

# Sir Wilfrid Laurier News



## “LAURIER EAGLES S.O.A.R”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful

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NEWSLETTER #2 October

September 28, 2018

## Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

We had a beautiful and smooth beginning to a new school year. My gratitude goes to our staff and the entire community of Parents and Guardians for their support during these first weeks of school. They have ensured that our students are settled into their new grades, able to explore the opportunities offered to them at school, and that they continue to learn, grow and blossom in the safe, caring and welcoming place we call Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School.

Many thanks to all of you who attended our first Open House of the school year 2018-2019 on Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> - What a great way to celebrate our school and meet each other. We started with a potluck with our families and gathered in a circle of students, parents, and teachers in the gymnasium, introducing our teaching staff and reviewing our school expectations, followed by a tour of the school. We value our partnership and we believe that a strong relationship between home and school has an immense impact on our students' learning and performance.

We had a meaningful first Professional Development Day at our school on September 21<sup>st</sup>. This gathering gave the staff a chance to focus on topics that drive student learning, and they participated in thought-provoking conversations and discussed ideas and strategies that we will implement throughout the school year.

September 25<sup>th</sup> was Terry Fox Day at Laurier. Many thanks go to Ms. Boucher and to our students and staff for making the day a success. We were able to raise \$550.00 dollars to support the Terry Fox Foundation. Thank you all for your contributions!

Thanks for reading this newsletter, and as always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at school.

Armin Samiei  
Principal

## World Teachers' Day 2018: Friday, October 5



Happy World Teachers' Day to all of our amazing teachers at Laurier who inspire hope in our students, ignite their imagination, and instill in them a love of learning.

**Happy Teachers' Day!**

**\*\*Thank you to all of our caring, kind and dedicated staff members at Laurier\*\***

# Laurier Code of Conduct

*(Please review this code with your child regularly.)*

At Sir Wilfrid Laurier we encourage all student to S.O.A.R. with success. **(Supportive -Open Minded-Awesome - Respectful)**

## **Purpose:**

Laurier's Code of Conduct has been created to help maintain a safe, caring and orderly school environment. The Purpose of the Code of Conduct is:

1. To encourage the development of socially responsible behaviour resulting in a positive reputation for students and the school community.
2. To foster a safe, respectful and welcoming learning environment for all students, staff and parents.
3. To clearly communicate behavioural expectations to the school community.

The Code of Conduct applies to all members of the school community at school, traveling to and from the school, at any school-related activity at any location, or any circumstance/activity that will have an impact on the school environment. At Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School we believe that character development through the proactive teaching of positive social skills is paramount to the success of any student. At Laurier the staff have adopted a School Wide Positive Behaviour Support (S.W.P.B.S) approach to supporting behaviour. The staff explicitly teach and model what it means to S.O.A.R in all locations in the school and at home.

## **Supportive means:**

- we welcome everyone
- we include others
- we are helpful
- we are kind

## **Awesome means:**

- we try our best
- we are cool (we know how to self-regulate)
- we have fun
- we are proud to be ourselves

## **Open Minded means:**

- we are flexible
- we try new things
- we make new friends
- we are brave

## **Respectful means:**

- we respect ourselves
- we respect others
- we respect the environment
- we respect our school

## **Minor Misbehavior:**

- staff member will speak directly to the student to review appropriate behaviour
- the student will be reminded of the school Code of Conduct and prompted to identify his or her breach of the Code. The expectation will be retaught, role-modeled and positively reinforced.

## **Serious or Repeated Misbehavior:**

- reported to teacher/principal
- discussion and reflection with the student, reminding student of our Code of Conduct
- alternative choices the student could have made
- record of the incident and action taken
- parents will be contacted to review the Code of Conduct with their child
- may include loss of privileges (playground, classroom or school privileges)
- may include some type of restorative justice

## **Very Serious Misbehaviour:**

- reflection on past behaviour
- discussion with staff involved
- parents contacted
- officials or other agencies contacted as needed
- School Board Officials, the Police, MCFD or other community agencies may be contacted if deemed necessary.

