

Sir Wilfrid Laurier News



“LAURIER EAGLES S.O.A.R”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful

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NEWSLETTER #7 March

February 28, 2019

Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

We hope you found the first written student progress report of the school year, which was sent home on January 31st, meaningful and full of information about your child's learning at school. In April, you will have a chance to participate in school-wide informal meetings or conferences to review your child(ren)'s work at school. In the meantime, our teachers are always available to offer feedback on our students' learning.

February was a month that offered many celebratory events and extra-curricular opportunities to our students to mark the Lunar New Year, Hoobiyee and Pink Shirt Day, and to remain active by participating in Zumba classes. Many thanks to our very dedicated PAC members, who led an afterschool craft event in our library to celebrate the Lunar New Year and Hoobiyee. Laurier PAC has been very busy organizing events to support our community gatherings and student learning, and for this we are grateful. The Movie Night on February 27th was another successful event, which was aligned with our Pink Shirt Day with a focus on kindness.

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

Armin Samiei
Principal

HAPPY SPRING BREAK



HAPPY SPRING

We wish you a happy, healthy and restful Spring Break. School will be closed on March 18th to 29th and will reopen on Monday, April 1st. Enjoy your Spring Break!

This year, Spring Equinox in the Northern Hemisphere will be on Wednesday, March 20th at 2:58pm, marking the beginning of a new season. Happy Spring to you all!

In addition to the renewal of nature, Spring is full of cultural and spiritual festivities and celebrations. One example is Norouz or Nowruz, meaning New Day. Norouz is the name of the Iranian New Year, also known as Persian New Year, which is celebrated worldwide by the Iranians, along with some other ethno-linguistic groups, as the beginning of the New Year. Norouz has been celebrated for over 3,000 years in Western Asia, Central Asia, the Caucasus, the Black Sea Basin and the Balkans, and by Parsis in the Indian subcontinent. Countries that have Nowruz as a public holiday include: Afghanistan, Albania, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Iran, Iraqi Kurdistan, Kazkhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Bayan-Ögllii, Tajikistan, Turkeminstan and Uzbekistan.

The Parliament of Canada on March 30th 2009, by unanimous consent, passed a bill to add Nowruz to the national calendar of Canada. (*Information retrieved from Wikipedia*).



Celebration of the Lunar New Year and Hoobiyee in our Library PAC-Sponsored Craft activities



Our gratitude goes to our PAC for organizing an afternoon of craft and calligraphy at our library to mark the Lunar New Year and Hoobiyee. Many thanks go to Ms. Anita Parkinson for leading this event and many parents for helping with the set up and/or assisting students at different stations: Ms. Anita and Mr. Tenny Chui, Ms. Kelly Yau, Ms. Natsuko Fujii, Ms. Chua Pimgarn, Ms. Nicole Boyd and Mr. James Wong. Thank you also to Ms. Jen Altman, our teacher-librarian for helping with this event.

