



Willoughby Elementary School

Newsletter #12 November 19, 2024

20766 – 80th Avenue

Langley, B.C., V2Y 1X6

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

Principal: Mrs. Karin Muuren

Vice Principal: Mrs. Lara Gray

Administrative Assistant: Mrs. Mya Bainbridge



Upcoming Events

November 22:	Spirit Day – _Moustache Day
Nov 25-Nov 29:	Scholastic Bookfair
November 27: S	tudent Inclusive Conferences – Students not in school due to SIC
November 28:	Early Dismissal-12:30 pm - Student Inclusive Conferences
December 6:	Hot Lunch & Treat Day- Hot Chocolate- PAC
December 11:	K- Gr 2 Concert, 1 PM and 6 PM
December 13:	Pancake Breakfast & PJ Day
December 20:	Last Day prior to Winter Break Spirit Day: Tacky Seater Day & Movie Day
January 6:	School reopens after winter vacation



* IMPORTANT REMINDER*

Spirit Day – November 22

Scholastic Bookfair November 25- November 29

Student Inclusive conference booking closing November 24 at 12 noon

Student Inclusive Conferences November 25 – December 3

Willoughby Annual Food Drive

The holiday season is fast approaching, and we are having our annual food drive for the Langley Food Bank starting the week of, December 2 -December 6. Our school really values helping those who are less fortunate and teaching our students the virtues of caring and generosity.

Food Drive: There will be a friendly competition between house colour teams to see which team can bring in the most non-perishable food items (e.g., canned and/or packaged goods, baby food/items). Last year the Willoughby community donated over 1500 food items to the Langley Food Bank. Our goal is to meet and hopefully beat this total. Donations will be collected in each classroom next week. Reminder: please don't forget to check the expiry dates on food donations. Thank you in advance for helping us support others!



Student Inclusive Conferences Booking



Thank you to all families who have already booked Student Inclusive Conference times. All classes should have booking times available. We would request that, whenever possible, you use the daytime slots on **November 27**. Also, please note that we have time for **one** conference time per student, so co-parenting families should be arranging to either take turns between Terms 1 and 2 or attend the conferences together. It is extremely important to meet with your child and their teacher(s) to celebrate successes and set goals for Term Two. Our teachers are preparing your children to share their learning with you. Your children are really looking forward to you coming to the school for this very important conference. Research shows that a solid home/school relationship and good communication have many benefits for student achievement and success.

Please note the following important dates and information:

- **November 27 – Student Inclusive Conference Day (non-instructional day)**
- **November 28 – Two-hour early dismissal (12:30 pm) for student-inclusive conferences; all students will eat their lunch at school at noon.**

• **Individual teacher conference days/times will vary during our one-week window (e.g., some teachers may choose to have before-school appointments while others may not; teachers may not have appointments available on every day during the conference window)**

Please secure childcare for siblings. This will allow you to be a fully engaged participant during your child's conference.



Communicating Student Learning (CSL) - Elementary School
Learning is a journey for all students that requires the support of teachers, staff, and families. Parent/guardian involvement is always a contributing factor to a student's success. But how does a parent/guardian know how their child is doing? The District is sharing information about the different ways of Communicating Student Learning (CSL) to help support families. On this webpage you will find information about student inclusive conferences, proficiency scales, and self-reflection on the core competencies. These resources are aimed to help support your child. Read more [here](#).



Long Term Student Absences: During the school year, parents sometimes take their children out of school to accompany them on business trips or on a holiday. We understand that at times these extended absences are necessary. What is difficult for teachers is when they are asked to prepare homework packages for students, so they do not “fall behind” while they are away. No matter what homework package is prepared, parents must realize that when children miss school for long periods of time, they will be behind. The learning that happens in the classroom, on a day-to-day basis, cannot be duplicated. Teachers have long-range goals and unit plans, which are changed and modified on a weekly and sometimes daily basis to reflect the needs of the class. This daily assessment and teaching is impossible to duplicate in a homework package. For these reasons, when you make the decision to take your child out of school for an extended period of time to accompany you on a business trip or for a vacation, teachers are not in the position to provide assignments for your children. Remember that the experiences your children have while away with you cannot be duplicated in a classroom either. When you decide to take your child out of school what are some ways you can help them?

Here are some ideas you may want to consider as you plan for your children's educational needs while you are away:

Read. Set aside some time each day to read. Visit the bookstore before you leave and make some choices together. Read with your children. Please remember that classroom books and school library books are not loaned out to students who are on extended absences for holidays during school time.



Keep a journal, create a scrapbook or, have them make a sketchbook of the special places you visit and the things you see and do. You will be amazed how creative your children can be while at the same time reinforcing their writing skills.

