



Laurier Elementary School

January News

2025-2026

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School: 7350 Laurel Street, Vancouver BC V6P 3T9, 604-713-4925

Principal: Geri Gruft **OAA:** Dora Szeitz **Director of Instruction:** Chris Wong **PAC Chair:** Rahul Aggarwal **Trustee:** Joshua Zhang

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səliłwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Dear Families,

Happy New Year! I hope you had a joyful and restful winter break filled with time to relax and connect with loved ones. As we step into 2026, I am excited to welcome our students back to school and to continue building a positive, engaging learning environment together!

January is a GREAT time for fresh starts and new goals. Our staff is looking forward to supporting every child as they grow academically, socially, and emotionally in the months ahead. We appreciate your ongoing partnership and thank you for connecting with your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns. Please see the last page of this newsletter for important upcoming dates.

Wishing you and your family a year filled with health, happiness, and success!

Warm regards,
Geri Gruft
Principal



LAURIER CODE OF CONDUCT: How we SOAR at school, at home and in our world!

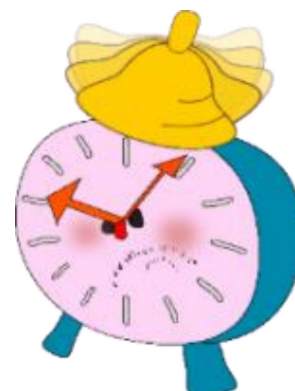


The start of the new calendar year is a perfect opportunity to revisit the Laurier School Code of Conduct. At school, we will be having Primary and Intermediate gatherings in the gym during our first week back to revisit what it looks like to SOAR and use our WITS at school. To help support our teaching and to foster a greater understanding, thank you for asking and/or reviewing these concepts at home with your child.

ARRIVING FOR SCHOOL ON-TIME: It matters!

A consistent morning routine helps children feel prepared and ready to learn, setting a positive tone for the entire day. When students arrive on time, they can participate in essential morning activities such as reviewing the “shape of the day” with their class. This daily overview helps children understand what to expect, reduces anxiety, and supports the development of executive functioning skills—such as planning, organization, and time management—that are critical for lifelong success.

Late arrivals can disrupt these routines and make it harder for students to settle in. By ensuring your child is at school before the bell, you are helping them start the day calmly and confidently.



GAMES CLUBS: A Special Request



Games Club runs on Thursdays at lunch in Room 005 for students in Grades 4-7. The club is currently looking for gently used puzzles, board games, and card games for kids. Students are asking for complete games (preferably with no missing pieces) such as chess, checkers, playing cards, Uno, Blokus, Guess Who?, Snakes and Ladders, Sorry, Candyland, and 300- and 500-piece puzzles. Donations can be dropped off to Ms. Krause and Ms. Wong who are the teacher sponsors.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION: A reminder!

Priority enrolment to register your child for kindergarten at Laurier -- or other VSB schools -- continues until January 31, 2026. See link for more information and details regarding registration: [VSB Priority Kindergarten Registration](#).



STUDENT LEARNING SURVEY: Information



The **Student Learning Survey (SLS)** will be administered to grade 4 and 7 students by classroom teachers from January 5, 2026 to May 1, 2026. This survey gathers feedback from students as well as parents, and staff to inform school and district planning. The survey aims to collect valuable insights to help improve the educational system. It is voluntary and anonymous. Parents of grade 4 and 7 students can participate in the survey by going to this link: https://www.awinfosys.com/SurveyFull1/central/main/access_Parent.asp

ELEMENTARY DISTRICT CHOICE PROGRAMS: Information

VSB is proud to offer a wide range of educational options for different types of learners. Our elementary district choice programs include French Immersion, Mandarin Bilingual, Indigenous Focus, Montessori, and Fine Arts. For further details about each program, please visit the [VSB elementary programs webpage](#). If you'd like to learn more about how these district choice programs are delivered and how they differ from the regular stream, tune in to [episode 13 of the VSB: After the Bell podcast](#).



PROPOSED SCHOOL CALENDARS FOR 2026–2029: Information



After working with the District Calendar Advisory Committee, the VSB has proposed school calendars for the next three years (2026–2027, 2027–2028 and 2028–2029) which have been posted on the [district website](#).

As required under the BC School Act, the District is holding an open comment period from December 15, 2025 to January 16, 2026. We are asking families to share their comments about the proposed calendars to engage@vsb.bc.ca. An email about this will be sent to all families in the district. For more information about the calendar development process, visit govsb.ca/calendar.

UPCOMING DATES

- Monday, January 5th: **School Re-Opens after Winter Break**
- Monday, January 12th: No School for Students for **Professional Development Day**
- Tuesday, January 13th: **Laurier PAC Meeting**: On-Line. Details to come.
- Wednesday, February 11th: **Laurier PAC Meeting @ 6:30pm**: On-Line
- Friday, February 13th: No School for Students for **Professional Development Day**
- Monday, February 16th: School Closed for **Family Day Holiday**
- Friday, March 6th: **Intermediate Spring Concert**
- Tuesday, March 10th: Written Learning Update #2
- Friday, March 13th: Last Day of School Before **March Break**
- Monday, March 30th: School Re-Opens following **March Break**
- Friday, April 3rd: School Closed for **Good Friday Holiday**
- Monday, April 6th: School Closed for **Easter Monday Holiday**
- Wednesday, April 15th: **PAC Meeting**: In Person in the Laurier Library
- Monday, April 20th: No School for Students for **Professional Development Day**
- Wednesday, April 29th: Early Dismissal @ 2pm for **Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- Thursday, April 30th: Early Dismissal @ 2pm for **Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- Monday, May 18th: School Closed for **Victoria Day Holiday**
- Friday, May 22nd: **Laurier Sports Day**
- Monday, June 22nd: **Grade 7 Celebration**
- Thursday, June 25th: **Last Day of School**

LAURIER PAC

As a parent in our school community, you are already a member of the Laurier PAC. Please visit the PAC website to learn more about upcoming events, how you can become involved as a volunteer or attend a PAC Meeting: <https://www.laurierpac.ca/>