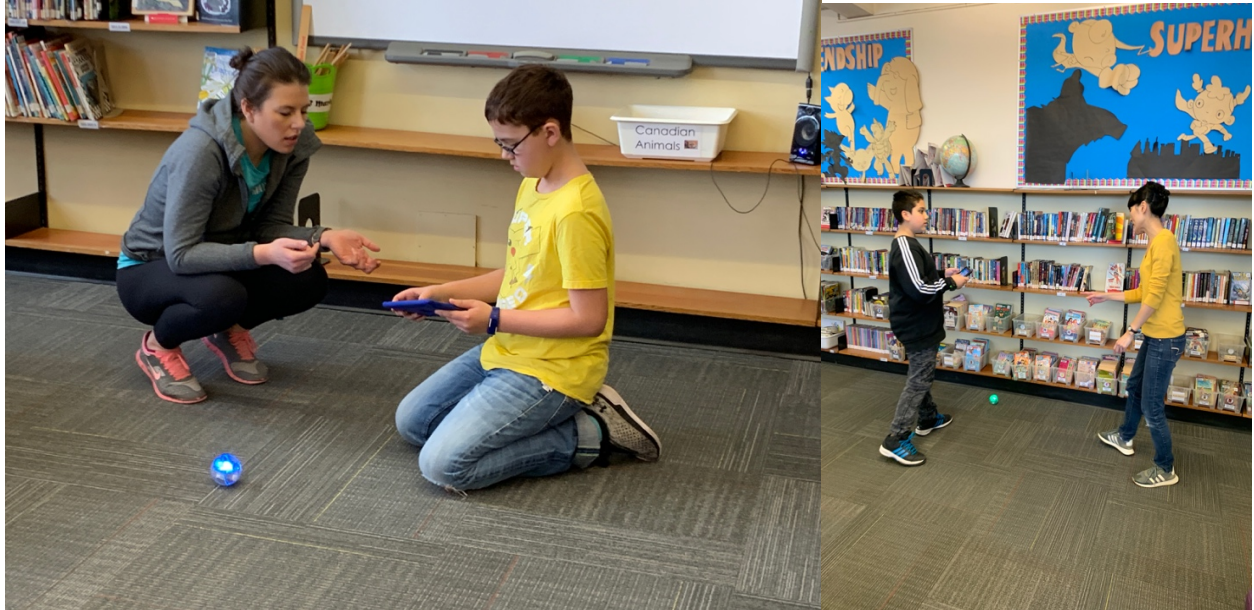
Lion Dance



The Lion Dance at Laurier to celebrate the Lunar New Year and to bring good luck, peace and harmony to our community.

LAURIER INQUIRY LEARNING TEAM

By Mr. Ryan Hong



We are all life-long learners. As part of a professional development inquiry project through the Vancouver School Board, the teachers have been learning how to implement coding and robotics in the classroom. Students recently started learning how to program 'SPHERO' to do simple tasks during ADST learning periods (Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies). We recently had some of our expert students share their knowledge of 'SPHERO' with our teachers during a lunch-and-learn session. Keep an eye out for small robotic devices roaming the halls of Laurier! #LaurierLearns

Thank you Mr. Hong for leading our Learning Team at Laurier!



