

## SAY IT WITH FLOWERS: THE SECRET LANGUAGE OF SPRING

Written by Annabell Everett

For thousands of years now, flowers have been used as symbols to convey hidden messages between correspondents.

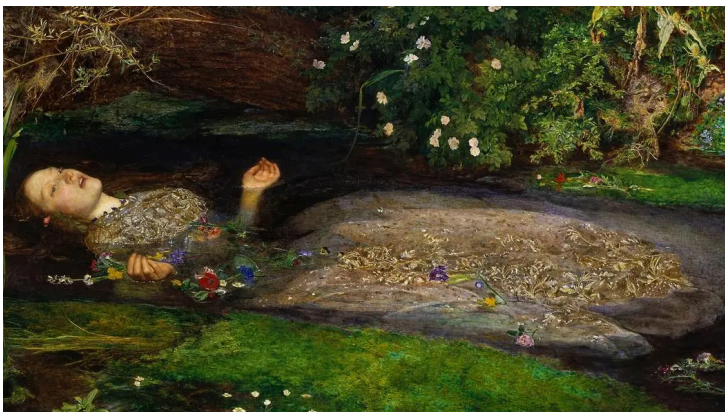
Dating back to ancient times, though most popular in the Victorian era, floriography—the language of flowers—was a flourishing language and art form.



It was used between courting couples, lovers, and friends, as a subtle form of communication, similar to fan language which was also popular in that era.

Floriography also began to seep into the art and literature of the time, and can be noted in works such as Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre* and John Millais's *Ophelia* painting.

During the height of the floriography's popularity, many books were published and referred to as “flower dictionaries”. These guides explained the many meanings of each flower and plant popular in bouquets at the time.



The origins of flower meanings are varied, some derived from mythology, others interpreted from looks, and occasionally some just made up completely.

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- Earth Day is coming up
- April trivia
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- Student poems
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## FLORIOGRAPHY, CONT'D

For example, sunflowers are used to show unwavering affection, loyalty and faith, this meaning comes from the Greek myth of Clytie, a nymph so in love with the sun god she was transformed into the first sunflower so she could forever watch the sun.



In contrast to this, cabbage leaves reassembled cash and were therefore used to symbolize wealth. No greater meaning or story lies behind the plant.



Such is the way of floriography. Some plants have a rich story rooted in ancient mythology and others had more simple backstories based on appearance, smell, or even flowering season.

Though it may seem daunting upon first glance, understanding floriography is relatively simple, and can be done in three easy steps:

- 1) CHECK THE TYPE OF FLOWER
- 2) NOTE THE COLOUR
- 3) COUNT THE QUANTITY AND VARIETY

Here I've created an abbreviated guide, with the meanings of the most popular flowers, colours and arrangements, so you may try your hand at floriography as you wish.

### FLOWERS:

- Rose = love, passion, beauty
- Lily = purity, devotion
- Daisy = innocence, youth, new beginnings
- Peony = prosperity, good fortune
- Poppy = rest, consolation
- Marigold = joy, warmth, creativity
- Hyacinth = sincerity, sorrow
- Aster = patience, love

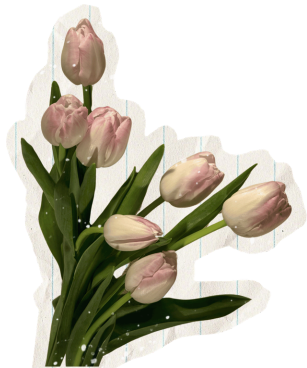
### COLOURS:

- Red = deep love, passion, respect, courage, desire
- Pink = grace, joy, friendship, love, innocence
- Yellow = joy, happiness, friendship, hope
- White = humility, new beginnings, purity, mourning
- Blue = peace, beauty, harmony

### ARRANGEMENTS:

- Single flower = simplicity, direct focus on the flower given and its meaning
- Bouquet = Complex or strong feelings, more personal or extravagant message, often given for celebration or consolation.

**SEND A SECRET  
FLORAL MESSAGE  
THIS SPRING!**



# CELEBRATING EARTH DAY: THEN AND NOW

Written by Sylvie Scott



Every year on April 22nd, we celebrate Earth Day. This event is recognised in more than 193 countries, demonstrating support for environmental protection.

The first year it was held was in 1970, focused mostly in the US. It was in 1969 that peace activist John McConnell proposed a day to honour the Earth at a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization conference.

McConnell's proposition was accepted, and a month later, a US Senator proposed the idea to

hold a nationwide environmental teach-in on April 22nd. Denis Hayes became the national coordinator and Julian Koenig coined the term Earth Day. Denis Hayes then took it international in 1990 and organised events in 141 nations.