## **Unacceptable Conduct:**

The following are examples of conduct that must be reported as soon as possible to a staff member or supervising adult:

- Bullying, harassment, intimidation or exclusion
- interfering with an orderly environment
- interfering with the learning of others

# School Emergency Procedures

School emergency procedures are consistent with Vancouver Board of Education policies and guidelines and are reviewed regularly with staff and with students. Each school year, we conduct 2 Earthquake drills [**October 18, 2018** (Great BC Shakeout, 10:18 am) and **May 2, 2019** (Big One @ 2:00 pm)], 6 Fire drills and 2 Lockdown Drills. Classroom Teachers review the procedures with students on a regular basis to ensure they keep themselves safe in case of real emergency. The following terminology and procedures are used and explained when teaching students:

## Evacuation Procedures:

- In case of an emergency requiring evacuation such as Fire or Earthquake, staff and students are trained to assemble at the gravel field in the back field. Visitors to the school should also evacuate the school.
- The school has equipment and provisions to adequately care for children until their parents can pick them up. In such an emergency, parents are directed to carefully follow the instructions of staff so we can ensure the proper accounting and safe dismissal of children to their parents or emergency designates.
- In case of a real emergency, we can anticipate that children and parents both will be worried about their family members' health and safety. The school has specific student release procedures in place to ensure that families are re-united as quickly and safely as possible, and to ensure accountability and tracking of each student's safe release.
- During an Earthquake, students are asked to follow the following steps before evacuation:

## Drop, Cover, and Hold On

**Use if an earthquake or explosion occurs or anytime a building or its materials shake and fall**

**Drop** - get down on the ground/floor

**Cover** - take cover under heavy furniture or millwork

**Hold On** – hold on to the furniture/millwork as the shaking may cause even large items to move about

After the shaking stops and possible falling debris settles, wait 60 seconds, then Evacuate the building

## Other Procedures:

### Lockdown

Staff and students also rehearse what to do in the unlikely event of a dangerous intruder either on the school grounds or within the school. During a "LOCKDOWN" drill, we lockdown the school: "Lockdown, lockdown, lockdown" is announced over the school PA system in the unlikely event that there is a dangerous intruder in the school. All students gather in their classroom (or closest room), lock the doors, turn off lights and remain quietly with their teacher until they are directed that it is safe to come out.

In the unlikely event of a lockdown situation, we will be turning off and collecting cell phones from students, as using them at such a time poses potential additional risks: we do not want phones to sound at times when quiet is essential. Additionally, texting, tweeting, etc. risks sending out inaccurate information that could hamper police efforts to resolve the incident. Parents are asked not to attempt to contact the school or their children directly.

### Hold & Secure

**Use if there is a security concern in the neighborhood**

Everyone is to come into the school and remain in the school; Exterior doors are secured

Exterior windows secured and blinds closed; No one may enter or exit the school

### Shelter in Place

**Use if an environmental hazard is in the vicinity of school (including coyotes)**

Everyone is to come into the school and remain in the school; Exterior doors are secured

Exterior windows are closed and secured plus blinds/drapes closed; All ventilation systems may be turned off; Principal will monitor access to the school

### Room Clear

**Use to move students away from a hazard contained in one room/area**

Students directed to go directly to a previously agreed-upon alternate location

Default: school library

# Orange Shirt Day in VSB: October 1<sup>st</sup>

Please Wear Orange at Laurier in recognition of the Residential School Experience



September 2018

## VSB – INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

WEAR ORANGE  
ON  
OCTOBER 1ST

## ORANGE SHIRT DAY

A DAY TO RECOGNIZE AND REMEMBER THE RESIDENTIAL SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

September 30th has been declared Orange Shirt Day annually, in recognition of the harm the residential school system did to children's sense of self-esteem and wellbeing,

\*Please feel free to celebrate the week before or after September 30th.

### WHY ORANGE SHIRTS?

Orange Shirt Day is a legacy of the St. Joseph Mission (SJM) residential school commemoration event held in Williams Lake, BC, Canada, in May 2013. It grew out of Phyllis Webstad's story of having her shiny new orange shirt taken away on her first day of school at the Mission, and it has become an opportunity to keep the discussion on all aspects of residential schools happening annually.



Orange Shirt - Design  
by Robin Roberts,  
Haida/Tsimshian/Squamish

and as an affirmation of our commitment to ensure that everyone around us matters. The date was chosen because it is the time of year in which children were taken from their homes to residential schools, and because it is an opportunity to set the stage for anti-racism and anti-bullying policies for the

coming school year. It also gives teachers time to plan events that will include children, as we want to ensure that we are passing the story and learning on to the next generations.