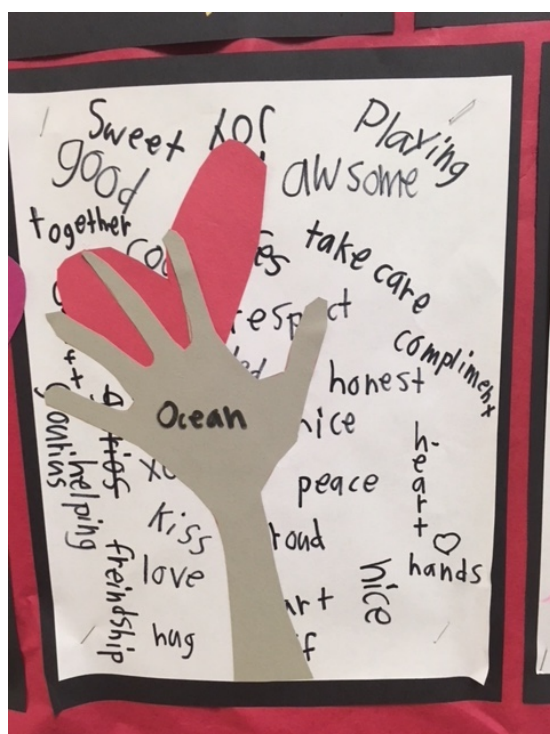
KINDNESS AND COMPASSION AT LAURIER TODAY AND EVERY DAY



