

Sir Wilfrid Laurier News



“LAURIER EAGLES S.O.A.R”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful

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NEWSLETTER #6 February

January 31, 2019

Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

Today, your child is bringing home the first written progress report of the school year, which communicates their learning at school. As explained in our previous newsletters, emails and at PAC meetings, many Vancouver Public Schools, along with schools throughout British Columbia, are moving from a model of 'reporting to parents' on a regular and pre-determined schedule to 'communicating student learning with parents' on an on-going basis throughout the school year. This has resulted in three significant changes to reporting: A shift from primarily focussing on summative assessment to a primarily focussing on formative assessment; a minimum of five required communications with parents within a calendar year; and Student Self-Assessment of the Core Competencies with the written summative report in June.

Our next school-wide informal reporting/communicating student learning will take place on April 10 and 11, mostly in the format of Student-Led-Conferences. Letters will be sent home to book a date and time-frame for your visit. In the meantime, our dedicated teachers are always available if you have any questions with regard to student learning.

February is a month full of celebratory events including the Lunar New Year, Hoobiyee and Pink Shirt Day. On behalf of our staff at Laurier, I am sending my warmest wishes to all of our families who celebrate the Lunar New Year, Hoobiyee and other cultural events. I hope the Year of Pig brings health, happiness and prosperity to all in our vibrant and compassionate community.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Armin Samiei
Principal

Happy Lunar New Year!

Lunar New Year is celebrated by people in a number of different countries including (but not limited to) China, Korea, Vietnam, Cambodia, Mongolia, Tibet, Singapore and Taiwan.

2019 is the **Year of the Pig** according to Chinese zodiac. Pig is the twelfth in the 12-year cycle of Chinese zodiac sign. The Years of the Pig include 1923, 1935, 1947, 1959, 1971, 1983, 1995, 2007, 2019, 2031, 2043. Pig is mild and a lucky animal representing carefree fun, good fortune and wealth.