Orange Shirt Day is also an opportunity for Indigenous and Non-Indigenous people, local governments, schools and communities to come together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope for generations of children to come.

### RESOURCES

**Legacy of Hope** <http://www.legacyofhope.ca/>

**Orange Shirt Day Lesson Plans** <http://mbteach.org/mtscms/lesson-plans/>

**Orange Shirt Day** <http://orangeshirtday.org>

**Phyllis Webstad's YouTube Video** <https://youtu.be/E3vUqr01kAK>

**Orange Shirt Day Facebook Page**  
<https://www.facebook.com/orangeshirtdayeverychildmatters>

\* There is no Walk for Reconciliation scheduled in Vancouver for September 2018





# In Preparation for Halloween

**October 31st**

Wednesday, October 31st is our fun Halloween day at Laurier, and many of our students are looking forward to the related activities in their classrooms and school-wide. Our staff members are working hard to make this day a special one for our students, organizing educational and fun activities.

This is also a special time of the year with Halloween followed by Remembrance Day, and is a time to pay much attention to our most vulnerable children, and the fact that Halloween may tend to draw out undesirable behavior. Please let us know in advance if we can be of any support and assistance and/or if you notice anything unusual.

## **Student Halloween Costume Expectations**

In an effort to enjoy and celebrate Halloween at Laurier appropriately and respectfully, please use the following guidelines when helping your child(ren) selecting a costume:

1. Costumes that are provocative, revealing, sexual in nature, or employ questionable props are not permitted.
2. Costumes that depict violence, alcohol, or drugs are not permitted. Fake weapons are not allowed.
3. Costumes that could be offensive or perpetuate a stereotype of someone's culture, gender, heritage, or religion are not permitted.
4. Costumes should not hinder student ability to participate in classes, including P.E. Costumes may not disrupt or impede traffic, or present issues of safety in the hallway. No masks in school.

## **Talking points for Parents to assist in this teachable moment:**

- Remind your child(ren) of their audience in the building (students, teachers, parents, community members).
- This is a school—what may be appropriate in pop culture or the media may not be appropriate for a place of learning.
- We are a community, and we want students to think about how their costume choice may impact others within this community.

## **Safety recommendations when going out trick-or-treating:**

- Wear costumes that are short enough so that you do not trip.
- Decorate costumes with reflective tape.
- Shoes should fit well so you do not fall.
- Costumes should be "flame resistant."
- When you go out, carry a glow stick or flashlight with new batteries.
- It can be hard to see out of a mask, so use makeup or face paint instead.
- Trick or treat in groups with a trusted adult – It's safer and more fun.
- Carry a cellular phone with you, if possible.
- Visit only houses with the lights on.
- Don't eat any treats unless they are checked by a parent, or the adult looking after you.
- Always remember to keep yourself safe.

**Have a Happy and Safe Halloween!**

**Thank you for taking the time to review these guidelines with your children.**



### Change of Address or Phone Number?

Please inform the Office if you have changed your address or telephone number. For safety and enrolment purposes, it is vital that the school office have this information.

### VSB Grade 8 – September 2019 PROGRAMS

Our Grade 7 students have received Programs Brochures that provide an overview of District programs at the grade eight level including Mini School programs and the information sessions for next Fall. Please review these brochures with them



### EARTHBITES

Our school is in partnership with EarthBites, which is a program that is sponsored by our PAC, and supports our school in managing our school garden and by holding engaging workshops where teachers and students discover how to grow plants and eat with the seasons.

The workshops are integrated with the evolved BC curriculum allowing students and teachers to explore how to:

- Grow and harvest spring, summer and fall vegetables, fruits and herbs
- Forage edible plants to create teas, salads, salves and soaps
- Create seasonal nutritional snacks featuring produce from the school garden
- Lead seasonal school markets

This month, EarthBites explored ways on how we can preserve the harvest. Students made Kale chip using a dehydrator. On Wednesday **October 17**, the program will be hosting their **After-school Fall Market**. We encourage students and families to bring change if they wish to purchase any items for sale. Proceeds will go to the purchase of garden supplies (soil amender).



### MORNING/AFTERNOON SUPERVISION

School is in session from 8:55am to 3:00pm. 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.

