

Sir Wilfrid Laurier News

“LAURIER EAGLES S.O.A.R”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful



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Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

We are only 3 weeks from the Winter Break! Hard to believe that time is going by so quickly! It is a joy to come to Laurier Elementary every day and witness the level of engagement of our students with their learning and the enthusiasm with which they participate in many activities organized for them by our staff members.

In November, we observed Remembrance Day in our school assembly, which created the space and time for us to honour those who fought for our freedom. Our students expressed themselves through songs, poems, arts and sign language. Our assembly ended with a touching performance by our Choir led by Ms. Chung.

November 9th was the Curriculum Implementation day and our staff participated in many district workshops. Laurier hosted a workshop on Ready Bodies, Learning Minds, and we now have our own RBLM Lab: “*RBLM provides children with easy-to-implement experiences and exercises in a motor lab environment to increase the likelihood of their success by developing their sensory and motor systems to their fullest.*” <http://www.readybodies.com/>

We ended the month with our Craft and Bake Fair, which offered the opportunity to choose from a collection of handmade items and baked goods, while raising some funds for our school. Many thanks to our PAC, especially Ms. Kate Chang for organizing this event and our student entrepreneurs and their families for their hard work and creativity!

And we are ready to welcome December, which will be busy, exciting and fun, as we are celebrating the end of our first trimester of school year 2018-2019 and getting ready for two weeks of break!

Armin Samiei
Principal



Artwork by Ms. Boucher's Gr. 2/3 class

Laurier Winter Concert 2018



We are excited to remind you of the dates for our Primary and Intermediate Concerts that will take place in the school gymnasium as follows:

- **Dec. 7: 9:15 - 10:00am:** Primary (Div. 8 - Div. 13) and Laurier Choir Concert
- **Dec. 14: 9:15 - 10:00am:** Intermediate Concert (Div. 1 - Div. 7)

Please join us to celebrate our students through songs and music!



Ms. Chung and Laurier Choir in Full Practice!

Another Successful Book Fair! Thank You!

A heartfelt thank you goes out to all the families who supported our Fall Scholastic Book Fair. It was a huge success and would not have been possible without the support of our parents and library monitors. Thank you for giving up your time to help support this fundraiser. We sold an amazing \$3888.00 and that translates into a great percentage that will go towards the buying of new books and resources for our library!



Thank you, Ms. Altman, for leading another successful Book Fair!



FUN DAY!

Our S.O.A.R. letters are filling up, as our students collect tickets for being Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome and Respectful. We have achieved our goal of 1000 tickets, as we are approaching the end of November and therefore, we will have a school-wide Fun Day on December 19th! The SOAR Committee is working on the details of the Fun Day! Stay Tuned!

We also had three groups of talented students who performed at our SOAR assembly last week. Their skits were inspired by the letter S: Supportive! Their hard work and creativity earned them a pizza lunch in Mrs. Samiei's office!



FOOD BANK DRIVE AT LAURIER

The Me to We Grade 7 Committee at Laurier, led by Ms. Tan, will be running a Food Bank Drive for our local Vancouver Food Bank. We would love to help support our community during this upcoming holiday season. It is the Food Bank's vision to "...help others in need so they can reach their potential and dreams." We will be collecting canned food and non-perishable items between Monday, December 3rd and Friday, December 14th. Monetary donations are also welcomed. Please look for boxes in each individual classroom and around the school. Thank you!



Congratulations to the Laurier Kids' Lit Quiz Team. They had a successful morning competing against other Lower Mainland schools in "the sport of reading". Thank you, Ms. Altman, for sponsoring our Team.

WINTER HOLIDAYS



The last day of school before the holidays is Friday, December 21st. The students will be dismissed at their regular dismissal time of 3:00pm. Winter holidays are from Monday, December 25th until Friday, January 4th. School reopens on Monday, January 7th, 2019.

LOST AND FOUND

All of our lost and found items are now nicely folded by Ms. Magdee and placed in the hallway close to the Music Room. Please check these items if your child is missing anything. We also have a display at our office with smaller lost objects. Any items not claimed by the last day of school, Friday, December 21st will be donated.