On Earth Day 2016, the Paris Agreement was signed by 123 countries, which led to even more awareness of climate change and environmental protection around the world. On Earth Day 2020, over 100 million people observed the 50th anniversary of the event, now the world's largest civic observance.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO FOR EARTH DAY?

Earth Day is a reminder to do your part in protecting the environment and keeping your waste down, so here are a couple things you can do:

- 1) Plant native trees, shrubs, or flowers in your garden or backyard.
- 2) Compost all organic materials, even the small pieces.
- 3) Reduce your energy usage by turning off lights and electronics when you're gone.
- 4) Bike, walk, or use public transport instead of driving to reduce emissions.
- 5) Swap out one meat-based meal for a plant based one to reduce your carbon footprint.



**BE SURE TO CHECK FOR LOCAL EVENTS, TOO!**



# APRIL TRIVIA QUESTIONS

Organized by Cassandre Paul-Hus



**1) What are April showers said to bring?**

- a) May flowers
- b) May showers
- c) Blooming spring
- d) April flowers

**2) What happened in the North Atlantic on April 14th, 1912?**

- a) The Sargasso Sea was formed
- b) Danish ships first docked in Greenland
- c) The sinking of the Titanic
- d) Amelia Earhart's plane disappeared

**3) What happened in the Soviet Union on April 26th, 1986?**

- a) A large 8.7 magnitude earthquake hit
- b) Leonid Brezhnev, a Soviet leader, died
- c) The Chernobyl nuclear disaster
- d) The Goodwill Games were held in Moscow

**4) What tree-themed holiday occurs every April?**

- a) Tree Day
- b) Arbor Day
- c) Pinecone Day
- d) Garden Day

**5) What year was the first Earth Day celebrated?**

- a) 2002
- b) 1994
- c) 1973
- d) 1970

**6) "Houston, we have a problem" is a misquote from Apollo 13. What was really said on April 11, 1970?**

- a) "Houston, we've had a problem here."
- b) "We have a problem, Houston."
- c) "Houston, we're in trouble."
- d) None of the above.

**7) What is April's birthstone?**

- a) Ruby
- b) Jade
- c) Emerald
- d) Diamond

**8) Which famous Danish fairy tale author was born in April of 1805?**

- a) Charles Perrault
- b) Marie-Catherine d'Aulnoy
- c) Hans Christian Andersen
- d) Wilhem Hauff

**9) In France, April Fool's Day is called "Poisson d'avril". What trick do people play on each other?**

- a) Pin paper fishes to each other's backs
- b) Give each other jump scares
- c) Ding-dong ditching
- d) Mirror a person's every movement

**10) What are April's two birth flowers?**

- a) Daffodils and daisies
- b) Tulips and buttercups
- c) Roses and baby's breath
- d) Daisy & Sweet pea

**FIND THE ANSWER KEY ON THE GAMES PAGE!**

## CONSPIRACY OR COMEBACK? THE CURIOUS CASE OF JIM CARREY



Written by Sylvie Scott

When famous actor Jim Carrey arrived at the 51st César Awards in Paris on February 26, 2026, many were shocked to see his appearance was strikingly different. Some initially suspected it was due to plastic surgery, but other observed that his eyes were a different colour. Another odd occurrence is when he spoke in French while accepting his award—a language he never knew before. His facial structure was different, his voice was changed, and his demeanor was calm, while the Jim Carrey from years ago had a much more chaotic energy.



In interviews, he spoke supportively about Hollywood and the industry, while years ago, he was always speaking out against it. In the past, Jim Carrey from even said he would be stepping back from making any public appearances at all, especially related to Hollywood.

Many observers then began to think it was a clone or impersonator, either hired by Hollywood or by Jim Carrey himself. The César Awards confirmed it was the real Jim Carrey, and he had simply practiced his speech in French for months. However, that does not explain his behaviour or drastic change in appearance. It's up to you: was the man who attended the award ceremony actually Jim Carrey, or are the many conspiracies surrounding the actor true?

## ESQUIMALT INK SURVEY

With a few issues under our belt, it seems like the perfect time to ask you what you think of *Esquimalt Ink*! Have you been enjoying our publications? Is there anything you would change to make it easier to read? Let us know!



## APRIL HOROSCOPES

*Spring goals edition!*

Organized by Violet Lane

**ARIES** (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19)  
Visit a farmer's market or two.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 - May 20)  
Try planting a garden.