Div. 11's Door - Ms. V. Lee

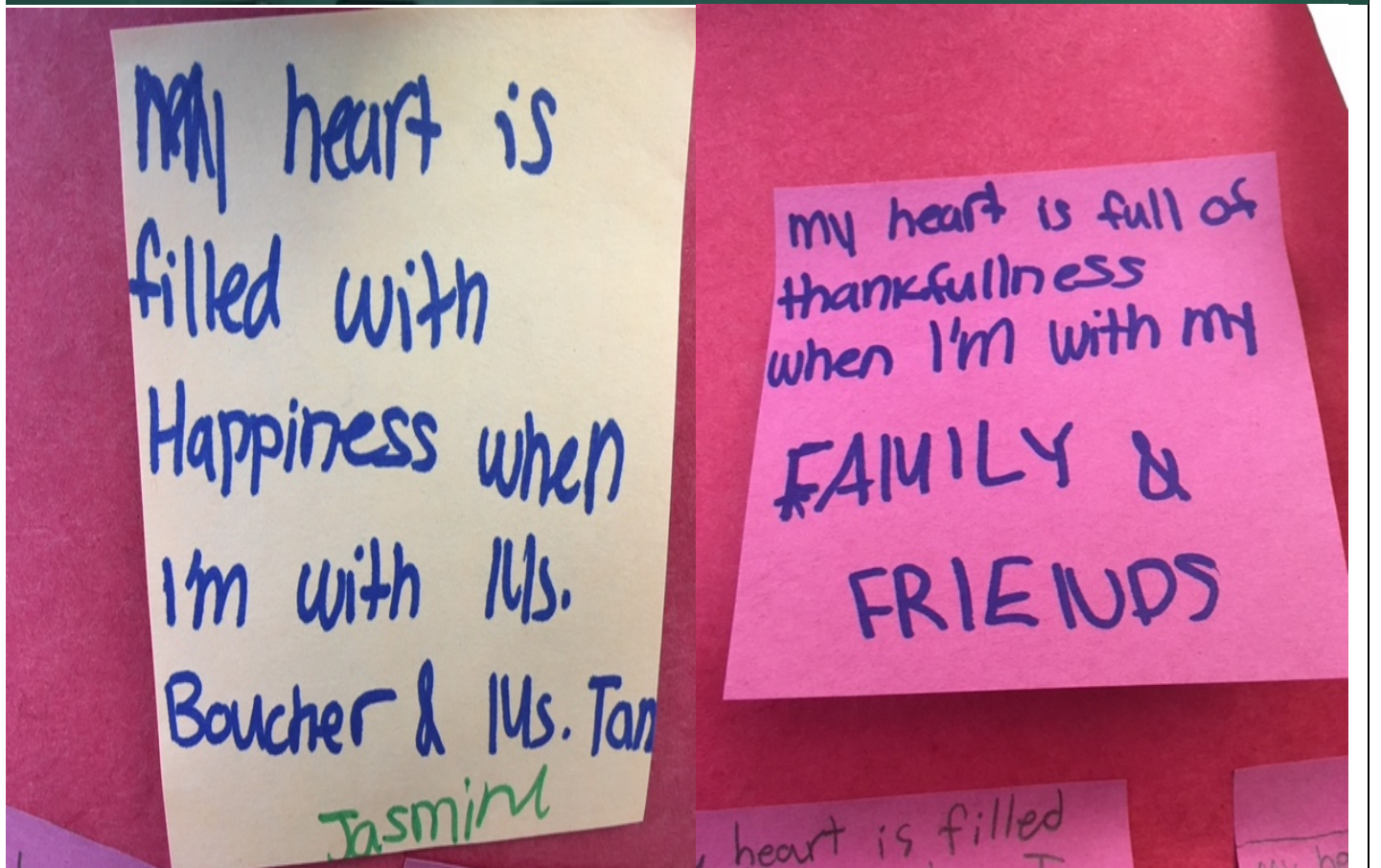
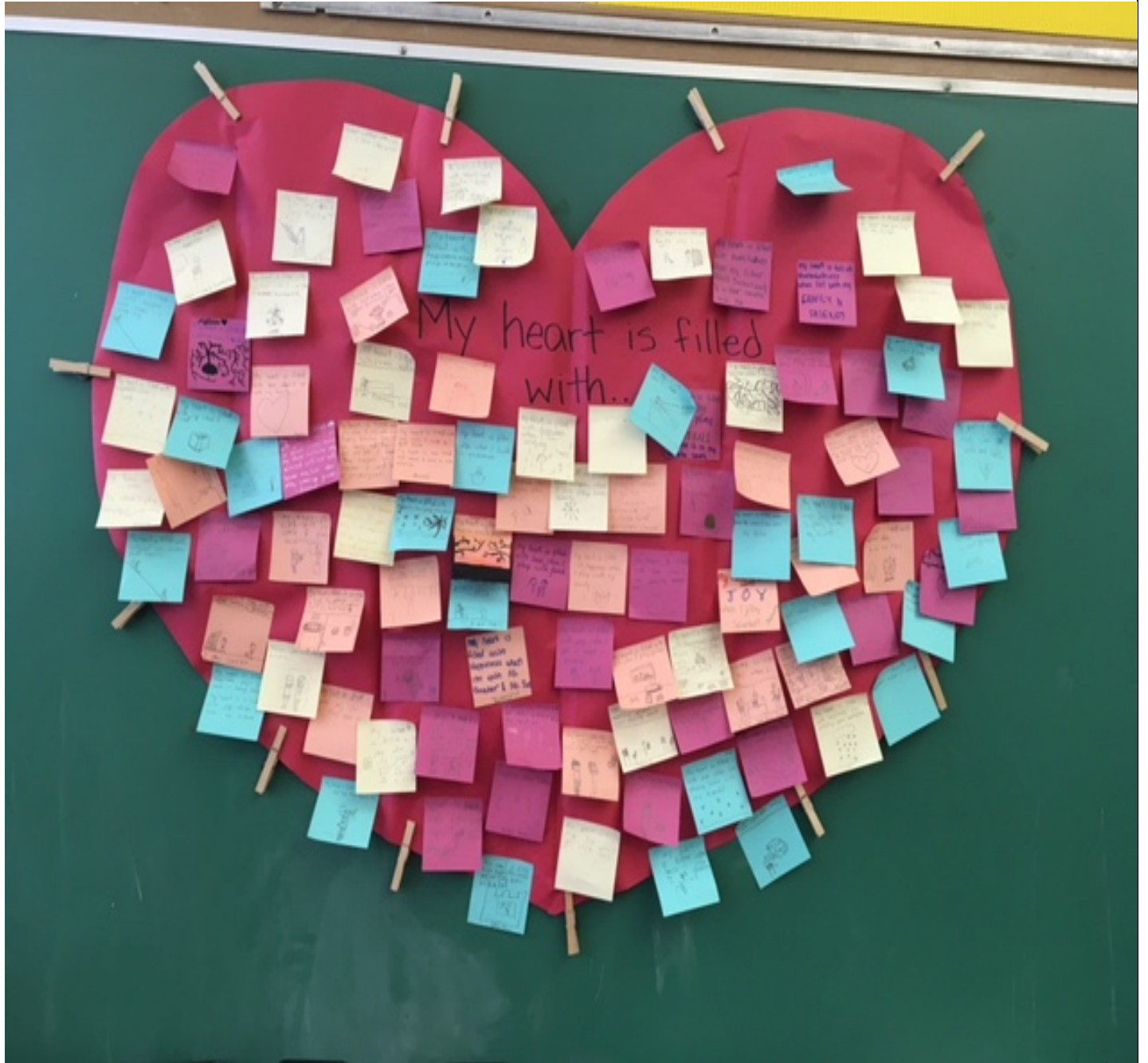