READY BODIES, LEARNING MINDS



RBLM Training at Laurier: Superman Pose
Staff practising Superman pose on Nov. 9th ProD:
This pose stretches and strengthens the chest, shoulders, arms, legs, and glutes; and keeps back flexible, improves circulation, and energizes individuals.



RBLM Implementation at Laurier: Popcorn Pose
Ms. Murphy practising Popcorn Pose with the K students: Supine (back) exercises can strengthen the head, neck, and visual systems.



Our Craft and Bake Sale on November 28th gathered many talented members of our community and helped our students and families to showcase a wide range of handmade items and baked goods! Thank you all for an amazing fair!

COLD WEATHER

Each year, as the weather begins to change, we want to remind parents to make sure that children are dressed appropriately before heading to school each day, so that they are comfortable outside during recess and lunchtime and for walking to and from school. On the rainy days, it is very wet outside! Please send your child(ren) with a spare change of clothes in their backpack.



Mr. Holdham's K's Artwork – Div. 13

Severe Weather



Vancouver School Board has procedures that are followed in situations where severe weather, like heavy snowfall or very high winds, might be affecting schools.

All schools in the Vancouver School District will remain open if at all possible during severe weather events. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 7:00 a.m. at the latest. Details of district-wide or individual school closures will be announced through the media and the [district website front page](#).

Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures and delayed openings will be announced.

Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please check the following stations for school closure information (but do not call them).

<i>Radio</i>	<i>Television</i>
CBC AM 690 radio, 88.1 FM	Global BC
CKNW AM 980 radio	CBC TV
News AM 1130 radio	CTV BC
Fairchild AM 1470 radio	City TV

Individual school closures due to unique circumstances (e.g. power outages) will be announced as early as possible on the district website as well as on the affected schools' websites. On occasion, schools may delay the start of the school day. If this happens, specific details will be posted on the school and district websites.

Student safety is the first priority of Vancouver School Board. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend is the responsibility of each family.

Parents/guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If for any reason a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements.

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Students will not be penalized for lack of attendance under such poor weather conditions. Students are reminded to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions. When sidewalks and roads are slippery, students walking to school should take extra care.

We encourage you to review your own preparations for severe weather conditions and ensure that you are familiar with the city's response procedures for those conditions. We request that you strictly adhere to parking restrictions in and around all Vancouver schools. Your child's school will contact you about any changes to driving routes that may be put into effect on streets adjacent to the school.

Busing

VSB bus transportation will attempt to operate on their normal schedule during days with snow or other severe weather. Significant changes to the bus schedule as a result of weather conditions will be reported on the district website. Should the condition of side streets require a cancellation or change to the operation of school buses for students using the service, affected families will be informed.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION



www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten

Kindergarten registration for children born in 2014 began on November 1st.

All Kindergarten applicants are required to submit an application to their English catchment elementary school. This includes families who wish to apply for choice programs (French Immersion, Montessori, etc.) and/or a cross boundary placement.

The priority registration period for Kindergarten opened on **Thursday November 1st and closes at 4 pm on Thursday January 31st**. Students who submit an application within this priority period will be accommodated before late applicants.

Applying for Kindergarten is a **2-Step process**:

Step 1: Completion of an online application form.

Step 2: Bringing supporting documentation, along with your child, to your neighbourhood English catchment school.

Supporting Documents Needed:

1. Proof of residence in Vancouver
2. Child's birth certificate
3. Immigration documentation (if applicable)
4. Immunization records
5. Court Orders/Documents (if applicable)

If you want to apply for a Choice program or cross-boundary, you must first apply to your English catchment elementary school. Applications for Choice programs and cross boundary placements will begin to be accepted in early 2019.

In the event there are more in-catchment applicants than available space* at the school, the following process will be used to prioritize enrolment:

Kindergarten Applications Received Between November 1st and January 31st

1. **In-catchment** Kindergarten applicants with siblings in attendance at the school (and who will be attending next year) will be placed first.
2. The names of all other in-catchment registrants will be entered into a **random draw** for the remaining Kindergarten spaces.
3. Students who cannot be accommodated will be placed on a waitlist in the order in which their name was drawn.
4. Between January 31st and the second Friday in June students on the ordered waitlist will be accommodated as space becomes available.

