

We are not allowed to have parents in our hallways while school is in session. If you are coming to pick up your child at the end of day, please walk around the school and wait by the outside classroom door.



If you must pick up early – please notify the office ahead of time. We will do our best to have your child waiting for you in the office for the time you require. The child **MUST** be signed out by an authorized person.

Washrooms: Adults are **NOT ALLOWED** under any circumstances to use the student washrooms. This is for everyone's safety. If you need to use a washroom or have a small child with you who needs the washroom, please use the washroom we have designated for this.



MEET THE TEACHER EVENING

On Thursday evening from 6 – 7 PM is our annual Meet the Teacher evening. We will begin the evening in the gym.

After we introduce our staff you will be invited to visit your children's classrooms to meet their teacher(s). A bell will ring when it is time to change to your other child's class.

Please note: Teachers will discuss individual students at November's parent/teacher conferences.

Every Child Matters: National Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day on Friday, September 26

National Truth and Reconciliation Day/Orange Shirt Day is a National Event to honour the Survivors of Residential Schools. To honour survivors of residential schools, staff will be wearing orange shirts to support this important day. We encourage our students to also wear orange on Friday, September 26. If you'd like to learn more about Phyllis Webstad's story (the person who inspired Orange Shirt Day), visit <http://www.orangeshirtday.org>. We hope that you will discuss Residential Schools with your own children in an age-appropriate way. The legacy of the Residential Schools is real and overwhelming. We hope you and your children participate with the staff at Willoughby Elementary by wearing an orange shirt on Friday!



Controlled Release Drill or Reunification Drill

During the Great Shakeout in October, we will be conducting a controlled release drill to practice our preparedness for significant emergencies where we might have to release students one at a time directly to their guardians or other emergency contacts. **ONE** class in the whole school will be participating in the fully controlled release drill. To do this, we need to know who a safe, nearby pickup contact for each child in the school is. Emergency Release Form will be sent out soon. Remember that these are the contacts who can pick up your children in the event of a major emergency that might prevent you from getting home (of course, we hope this doesn't happen in any of our lifetimes). Specific detailed information will be communicated with the class involved shortly.

SCHOOL DRIVE-THROUGH AND PARKING



We ask that you be patient when dropping your children off and picking them up at school. Remember to be an example for your children. They look and learn from us. We have a very busy parking lot. Please DO NOT park in the drop-off or pickup lane. Please use the

church parking lot across the street and walk your child over at the traffic light. Please do not jaywalk. Please DO NOT park on the drive-through lane on 80th Avenue. This causes a traffic holdup. Please use the assigned crosswalks and do not cut through the parking lot. Please stay on the sidewalk.

WHY A GOOD NIGHT'S SLEEP IS SO IMPORTANT!

Did you know research shows that today's children get on average an hour less sleep each night than they did 30 years ago? Because children's brains are a work in progress until the age of 21, and much of that work is done while asleep, this lost hour appears to have an impact on children it simply doesn't have on adults. It has been proven that fatigue can lead to poor school performance and negative behaviour, not to mention morning (and even all-day) grumpiness.

Sleep is so important for good health and to keep children feeling their best. Lack of sleep affects children's learning and how they get along with others. Children need about 9-10 hours of sleep a night. If this is a concern or, if you have a hard time waking your children in the morning, try moving bedtime a half hour earlier until you find a time that leads to their ability to wake independently or, at least without a fight. Have your child go to bed at this same time every night and rise at the same time every morning, even on the weekends to help them stick to a routine.

How do I help my child get enough sleep?

- ◆ Set a regular bedtime routine

- ◆ Have a quiet time 30 minutes before bedtime (read, warm bath)
- ◆ Avoid caffeine soft drinks and chocolate
- ◆ Have a cool, dark, quiet room



What if I have concerns about my child's sleep?

- ◆ Talk to your family doctor
- ◆ Contact your public health nurse at your local health unit
- ◆ Check out the BC Health Guide online www.bchealthguide.org



Updates from the PAC



Hot Lunch online ordering is now open!

- A&W hot lunch on Friday, September 26. Please order online by September 16: munchalunch.com/schools/Willoughby
- Instructions on how to set up your MunchaLunch account were sent home and can be read here: <https://www.willoughbypac.ca/hot-lunch/>.
- Note: Hot Lunch on February 20 will now be Golden Medal Chinese.

Welcome Event at Meet the Teacher Night from 5-8pm

- Join us to kick off the new school year!
- Food trucks, games, and socializing.
- Meet other parents and learn about PAC events and fundraisers.

\$2 Freezie Day (fundraiser)

- Friday, September 19.
- On sale at the back of the school after the dismissal bell.

Spirit Wear (fundraiser)

- On sale September 15-29.
- Show your school spirit! Each student is assigned a team colour (yellow, red, green, or light blue- assigned by their teacher).
- Purchase online: munchalunch.com/schools/Willoughby
- Please see full details on the flyer that was sent home yesterday.

Community Values Coupon Books (fundraiser)

- On sale September 17-October 2.
- All students will receive a package with information plus a coupon book.
- This is not a free book! Please purchase your book or send back to the school ASAP.
- Purchase on MunchaLunch: <https://www.munchalunch.com/schools/willoughby/>

Please email the PAC with questions: willoughbypac@gmail.com



LEARN HOW TO DRAW WITH YOUNG REMBRANDTS THIS FALL AT WILLOUGHBY ELEMENTARY

Every week, your child will discover exciting new lessons designed to inspire creativity and make learning fun! Our classes boost hand-eye coordination, sharpen critical thinking, and build confidence—all while kids enjoy exploring their artistic talents in a lively, supportive environment.

WHY CHOOSE YOUNG REMBRANDTS?

- Enhances Hand-Eye Coordination
- Boosts Brain Development & Critical Thinking
- Fosters Creativity & Unique Artistic Expression
- Encourages Creative Thought & Problem Solving

WE TEACH KIDS HOW TO DRAW IN A STEP BY STEP MANNER THAT IS BOTH MEMORABLE AND FUN, HELPING THEM TO BUILD DRAWING SKILLS THAT LAST A LIFETIME....AND WE HAVE TONS OF FUN IN EVERY CLASS!

CLASS DATES: SEPT. 23 – DEC. 16/2025

WHEN: Tuesdays at 2:35 PM - 3:35 PM

WHERE: THE SCHOOL Library

COST: \$240 for 11 classes over 13 weeks

***PAYMENT OPTIONS AVAILABLE AT CHECKOUT**

See our
Website for
Pro-D Day
camps!



REGISTER TODAY SCAN:

OR VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.YOUNGREMBRANDTS.COM/LOWERMAINLAND



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☎ 604-724-7919

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