**Valentine's Day friendship fruit salad
Div. 11 - Ms. Lee's Gr. 1 Class**

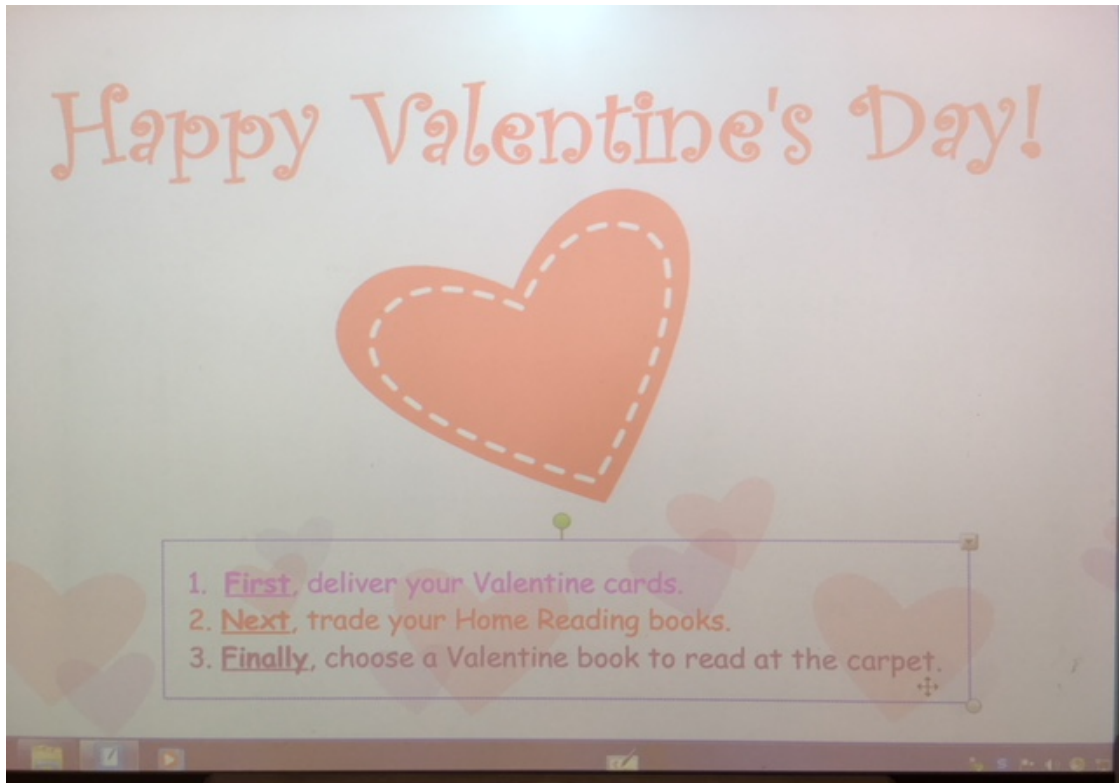


Div. 9 - Ms. Millman's Gr. 2/3 Class

Div. 6's Big Heart – Ms. Tan's Gr. 4/5 Class



Div. 12 – Ms. Virvilis and Ms. Murphy's Class is all about love and kindness





Div. 5 – Ms. Cacapit's Gr. 4/5 Class

A Trip to Science World



Div. 12 and 13 – Ms. Murphy/Virvilis' and Holdham's K Classes



© Can Stock Photo - csp30351638

The Laurier Choir will perform at The District Choral Festival at John Oliver Secondary School on Wednesday, March 6 at 7:00pm.



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.

READY, SET, LEARN

Friday, March 8 2019

At J. W. Sexsmith Elementary

7410 Columbia St.

Do you know anyone who lives in the neighbourhood with children aged 3 or 4? Please invite them to Ready, Set Learn on Friday, March 8, 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. 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: Friday, March 8, 2019

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,

Thank you to all who came out and made our Lunar New Year Celebration a fun event. Special thanks to Ms. Altman for all her help in making the event a success and welcoming us into the library! We are looking forward to repeating next year. We would like to thank Ms. Samiei for bringing the lion dancers to the school. Happy Lunar New Year wishes to all.

We hope everyone enjoyed Paddington 2 at the Family Movie Night February 27. Thanks to all who came out and helped out.

Thank you to all who donated baked goods to the student Me to We group Cookie Day bakesale to support Canuck Place Hospice on February 28th.

Hot Lunch

Ordering for Term 3 (after spring break until June) will be open in March. All orders must be completed and paid for **before** Spring Break.

Events

1. **Pancake Breakfast** – Thursday March 14. A Pancake Breakfast for staff and students to say Bye-Bye Winter and Hello Spring.
2. **Spring Craft Fair** – Wednesday April 24
3. **Staff Appreciation Lunch** – Wednesday May 8
4. **Sports Day concession and hot lunch** – Thursday May 16
5. **PAC Family Potluck and AGM** – Tuesday May 21
6. **Parent Presentation:** We are hoping to have Gary Anaka present to parents on the effects of technology on the brain one evening in April. <http://www.braincoach.ca/>

As always, these events only happen with volunteer help.

Pancake Breakfast - volunteers as well as pans and griddles needed volunteersignup.org/BPELY

Hot Lunch - check our PAC website for the signup sheet coming soon

Earthbites

Following the Earthbites presentation at the January PAC meeting, the first committee meeting to plan for the future is on February 28

Amazon

Buy from Amazon.ca ? Click through link <https://amzn.to/2t9c9b2> (also on PAC website) and PAC will receive a donation.

We are looking forward to hearing from you! If you have ideas, or would like to help with these events, please contact us at Laurier.pac@gmail.com or leave a message in the PAC box.

Laurier PAC

Vancouver School Board (VSB) is now issuing tax receipts for donations made online. If you would like to donate directly to PAC or the school please visit

<https://vsb.schoolcashonline.com/Fee/Details/1869/196/false/true>. Under "Fund Destination" scroll down to E-Sir Wilfrid Laurier PAC or E-Sir Wilfrid Laurier. A tax receipt will be issued electronically at the time of donation



					1	2
3	4	5	6 Choral Festival (Laurier Choir) @ John Oliver Secondary @7pm	7	8 West My Friend Performance in the gym @1:15- 2:15pm RSL @ Sexsmith @ 10:45am	9
10	11	12 PAC Meeting @6:30pm in the Library	13	14	15	16
17	18 HAPPY	19 SPRING	20 BREAK!	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 ENJOY	28 YOUR	29 HOLIDAY!	