Kindergarten Registrations Received AFTER January 31st

In-catchment Kindergarten students who apply **after** January 31st will be accommodated if there is space. If there is no space their names will be added to the bottom of the existing waitlist.

Note: There will be **no priority** given to registrants with siblings if they register after January 31st.

For more information on kindergarten registration visit: <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>

* Available Space includes physical capacity, resources, staffing, or educational programs available or planned for a school as defined by the district. (Administrative Procedure 300)



1 Apply Online



2 Visit your catchment school with necessary documents



MORNING/AFTERNOON SUPERVISION

School is in session from 9:00am to 3:00pm, with the first warning bell at 8:55am. The outside supervision takes place from **8:45am to 9:00am in the mornings** and **3:00 to 3:15pm in the afternoons**. There is no supervision outside these hours for students who are dropped off too early at school. The safety of our students is our first priority, and we need your support to do our job well with the only resources we have available to us at this time. Thank you for your consideration and for ensuring that your children are not dropped off or picked up from school outside of the supervision hours.

Vancouver Board of Education SAFE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

If your child will be absent from school, please call **604-713-5159** to report this absence as early as possible. Parents should leave a message at the dedicated answering service by calling the number provided. You will be prompted to provide the two-digit extension for your child's school to access the school's voicemail box for reporting an absence. The two-digit extension for Laurier Elementary is **44**.

It is important to report your child's absence prior to 9:00 a.m. each day of the absence.

If your child is late for school they must sign in at the office before they make their way to the classroom.

School offices are busy places: consistently notifying the school in advance of your child's absence will significantly improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Safe Arrival Morning Routine.

Thank you, our Parent Community, for your continuous effort and generosity to make Laurier an inclusive, safe and fun place for all!



A MESSAGE FROM THE LAURIER PAC

Hello all, here are at December. We have had a busy fall and are looking ahead to next year. Thank you to all our volunteers who make it all happen!

Hot Lunch for January-March

We will be adding two new menu options for Hot Lunch starting in January. Look for Boston Pizza and Calhouns. For more details, and link to ordering website please visit the PAC website <https://laurierpac.weebly.com/hot-lunch.html>

Munchalunch will be open December 1 to 7 for ordering for Term 2 (January – spring break) Payment must be received before the winter break.

If you are able to volunteer to help at a hot lunch or two (or more!) please sign up at www.volunteersignup.org/E47TK THANK YOU

Fundraiser Update

- Monkey 9 / Lucky 9 Bowling Lanes Fundraiser: Thank you to Terry and Monkey 9 / Lucky 9 Lanes. They raised \$1134 for our PAC
- Purdy's: Thank you to all who supported this fundraiser. We raised \$1250 for PAC
- Direct Appeal: Thank you to all who have contributed. So far we have raised \$3315 not quite reaching our \$3500. Donations are still welcome.

Looking for Volunteers

1. **Pancake Breakfast** - We will confirm a date, which may be either during the second or third week of December. One of our members should have a food safe certificate. Our first meeting is on Friday, Nov. 30th at 1:30pm in Mrs. Samiei's office.
2. **Lunar New Year Celebration** - Date to be determined by the committee

We are looking forward to hearing from you! You can join these committees anytime. Thanks for your support and for making Laurier a wonderful place for our students.

2018 Winter Craft and Bake Fair

Thank you to all who made our Craft and Bake Fair a success, and special thanks to Kate Chang for organizing it all

T-shirts:

We are excited to see all the new colours of t-shirts in the school soon. Look for them to come home last week before holidays.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for events please contact us at Laurier.pac@gmail.com or leave a message in the PAC box.

Happy Holidays and see you in the New Year!

Laurier PAC





Hello December

<http://TheFunnyPlace.net>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Tribal Vision Dance @9:00am	4	5	6	7 Primary Winter Concert @9:15 in the gym	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Intermediate Winter Concert @9:15 in the gym	15
16	17	18 K's Hearing Screening @9:15am	19	20	21	22
23	24 Winter Break Starts	25	26	27	28	29
30	31 ENJOY YOUR HOLIDAY!					