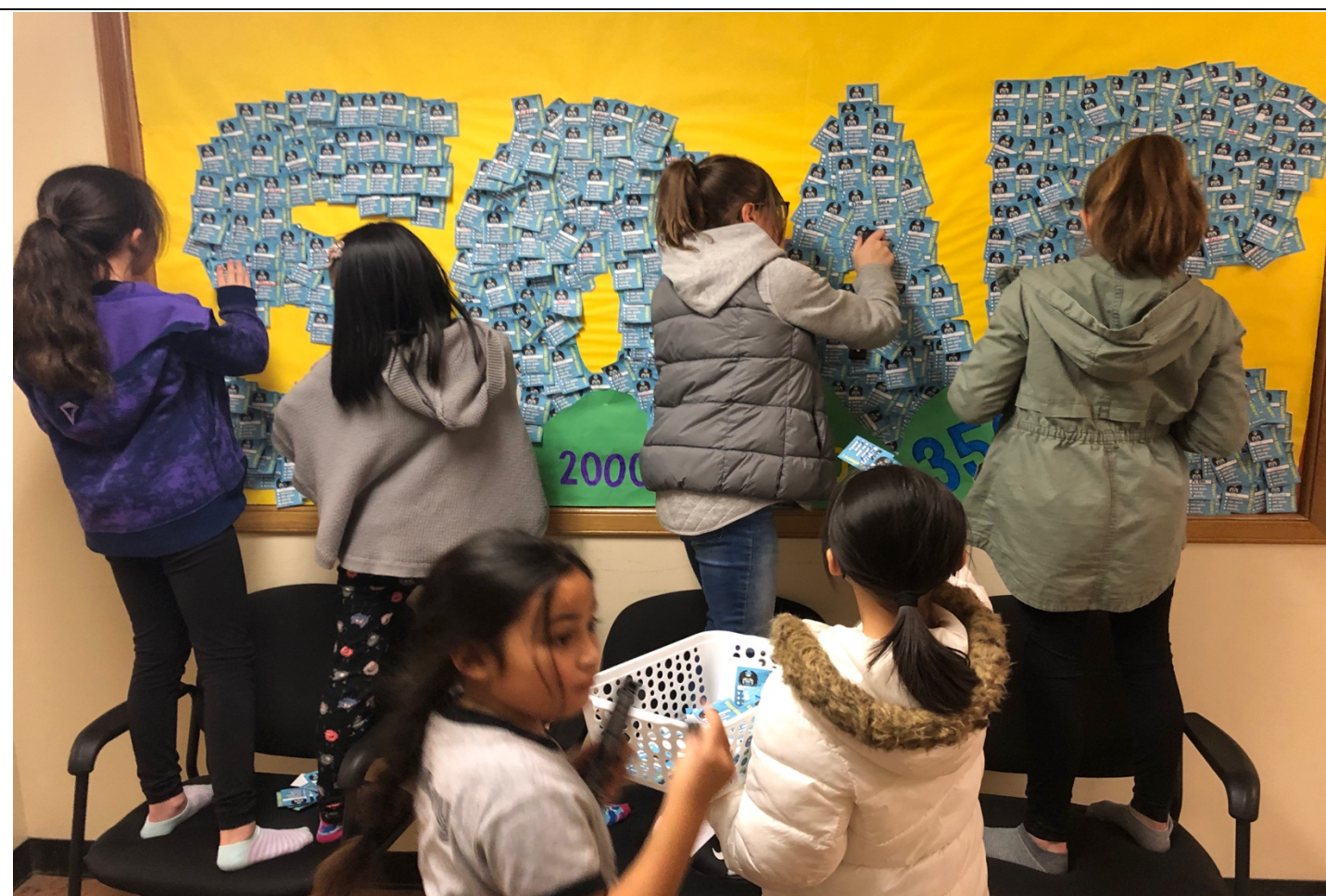


HOوبيEE 2019 *Celebrate the Nisga'a New year by sharing our culture through stories, songs and dances.*

February 1 & 2
PNE Forum Vancouver
FREE ADMISSION!

Nisga'a Ts'amiks Society
www.tsamiks.com

Hoobiyee {Ho-be-yeh} is a celebration of the waxing crescent moon, during the latter part of winter, each year. The Nisga'a People of North Western British Columbia, watch for the positioning of the moon and the stars as a prediction of the coming harvest. Like many other communities, they celebrate the New Year with family, friends and community.



Our SOAR Committee working on our SOAR Bulletin Board:
The SOAR committee is collecting SOAR tickets as we work toward our next goal of 2000 SOAR tickets before Spring Break. Let's show how we SOAR, Laurier! Our students continue to be Supportive, Open-Minded, Awesome & Respectful! They continue to S.O.A.R.!

PINK SHIRT DAY

Come to School in Pink on February 27th



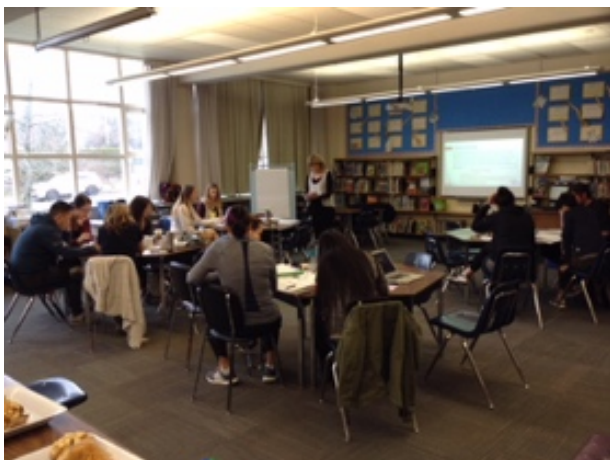
At VSB, we are getting excited about the upcoming annual PINK SHIRT DAY, taking place this year on February 27th! As you likely know, Pink Shirt Day is the annual celebration throughout British Columbia of kindness, respect and empathy in order to prevent bullying behavior and raise awareness on bullying-related issues. This year marks the 11th year since Pink Shirt Day began as a movement. The focus of this year's campaign is cyberbullying. Visit <https://www.pinkshirtday.ca> for more information.

Critical and Creative Thinking at Laurier!



Our Teachers were engaged in many activities and educational conversations at the January 25th ProD at Laurier. We had guest speakers who facilitated workshops on Critical and Creative Thinking throughout the day.

“Critical thinking involves making judgments based on reasoning: students consider options; analyze these using specific criteria; and draw conclusions and make judgments. Critical thinking competency encompasses a set of abilities that students use to examine their own thinking, and that of others, about information that they receive through observation, experience, and various forms of communication.” BC’s new curriculum



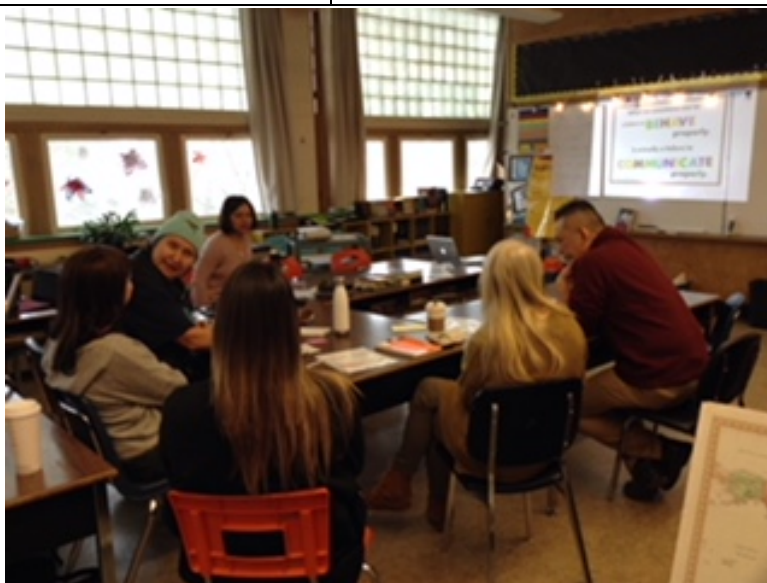
Creative and Critical Thinking at play!



