



“LAURIER EAGLES SOAR”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful

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PRINCIPAL

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NEWSLETTER #1 September

August 31, 2018

Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

On behalf of the staff at our School, I am happy to welcome you to the 2018-19 school year!

I hope you had a joyful summer. As I am starting my role as the new Principal at Laurier, I am looking forward to meeting all of our students and their families and learning more about our community.

Laurier staff members are looking forward to the new school year, and to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential. We acknowledge, based on experience and research, that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success. Our staff members are excited to have your children back to school, and to meet the newest members of our community.

We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day's learning experience: School's first bell is at 8:55am, and students are expected to be in their classroom by 9:00am for a meaningful, uninterrupted day of learning
- 2) Reviews the Code of Conduct with your help (You can find a copy on our website)
- 3) Is responsible, courteous and helpful to others
- 4) Completes all homework assignments given by teachers
- 5) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- 6) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
- 7) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school

Please consider joining the many events that will be organized in our school throughout the school year and volunteer in your child's classroom. You will receive a newsletter on a monthly basis *via* email. Please read the information provided, and if you have any questions about the rules and expectations or any other school-related activities, please feel free to contact me or to discuss them with your child's teacher. It is very important that you and your child are fully informed regarding standards related to appropriate behavior for a safe and productive school year, as described in our Code of Conduct and reinforced by staff members on a daily basis.

The wonderful Laurier staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family and this very vibrant and caring community. We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you soon.

Armin Samiei
Principal



Late Returning Students

The school should be informed if a student currently enrolled in a Vancouver school plans to return to their Neighbourhood School later than Tuesday, Sept. 4, 2018 but prior to Sept. 28th. The deadline for withdrawing no show students is Friday, September 7th at noon, unless the family has made arrangements with the school for a late return of their child(ren). If the parent or legal guardian did not complete the Notice of Late Return Form last June, they are asked to complete the form provided on our school website and return it to school by the Friday deadline. All student attendance must be verified by noon Friday, Sept. 7, 2018, otherwise spaces may be filled with other students on waitlists.

Again, please let us know as soon as possible, preferably by the first day of school but no later than Friday, Sept. 7, 2018 at noon, if the above applies to your child. If you are not returning in September please let the Office know immediately as this may affect class size and composition for the next school year.

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 has this information.

A Fond Farewell – Thank you!

We would like to express our gratitude to our departing staff members and wish them all the best in their new roles and schools: Ms. Sheryl Morris, Ms. Bronagh Kehler, Ms. Wendy Klein, Mr. Peter Jordan, Ms. Nona Navin and Ms. Anita Karadzic.

We thank them all again for their contributions to the Laurier community.

Welcome to Our New Staff Members

Welcome to our newest members!

We wish them the best as they settle down in their new school and roles:

Ms. Joyce Shih who will be job sharing with Ms. Lee; Ms. Meagan Braun, new Resource Teacher; Ms. Miriam Ibrahim, student support staff; and Ms. Brenda McElroy, our new youth and family worker.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE For the First Day/Week of School Gr. 1-7 Students

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4th:

School in session 9:00-10:00am

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5th and on:

School in session 9:00am-3:00pm

Returning Students:

Please go to the same classroom as last year. Last year's Div. 7 students, please go to Room 103.

Last year's Div. 12 students, please go to Room 001.

New Students registered:

Please go to the gym.

Students Not Registered:

Please go to office.

**CLASS PLACEMENTS ARE
TEMPORARY THIS WEEK.**



**Laurier Parents & Guardians:
Opening Day 'Meet and Mingle'
When: Sept. 4 2018, 9:00-10:00am
Where: Laurier Library**

While waiting for your child(ren) on the first day of school, stop by the library for a cup of coffee and meet other parents.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE For the First Day/Week of School New Kindergarten Students

Please refer to the Gradual Kindergarten Entry Program on our school website or the email sent to you last June:

<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/laurier/Pages/default.aspx>

Tuesday, Sept 4 NO SCHOOL FOR KINDERGARTENERS

Wednesday, Sept 5

Group A 9:15 – 10:15am
Group B 11:00 – 12:00pm

Thursday, Sept 6

Group A 9:15 – 10:15am
Group B 11:00 – 12:00pm

Friday, Sept 7

Group A 9:15 – 10:15am
Group B 11:00 – 12:00pm

Monday, Sept 10

Groups A & B 9:00am – 11:00am

Tuesday, Sept 11

Groups A & B 9:00am – 12:15pm

Wednesday, Sept 12

Full Day Kindergarten 9:00am – 3:00pm



Student Placement 2018-2019

We will be unsure of the exact placement of students until the children are all counted on the first few days in September. The Laurier team will be finalizing the class lists based on the new enrollment and the class size and composition requirements. We hope this process can be completed by the end of the first week of school and we will inform your children about their new classes on Friday afternoon or Monday morning. Though we know that many of you are anxious to find out about your child(ren)'s new classes, but it is important that we go through the process of class building carefully and meaningfully as a team. Therefore, it is imperative for us to know as soon as possible, if students are returning to the school, moving or returning late.