**GEMINI** (May 21 - Jun. 20)  
Clean out your closet.

**CANCER** (Jun. 21 - Jul. 22)  
Write a couple thank-you cards.

**LEO** (Jul. 23 - Aug. 22)  
Start using a physical calendar more than your app.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sep. 22)  
Congratulate someone on a new accomplishment.



**LIBRA** (Sep. 23 - Oct. 22)  
Make a summer bucket list with friends or family.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)  
Go on a bike ride.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)  
Visit three beaches.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)  
Start a lemonade stand.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)  
Attend a local concert.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 - Mar. 20)  
Go watch Project Hail Mary.



## CALLING ALL CREATIVE PEOPLE!

Are you a creative person? Do you like to write, draw, or take photos? Our submissions are always open!



Esquimalt Ink's

## CREATIVE CORNER



Help enrich your school's very own student newspaper by sharing your wonderful creative works. It's super easy! Just send your submission to [esquimalt.ink@gmail.com](mailto:esquimalt.ink@gmail.com), or DM us on Instagram (coming soon)!

# EASTER BUNNIES ON STRIKE, ALL RABBITS UNITE!

Written by Kara McIlwain

*DISCLAIMER: This article is a work of humour and is not real news.*

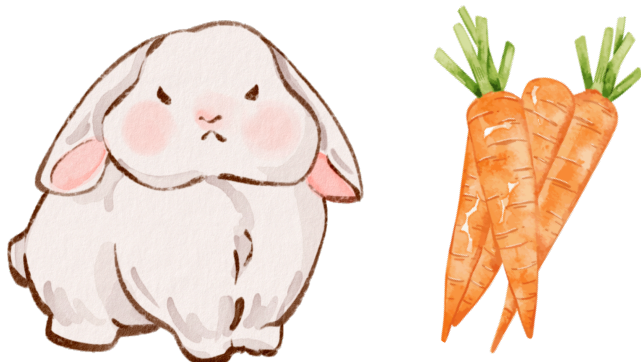
On the 6th of April, an astonishing sight was seen. Groups of 50 rabbits dressed in tail coats and top hats hopped through the streets of Canadian cities. Downtown Victoria, Edmonton, Regina, and all other capitals of Canada's provinces and territories experienced the bunny barricades. Chanting in protest against unfair compensation for the Easter Bunny, the animals carried signs through the streets.

According to Natasha Miller, a witness to this event, this spectacle must be, "a hoax, a set up... it just can't be real!" However there are multiple views on this subject. Andrew Morris, another person present at the Victoria protest said that he was convinced that this was a sign from the Easter Bunny Deity, and we must comply with the rabbits' wishes.



The Esquimalt Ink newspaper was able to ask a few questions to this fluffle. Their requests were quite simple, one being that the Easter Bunny would be paid a monthly salary of fifteen large, freshly-grown carrots. Second, that the Easter Bunny has 30 paid vacation days. Finally, they demanded that the humans would have to throw the Easter Bunny its own annual Easter egg hunt on the Sunday *before* Easter Sunday, in honour of its efforts.

These cottontail creatures who talk and walk have just threatened all Canadians to stop all coming Easter celebrations stating, "If you humans don't follow these new rules, all children will wake with nothing. No chocolate, no candy, no eggs!"



This challenge to our traditions is very unsettling to all of our citizens, but the government of Canada has already made contact with these protesters in hopes of having collaborative talks to find solutions in time for next Easter.

## DRIFTING BLOSSOMS

Written by Beaver Cruz



In a day that pink petals gather,  
It all flees through the sunlight,  
I drift apart like a feather,  
Settling on a place like no other,

The wind flows gently through me,  
As petals fall beneath a tree,  
Floating with the air so free,  
Blooming newly in ways to see,

I find wonder in things that fade,  
With blossoms that hold grace,  
In things that seem ephemeral,  
I treasure what is beautiful.

Visit the cherry blossom festival in Vancouver!



## A TRILLION TIMES UNSENT

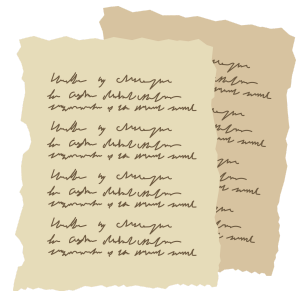
Written by Anonymous

To My Love,  
The sound of my heart ripping, tearing, and squeezing, rings in my ear day by day.  
Valiantly did my soul fight a losing battle, and if I did not truly love you, it would have won.  
But I did...do.

We shall now be separated sooner than if it was just dirt,  
And farther than the 6 feet we thought it would be.  
I have to go but I'll leave a part of my moon, dream, and heart.  
I hope that I can take a part of you with me as well,  
But not enough for your heart not to regrow, not enough to never fill that hole.