Our Kindergarten students from Div. 12 and 13 used sticks and leaves to build a bridge across the huge mud puddle during recess.



Our students from Div. 5 (Ms.Cacapit) are self-assessing their critical thinking skills during a snowball launcher activity!



Our Support Staff participated in a workshop at Laurier on January 25th, that was facilitated by two District Resource teachers. Together, they reviewed strategies allowing them to respond to the needs of diverse learners.

Little Buddies and Big Buddies

By Ms. Vivian Lee

If you happen to be in the school on any given day of the week, you may see a group of older and younger students reading, playing a game, or doing a craft project together. At Laurier, primary classes are paired with intermediate classes for buddy time. The two buddy classes typically get together once a week for an activity of some kind. Buddies helps foster a safe and caring community at Laurier as students from different grades are given the opportunity to interact and to get to know one another. The buddy program helps older students develop empathy, responsibility, and leadership skills, while younger children especially enjoy the one-to-one attention and assistance they receive from their big buddy. The buddy program is one of the ways that students at Laurier are able to develop their social and emotional competencies, which are essential for all of us to live happy, successful, and productive lives.



Div. 11 (Ms. Lee) and Div. 5 (Ms. Cacapit)
Little and Big Buddies in action!



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.

Canuck Place Cookie Day



The Me to We Committee and PAC will be hosting Canuck Place Cookie Day on Thursday, February 28th, 2019.

All funds will be donated to Canuck Place, which offers families with children suffering from life-threatening illnesses a place to call home at no cost. Keep an eye out for posters in the school for more information!

Fabric Scraps Needed

Ms. Altman and Ms. Tan are collecting fabric for a school project. If you have any extra fabric lying around, please drop it off to the library or office. Any type of fabric would be appreciated. Thank you!



READY, SET, LEARN

Friday, March 8 2019

At J. W. Sexsmith Elementary
7410 Columbia Street

Do you know anyone who lives in the neighbourhood with children age 3 or 4? Please invite them to Ready, Set Learn on Friday, March 8. Ready, Set, Learn is an event to help children to become ready and comfortable for Kindergarten to develop confidence and relationships with friends and learn important skills they will need to succeed in school. This year, we have organized a joint event that will take place at Sexsmith Elementary School. We would like to invite you to a special concert with singer Will Stroet. This concert is part of our Ready Set Learn activities planned for this year. Your child will have the chance to come and spend some time in the school with some of the primary students. The concert will last approximately 45 minutes.

Information from the Vancouver Public Library will also be made available for parents/guardians.

The following is the timeline of our event at Sexsmith:

Public Library information: 10:45 am

Concert time: 11:10 am

Location: gym located on the upper level beside the lunch room at Sexsmith Elementary

Hope to see you there. For more information about the artist you can visit:

<https://www.willsjams.com/live-shows>

Please RSVP by contacting the Sir Wilfrid Laurier office at 604 713-4925 or email laurier@vsb.bc.ca
As spaces are limited, please make other arrangements for any young siblings if possible.



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.

A MESSAGE FROM THE LAURIER PAC

Hello all,

Thanks to all who have gotten the year off to such a great start. We are planning some events and hope to see you all come out and enjoy our great Laurier community.

Events

1. **Lunar New Year Celebration** – An event for parents/caregivers and students to come together and do a craft/activity to mark Hobiye and Lunar New Year. Please join us after school 3:00-4:00 pm Thursday Feb 7. Please note: this is not a drop off event
2. **Pancake Breakfast** - We are planning a Pancake Breakfast for staff and students to say Bye-Bye Winter and Hello Spring and also for celebrating another well-earned SOAR fun day. (tentatively March 14th).
3. **Movie Night** – Help us plan the next movie night – what movie would you like to see? (Date TBD -March or early April)
4. **Canuck Place Cookie Day** – We are planning a bake sale to benefit Canuck Place hospice - Feb 28th... stay tuned for more info.



					1	2
3	4 Khach Chi Bamboo Music Performance @1:30pm in the gym	5 Lunar New Year	6	7 PAC- Sponsored Craft Activities to celebrate Lunar New Year/Hoobiye @3:00pm	8	9
10	11 Dragon Dance @9:15am in the gym	12	13	14	15 Curriculum Implementation Day-School closed for students	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Zumba @Laurier	26 Zumba @Laurier	27 Pink Shirt Day Zumba @Laurier	28 Zumba @Laurier	29	