



Willoughby Elementary School

Newsletter #4 September 29, 2026

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 29:	Orange Shirt Day at school
September 30:	National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – No students in session
October 2:	Custodian Appreciation Day
October 2:	Hot Lunch – Indian Affair
October 5:	World Teachers' Day
October 9:	Individual Photos
October 12:	Thanksgiving Day – School not in session
October 15:	Great Shake Out & Reunification Drill
October 16:	School Spirit Day – House Team Colour Day & Hot Lunch- Panago Pizza
October 21:	Learning updates issued
October 23:	Pro D – No Students in session
October 30:	Halloween Costume Twirl
October 30:	Halloween Dance – PAC
November 2:	Photo Retakes
November 6:	Hot Lunch
November 8:	National Aboriginal Veterans Day
November 11:	Remembrance Day – No school
November 13:	World Kindness Day
November 13:	PAC Movie night
November 14:	Christmas Market
November 16:	PAC Meeting 6:30 PM
November 20:	Design and Assessment Day
November 27:	Hot Lunch
November 30 – December 4:	Student Inclusive Conferences

Reminders

Student - Agendas now available for purchase - \$6 <https://sd35.schoolcashonline.com/Home/SignIn>

Sept 30 - No School September 30- National Day of Truth and Reconciliation

October 2 - Hot Lunch – Friday

Student Verification, Student Reunification Release and Self-Identification of Aboriginal Ancestry (if applicable) forms are due now.

FALL WEATHER



Autumn is here, and the mornings are getting cooler.

As we transition into our rainy season, our students continue to enjoy outdoor play, rain or shine! To help them stay comfortable, please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. It's a great idea to pack extra socks in their backpack, and for our younger students, additional clothing is highly recommended. Those puddles are just too tempting sometimes!

On warmer afternoons, we often find coats left outside. If your child is missing a jacket, please encourage them to check the lost and found this week. **And don't forget to label your child's clothing—this makes it much**

easier for us to help reunite lost items with their owners.



Terry Fox Run: The final total has now been confirmed. Thank you to our Willoughby families and staff for their help in raising \$ 1427.60 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Students donated enough money to ensure that Terry's paper "running shoes" were able to travel around the entire exterior of the learning commons and back to the office, and earned extra recesses as a reward. Thank you to our Terry Fox Run Committee for all their hard work in organizing an amazing school event for this very special Canadian hero, and to all the parents and caregivers who joined us for last Thursday's run. Well done, everyone!



Morning Breakfast Cart Reminder

We're pleased to offer a breakfast cart for students each morning from 8:30 to 8:45 a.m. If your child needs something for breakfast and misses that time slot, they can ask their teacher for permission



to visit our Community Fridge, located near the office. We want every student to start their day feeling nourished and ready to learn. Thank you for your continued support!

NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Our students continue to explore the impacts of Residential Schools as we lead up to the National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. One of the ways that we engage in these important conversations is through rich and meaningful picture books that allow students of all ages to access learning. While we will be leading our students in the learning, we recognize the importance of all of our community members also conversations at home. Below are some suggestions for engaging in the conversations.

Orange Shirt Day

September 30th

What can you do?



Read books by Indigenous authors



Review the 94 Truth and Reconciliation calls to action and commit to at least one



Watch online events hosted by the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation



Identify and connect with your local Indigenous serving organizations



Read Phyllis Webstad's book "The Orange Shirt Story"



Emergency Procedures in Schools

Schools follow emergency procedures and practice drills throughout the year to ensure students, staff, and any visitors at our sites are safe when unexpected incidents happen. The District encourages families to become familiar with emergency procedures to help you and your child be prepared. You will find the District's Emergency Procedures poster in schools and on the website [here](#).

Community Volunteers in Emergencies

Emergencies can happen unexpectedly due to weather events (e.g., earthquake or flooding) or unforeseen situations in the community. The health and safety of students, staff, and families is the District's priority. The District, together with schools, follow emergency procedures to respond to incidents as well as prevent them from happening.

In these circumstances, schools may rely on members of the community to assist with emergency responses. Administrators may send a request to parents/guardians to help volunteer with first aid, facilities and maintenance, safety and security, and general labour. Adults with special skills in health care, policing, and engineering would be an asset in an emergency. No action is needed from families at this time as the purpose is to keep families informed.

ELEM: Choice Program Applications Open Soon for French Immersion

French Immersion is a cultural and linguistic educational program that starts at either Kindergarten or Grade 6. Students learn all their academic subjects in French while also developing bilingual proficiency in French. The online registration window **opens October 5 and closes October 26**. To learn about French Immersion, there is an online information meeting on **October 6th at 6 pm**. This meeting features a short presentation about the programs and the benefits of learning an additional language, with time for questions.