Use technology. Have your children take digital pictures and/or movies. Keep a diary of when and where the pictures were taken and once you are home, have them create their own slideshow.

Apply their math skills in practical ways. Give them a certain amount of money to spend and plan a day's activities. If you are driving, keep track of the cost of fuel. Compare and contrast the prices between cities and countries and tabulate the total cost of fuel. Converting money from one currency to another and learning the different time zones are other valuable learning opportunities.

Once your children are back at school, they are welcome to bring and share what they have done with their classmates. As teachers have not assigned the work nor set the criteria for the assessment, they will not be marking or evaluating your children's work. As parents, it is your right to decide to take your child out of school during the time they are scheduled to be in school. Once you have made that decision then you must also accept the responsibility for your children's education during that absence. **Please remember to come to the office to complete the District's "Missing School Time" form.** If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call Mrs. Muuren.



The bookfair will be open during the following time slots:

Tuesday: 2:33pm - 4:00pm

Wednesday: 8:50am - 3:30pm

Thursday: 12:33 - 7:30pm

All profits from the fair will be used to purchase new books for classrooms and the Learning Commons. New books make great gifts so save up and come shop at our book fair!



Updates from the PAC



Pancake breakfast – call for volunteers and food items

The much-anticipated Pancake Breakfast returns Friday, December 13!

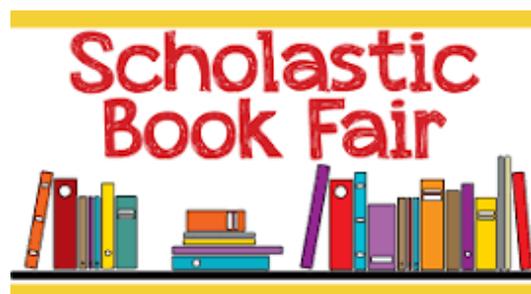
- Please scan the links on the flyer to sign up to volunteer and to help with grocery items.

Scholastic Book Fair- Parent volunteer help needed

November 25-29

- Willoughby Elementary is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair!
- Events like these are made possible with the help from our school community.
- Learning Commons Teacher, Mrs. Weber, has asked for help from parent volunteers. Please review the time requirements in the link below. Please note that any help is appreciated, so if you are not available for the entire shift, she would still love the help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FABAF22A2FDCE9-46301110-scholastic>



Christmas Market Success!

On Saturday, Willoughby Elementary opened its doors to dozens of local businesses and crafters, and hundreds of local residents.

- We created a festive event for our community plus raised over \$3000 for our school!
- Thank you to all those who attended and a very big thank you to the parent volunteers who made this event possible.

Willoughby Slope Boundary Information Sessions

- The new Northeast Latimer elementary school will open its doors in September 2025!
- Catchment and boundary information will be communicated by the School District in mid-December.
- The most recent Willoughby area Information Sessions were held in October. For those who were unable to attend, the session information is available online: <https://www.sd35.bc.ca/news-events/district-board-news/view/willoughby-slope-boundary-changes-info-sessions/>



Student Inclusive Conference documents will be published and be available mid-January 2025.

Student Inclusive Conference

Anchor Document



To access Student Inclusive Conference Anchor Document:

- ⇒ Log in to MyEducationBC
- ⇒ Family Top Tab
- ⇒ Click into student
- ⇒ Documents Side Tab
- ⇒ Click floppy disk icon to download document

The screenshot shows the MyEducationBC interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Pages', 'Family', 'Academics', 'Groups', and 'Calendar'. The 'Family' tab is selected. Below the navigation, there is a 'Students' section with a search bar and a list of students. The 'Documents' side tab is highlighted in red. In the main content area, a table lists documents. The first document is 'CSL Document 2022-2023 Term 1'. A red box highlights the 'Download' button next to this document.

Name	Type	Document	Format
CSL Document 2022-2023 Term 1	Other	 Download	Other

ANNUAL
PANCAKE & PJ
Breakfast
2024



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13

To spread holiday cheer, Willoughby Elementary School students will receive complimentary pancakes and treats in the school gym. Students are invited to wear their pajamas. There will even be a special visitor from the North Pole!



**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

This event is only possible with the help of volunteers. Please sign up to volunteer:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FABAF22A2FDCE9-51037893-pancake#/>

Setup begins at 7:00 am and the event is usually done by 1:00 pm.



**GROCERY
DONATIONS**

We are looking for food and grocery donations from families to help with make this event a success. To donate, please go to: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C094FABAF22A2FDCE9-51037893-pancake#/>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR
GENEROUS DONATION:**

**FRESH^{ST.}
MARKET**



save^{on}foods