### LAURIER EAGLES RUN TO SUPPORT TERRY'S LEGACY





## ROOTS OF EMPAHTY

We are thrilled to have Roots of Empathy at Laurier again this year. Ms Sprintzios' grade 6 class will be welcoming Baby Kaden once a month for 9 months into their classroom, only this time, he will be the teacher.

They will learn about babies, brain development, temperament traits and how the first few months are so important. "Roots of Empathy is an international, evidence-based classroom program that has shown significant effect in reducing levels of aggression among schoolchildren by raising social/emotional competence and increasing empathy."

Please visit the link to find out more about this wonderful program that started in Canada 22 years ago by Mary

Gordon. <https://rootsofempathy.org/roots-of-empathy/>



Roots of Empathy

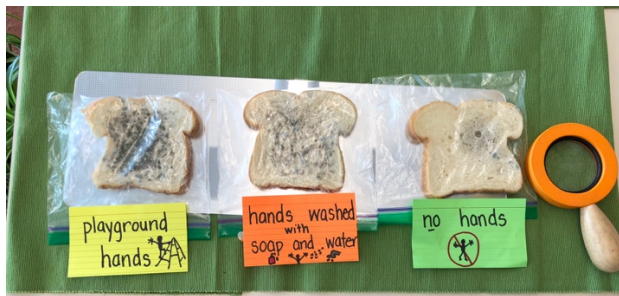
## LAURIER SAFETY PATROLLERS

Laurier Safety Patrollers will be on guard beginning October 1st at the pedestrian crossing on Laurel St and W 58th before and after school. We have about 40 students who were just trained by the VPD. Thank you Ms. Magdee for sponsoring this program at Laurier.



Some are veterans and some are new. Please cross with your children at the crosswalk at all times and say "Hello" to our crew who will cross your children safely to school.

## Welcome to our new K Students In Kindergarten We Explore, Discover, Learn, Play And Plant Daffodils!





## A MESSAGE FROM LAURIER PAC CHAIR

It was wonderful to see so many parents at our first PAC meeting and again at the Potluck/Meet the Teacher evening.

Here are a few upcoming reminders:

### **Direct appeal:**

This month we will be launching our Direct Appeal fundraiser - please look out for the notice which will come home with your child.

### **Friendship List:**

A hard copy of the Friendship List will be sent home this month. Thank-you Miranda for compiling the list.

### **Movie Night:**

Our first Movie Night is planned for Wednesday October 24, 5-8 pm in the gym. If you would like to help plan the event (or any other event) please contact us at [laurier.pac@gmail.com](mailto:laurier.pac@gmail.com). Stay tuned for more information to come.

### **Craft Fair:**

Following the success of the craft fairs last year, PAC is planning a Winter Craft Fair Wednesday November 28, 3-6pm in the gym. If you would like to help plan please contact Kate at [kate.h.chang@gmail.com](mailto:kate.h.chang@gmail.com). More information to come.

### **All Candidates Meeting:**

The Vancouver District PAC is hosting an all candidates meeting for School Board Trustee Candidates on Thursday, October 4th at 6:30 pm at Tupper Secondary. They will also be streaming this meeting online so you can watch from the comfort of your own home.

### **Hot Lunch:**

As there have been some challenges with our Friday sushi vendor, we will no longer be purchasing from Togo Sushi (Oakridge). We are working on securing another vendor to provide us with sushi on Fridays. We are also looking for volunteers to help with hot lunch distribution on Tuesdays. Please sign up online at <https://www.volunteersignup.org/FCKD3> if you're available. Thank you in advance from the Laurier Hot Lunch Team.

Our next PAC meeting is Tuesday October 16 at 6:30 pm in the school library. Hope to see you there.

Laurier PAC







Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> Orange Shirt Day Gymnastics (Oct. 1-23) Bus to school week (K-12 ride for free)	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Photo Day (Individual)	<b>5</b> Lockdown Drill @10:15am  World Teachers' Day	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Thanksgiving School Closed	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> PAC Meeting @6:30 in the library	<b>17</b> Earthbites after school Market	<b>18</b> Shake Out BC Earthquake Drill	<b>19</b> ProD - School Not in Session	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> PAC-sponsored Movie Night 5-8pm	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Jacky Essombe Performance @9:00am in the gym	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> HALLOWEEN			