Welcome to our staff members:

- Office Admin Assistant: Ms. Laura Horne
- Enrolling Teachers:
 - Mr. Mike Holdham
 - Ms. Kathy Virvilis (M-Tu) and Ms. Jeanette Murphy (W-F)
 - Ms. Vivian Lee (M-Th) and Ms. Jeeyeon Chung (F)
 - Ms. Kelly Moore
 - Ms. Andrea Millman
 - Ms. Aimee Boucher
 - Ms. Marie Tan
 - Ms. Rowena Cacapit
 - Ms. Patricia Lee and Ms. Joyce Shih (M & Th am)
 - Ms. Michelle Sprintzios
 - Mr. Ryan Hong
 - Mr. Andrew Fisher
 - Ms. Wong's TOC: TBD
- Non-Enrolling Teachers:
 - Ms. Jen Altman (Teacher Librarian)
 - Ms Meagan Braun (Resource Teacher)
 - Ms. Julisa Lum (Resource Teacher)
 - Ms. Sonja Watson (Collaborative Early Literacy Intervention and Resource Teacher)
 - Ms. Kathy Vivilis (W) (Resource Teacher)
 - Ms. Jeeyeon Chung (M-Th) (Music Teacher)
- Student Support Assistants:
 - Ms. Zana Dojnov
 - Ms. Miriam Ibrahim
 - Ms. Kim Kuniss
 - Ms. Deborah Magdee
 - Mr. Junji Miyake
 - Ms. Grace Robillard
 - Ms. Navleen Sandhar
 - Ms. Shazia Sayedain
 - Ms. Karen Vanjoff
 - TBD X 2
- Youth and Family Worker:
 - Ms. Brenda McElroy (Th-Fri)
- Supervision Aides:
 - Ms. Kitty Chan
 - Ms. Masako Chiba
- Counselor: Ms. Indira Raj (M pm, Tu, Th pm)
- Speech Lanuguage Pathologist: Ms. Aoife McNamara (F)
- Building Engineer: Mr. Rudy Pangilinan
- Assistant Building Engineer: Mr. Jose Batalla



Class Placement Criteria

Our staff know their students best in the school context and engage in a rigorous class placement process. Each placement decision is approached carefully and collaboratively and reviewed many times by considering each student's social, emotional and academic needs. In addition to these considerations, staff discuss the following criteria to optimize learning for each student and harmonize the class dynamic:

- Balance of academic, social and emotional abilities
- Social connections
- Students as English Language Learners
- Students with special needs
- Leadership abilities
- Cohesive student groupings
- Previous classroom history/ family history
- Class size composition (Ministry/ VBE)

Students' New Divisions

The move to students' new divisions is an exciting time. Parents can help make this part of their child's "Back to School" experience a positive one!

- When children move to their new division, some students may react emotionally (in keeping with a child's maturity level).
- Children often look to their parents for their reaction as well, learning from them. Parents can help by encouraging their child to be open and accepting and by highlighting the positive aspects of the new class, like new friends, new teacher, etc. Your child will be looking for your reaction; be positive and optimistic. S/he may not have all the same friends as last year, so talk about the opportunities to make new friends or be reconnected with old ones. Later moves among divisions often create a "domino-effect" of new issues and requests to change divisions are not possible.
- Your child may be in a combined class (often referred to as "split"). There are often misunderstandings and misconceptions about multi-grade classes, and parents may not be aware of the many advantages to multi-grade classes. You are encouraged to read the VSB document entitled - https://www.vsb.bc.ca/Student_Support/General_Resources/combined-class/Pages/default.aspx

BELL SCHEDULE



- **WARNING BELL:** 8:55 am
- **Period 1:** 9:00 – 9:30 am
- **Period 2:** 9:30 – 10:00 am
- **Period 3:** 10:00-10:30
- **Recess:** 10:30– 10:50 am
- **Period 4:** 10:50 – 11:30 am
- **Period 5:** 11:30 – 12:10 pm
- **Lunch time:** 12:10 – 12:57 pm
- **Homeroom:** 12:57 – 1:00 pm
- **Period 6:** 1:00 – 1:40 pm
- **Period 7:** 1:40 – 2:20 pm
- **Period 8:** 2:20 – 3:00 pm



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 ensuring that your children are not dropped off at and picked up from school outside of the supervision hours.