Families that want a meeting link sent directly to your inbox or to receive more information about early and late FrenchImmersion, can also go to this link:

**[Curious about Early or Late French Immersion in the Langley School District?
– Fill out form](#)**

General information can also be found on the District website:

[Early French Immersion](#)

[Late French Immersion](#)

Fair Notice Resource for Students/Families

The Langley School District is committed to a safe and supportive environment for all. Our schools take all threatening comments and behaviours seriously. Our schools follow procedures when responding to threat-making behaviour to help keep students, staff, and the community safe. The following resource [here](#) outlines what information students and families need to know in relation to how the District responds to threat-making behaviour in our schools. Everyone has a role in helping keep our students safe. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.



Updates from the PAC



Spirit Wear (fundraiser)

On sale Sept 21-Oct 5.

- Show your school spirit! Each student is assigned a team colour (yellow, red, green, or light blue- assigned by their teacher). Hoodies, hats, joggers and more items to show your Willoughby spirit.
- The first School Spirit Day is on October 16.
- Did you know: each year our school supports four charities – the colour teams have friendly competitions, through spirit days, to see who can earn the most points. The PAC donates to these charities at the end of the schoolyear.
- **Purchase online:** munchalunch.com/schools/Willoughby

Coupon Books (fundraiser) - the final week to purchase!

- Raise money for our school, win some great prizes, and enjoy lots of coupons to local and Lower Mainland businesses.
- Please purchase or return your book.
- <https://www.munchalunch.com/schools/willoughby/>

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

Willoughby
Elementary
PAC

SPIRIT WEAR

ON SALE NOW!



COLOUR T-SHIRTS

Yellow, red, green, and light blue

YOUTH: \$15

ADULT: \$20

Teachers will send home details on your child's team colour.

Willoughby Elementary's first
spirit day will take place October 16!

PLACE YOUR ORDER BETWEEN SEPTEMBER 21- OCTOBER 5



JOGGERS

YOUTH: \$40
ADULT: \$45



HOODIES

YOUTH: \$45
ADULT: \$49



FULL ZIP HOODIES

YOUTH: \$47
ADULT: \$52

Hoodies, full zip hoodies, long sleeve shirts, crew neck, sweat shirts and sweat pants available (in black, navy, and grey).

ORDER HERE:

<https://www.9blocks.ca/willoughbywarriorsspiritwear>



ALSO AVAILABLE

CREW NECK SWEATSHIRTS: \$45
LONG SLEEVE SHIRTS: \$26/\$31
TOQUES: \$20
TOTE BAGS: \$15
HIP BAGS: \$24
PENCIL CASES: \$8

SHOW YOUR SCHOOL SPIRIT! ORDER TODAY!

CONTACT THE PAC WITH QUESTIONS: willoughbypac@gmail.com



September 22, 2026

Dear Parent/Guardians:

Re: Foundation Skills Assessment

Every year students in grades 4 and 7 participate in the Foundation Skills Assessment (FSA), a province-wide assessment, mandated by the Ministry of Education and Child Care. This year, the FSA will be administered in Langley between September 28 and November 6, 2026. The following information is intended to clarify for Langley parents the purpose and use of the FSA.

The FSA:

- is designed and marked by teachers;
- is aligned with BC's re-designed curriculum taught in schools and the BC Performance Standards;
- assesses foundation skills in reading, writing and numeracy;
- is returned to schools and individual results are sent to parents;
- provides important information on how well individual students are progressing in the foundational skills of Literacy and Numeracy.

Langley School District does not use the information to rank or compare schools. FSA results are used to inform the system how district and school staff can best support students.

While all grade 4 and 7 students attending public and independent schools are to participate in the FSA, a few students with exceptional needs may be excused from some or all of the FSA. Please note:

- There are Ministry guidelines clarifying exemptions.
- Only a principal can exempt a student from writing the FSA
 - Students that are excused usually have a disability that results in an inability to participate even with adaptations.
- Parents may write a detailed letter to their child's principal requesting exemption
 - Reasons for this request include a family emergency, a lengthy illness or other extenuating circumstances.
 - Form letters are not sufficient and will not be accepted.

There is a provincial agreement that school districts will not oppose the distribution or publication of any materials from the BCTF or Local Union regarding the FSA. *It is the District's position that this is in no way an acknowledgement, endorsement or agreement by the employer of the views, statements or content of those materials.*

The Ministry of Education and Child Care website contains a brochure, "Information for Students, Parents and Guardians" which can be accessed [here](#).

If you have questions about the FSA, please contact the principal of your child's school.

Sincerely,

Mal Gill
Superintendent of Schools