Our memory tattoos will fade from a wound to a scar,  
And we will cease to crave each other like we do chocolate.  
Our camper van dream will live on only in the push pins on the map.  
But if I don't go now I'll love you for more than forever,  
And what's missing will only fester faster.

I've unsent this letter a trillion times,  
But I've agonized long enough,  
And now must seal the envelope.



Organized by Cassandre Paul-Hus

# MINI EGG COOKIES

## Ingredients

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 cup unsweetened cocoa powder, sifted if lumpy
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 cup + 2 tablespoons unsalted butter, at room temp.
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 1 large egg
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1 1/2 cups Cadbury chocolate mini eggs, chopped
- Flaky salt, for topping (optional)



Photo by Adrianna Adarme

## Directions

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, cocoa powder, baking soda and salt.
2. In the bowl of a stand-up mixer, with the paddle attachment, add the butter and sugar; beat until light and fluffy, about 2 minutes. Add the egg and vanilla and beat until combined. In one batch, add the dry ingredients and cover the mixer with a clean kitchen towel. Turn on low and then turn to medium and mix until combined, about 40 seconds. Add the mini chocolate eggs and mix until combined.
3. Cover the bowl with plastic wrap and transfer the bowl of cookie dough to the fridge to chill for about 1 hour.
4. When the cookies are done chilling, preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
5. Scoop cookies out onto cookie sheet lined with parchment paper, spacing them about 3 inches apart. Press the tops of them a bit with your hands.
6. Bake for 10-12 minutes, or until the cookies are set in the center. These cookies are tough to tell when they're done because you can't tell if they've gotten brown so definitely watch the clock. Cool on a wire rack completely and then sprinkle the top with salt.

# &NJOY!



Share some  
recipe ideas:





Organized by Annabell Everett,  
Nina Towner, and Tabby Towne

## GRINDER'S SUDOKU

		7			2			9
5	6	3					1	
							6	
2				4	1			7
		9				5		
3			8	5				1
	2							
	7					3	2	5
8			7					

## WORD SEARCH

A	C	T	F	L	D	N	W	J	J	H	J	H	T
B	L	O	O	M	Q	A	U	G	P	Z	Z	P	A
U	E	P	T	Y	X	B	F	C	F	T	V	R	T
A	T	I	B	W	O	G	Z	F	P	Q	T	L	R
T	C	L	L	O	D	Y	N	Q	O	U	Y	U	Q
M	I	U	O	T	O	F	L	I	M	D	O	I	T
P	X	T	S	J	N	F	J	B	R	L	I	E	X
A	E	M	S	I	W	F	U	X	O	P	H	L	Y
I	S	A	O	O	X	N	C	C	T	S	S	O	B
N	G	J	M	Z	N	Y	U	V	C	G	M	Q	C
T	O	T	C	Y	R	D	F	G	E	L	V	A	G
U	W	F	P	E	Y	W	V	V	P	G	N	P	B
Q	B	E	N	I	H	S	N	U	S	D	G	U	J
F	R	C	U	K	I	Y	D	M	Y	R	Z	A	U

- Bloom
- Blossom
- Bunny
- Candy
- Colour
- Daffodil
- Egg
- Joy
- Paint
- Spring
- Sunshine
- Tulip



## CONNECTIONS

Make groups of four!



Mac	Stat	Hop	Text
Romance	Face	Fiction	Frantic
Quick	Now	Mystery	Fantasy
Sprint	Reference	Trot	Run

Words starting with F:  
Fantasy, fiction, face, frantic

Three letter words:  
Mac, hop, now, run

Words ending in T:  
Stat, trot, text, sprint

Words leftover:  
Reference, mystery, romance, quick

- (1) A
- (2) C
- (3) C
- (4) B
- (5) D
- (6) A
- (7) D
- (8) C
- (9) A
- (10) D

6	9	1	4	6
5	2	3	2	5
6	2	4	5	1
3	4	6	8	5
7	1	9	2	3
2	5	8	9	4
4	9	2	1	7
5	6	3	4	9
1	8	7	3	6

## ANSWER KEY

### OUR TEAM

Have any questions or concerns? Contact us at [esquimalt.ink@gmail.com!](mailto:esquimalt.ink@gmail.com)

- Arden Giles
- Eleanor Hogg
- Meganne Stuart
- Annabell Everett
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- Sylvie Scott
- Molly Hansen
- Violet Lane
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- Kara McIlwain
- Nina Towner
- Tabby Towne
- Beaver Cruz
- Geoff Orme