Vancouver Board of Education SAFE ARRIVAL PROCEDURES



Reporting Student Absences:

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. on the first 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.

Student Sign Out Procedure:

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child and we are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches. Thank you for helping us keep your child safe!

A MESSAGE FROM LAURIER PAC EXECUTIVE

Welcome Back Laurier Families!

What is the PAC? The Laurier PAC membership is made up of all parents/guardians/caregivers of Laurier students and focuses on organizing fun community events and fundraisers. PAC meetings are once a month for one hour. They are a great way to stay in touch with what's going on, meet other parents/guardians, weigh in on the budget and hear from the Principal.

Please pay attention to some dates and events coming up brought to you by Laurier PAC:

Hot Lunch and Volunteers:

Over the summer we have made some changes to the hot lunch menu adding Pizza Hut and Togo Sushi days. Stay tuned for and look out for ordering to open the week of Sept 10th. If you have ANY time to spare over a lunchtime we are always looking for hot lunch volunteers to ensure food is delivered get to the kids. Please email us if interested or for more info.

PAC Meeting:

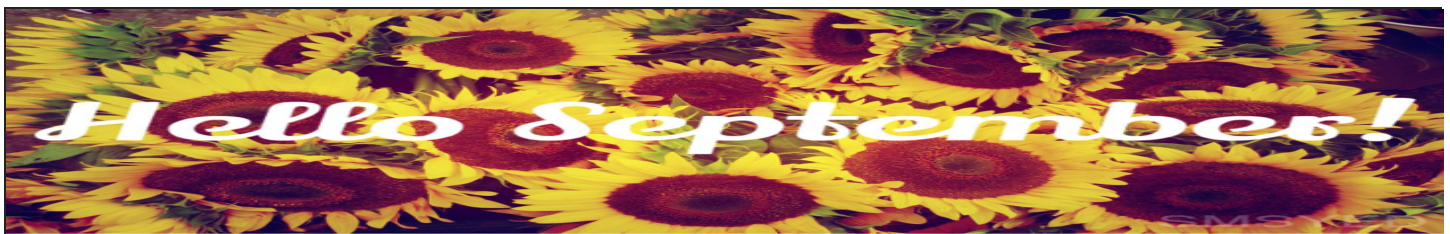
Looking forward to seeing you at our first PAC meeting on Tuesday, September 18th. All parents are welcome.

Community Potluck:

Save the date for our first potluck which will be on the same evening as Meet the Teacher night on Sept 20 - more details to come.

If you have any question, suggestions or comments, we would love to hear from you, please email us at laurier.pac@gmail.com. Also, be sure to check out our website. laurierpac.weebly.com or our facebook page Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier-Elementary-PAC.

Can't wait to see you all!!!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	3 Labour Day- School not in session	4 First day of school for Gr. 1-7 from 9-10am- Welcome!	5 First day of school for New Ks- Gradual Entry-	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 PAC Meeting- 6:30pm @Library	19	20 Meet the Teacher/PAC Potluck 5-7pm	21 ProD - School Not in Session for Students	22
23	24	25 Terry Fox Run	26 Immunization Clinic-Gr. 6's	27	28 Bollywood Dance Performance @2:00pm-gym	29

**Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School
2018 - 2019**

DESIGNATION	DETAIL
SCHOOL OPERATION OVERVIEW	
Number of Days in Session	187
Number of Days of Instruction	179
Hours of Instruction in a School year	874
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	7 Non Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 29)
Important Dates	
School Opening Day	Tuesday, September 4, 2018
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 8, 2018
Remembrance Day Holiday	Monday, November 12, 2018 (in lieu of Sunday, Nov. 11)
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 21, 2018
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 24, 2018 – Friday, January 4, 2019
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 7, 2019
Family Day	Monday, February 18, 2019
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 15, 2019
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 18 – Friday, March 29, 2019
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday, April 1, 2019
Good Friday	Friday, April 19, 2019
Easter Monday	Monday, April 22, 2019
Victoria Day	Monday, May 20, 2019
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 27, 2019
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 28, 2019
Non Instructional Days (school not in session)	Professional Development Focus
Friday, September 21, 2018	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 19, 2018	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Friday, November 9, 2018	Curriculum Implementation Day (District Wide)
Friday, January 25, 2019	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 15, 2019	Curriculum Implementation Day (District Wide)
Monday, April 29, 2019	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Friday, May 17, 2019	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Parent Teacher Conference Dates:	Early dismissal times:
Wednesday, November 7, 2018	2:00pm
Thursday, November 8, 2018	2:00pm
Wednesday, April 10, 2019	2:00pm
Thursday, April 11, 2019	2:00pm