



Laurier Elementary School

November News

2025-2026

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School: 7350 Laurel Street, Vancouver BC V6P 3T9, 604-713-4925

Principal: Geri Gruft OAA: Dora Szeitz Director of Instruction: Chris Wong PAC Chair: Rahul Aggarwal Trustee: Joshua Zhang

With deep gratitude and respect, we are honoured to be learning and unlearning on the ancestral and unceded lands of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation) & səlilwətaɬ (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our recent goal-setting conferences. We hope these conversations helped you feel more connected to your child's learning journey. Written Learning Updates will be coming home on **December 17th**, and until then, we have plenty of exciting learning and joyful moments ahead!

Our students are soaking in the vibrant fall colours and fresh air as they continue to grow, explore, and **SOAR** through their days. This season naturally invites reflection, and I find myself filled with gratitude for the incredible



dedication of our staff. Their commitment to ongoing professional learning is inspiring. Whether it's refining teaching practices or exploring new ways to support student well-being, their curiosity and care make a lasting impact. A special shout-out to **Ms. Boucher** and **Ms. Murphy**, who recently dove into preparing our school garden beds for winter. Their enthusiasm is contagious, and we're thrilled about upcoming initiatives like our **bulb-planting extravaganza**—a joyful way to "Soar with Awesome Attitudes by beautifying our school and welcoming pollinators to our gardens!"

Beyond the classroom, many staff members generously volunteer their time to lead extra-curricular activities. I'm deeply thankful to our coaches, club leaders, committee members, and fine arts teachers who create spaces for students to discover passions, build confidence, and challenge themselves. Huge thanks to **Ms. Chung (choir)**, **Ms. Cacapit (dance)**, **Ms. Sekhon**, **Ms. Wong**, **Mr. Fisher**, and our **SOAR Committee leaders** for all you do!

Of course, Laurier wouldn't be the vibrant community it is without our amazing parent volunteers. Your time and energy make a world of difference—from helping in classrooms and the library to supporting events and fundraising. On behalf of our staff and myself, **thank you** for all the ways you show up for our school. We're excited to see you at our next community event: the **Laurier PAC Craft Fair**, happening **after school on Friday, November 14th**!

We're aware that the rainy season is definitely upon us here on the West Coast! The wet weather will soon be partnered with cold temperatures. Please ensure your child has appropriate rain gear when needed and that accessories like hats, gloves and umbrellas come to school with them. Having a change of clothes at school or in your child's backpack is also recommended. Please note, recess and lunch will be held outdoors unless the weather is severe and poses a safety risk. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Wishing you a month filled with warmth, gratitude, and moments that make your heart smile.

With appreciation,
Geri Gruft
Principal

PRIORITY KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Priority Kindergarten Registration: Began November 1st for children born in 2021 who live in the Laurier catchment and will run into January 31st. Families are encouraged to complete the online application. Following that, Laurier office staff will contact you to set up an appointment for documentation verification. Please refer to this link for more information [Priority Kindergarten Registration](#).

Please note: Students born outside Canada must first register at the Newcomer Welcome Centre (NWC). Please see the [NWC website](#) for more specific information about registration procedures.



REMEMBRANCE DAY



This year's ceremony will be held on Monday, November 10th and will include traditional components including John McCrae's iconic poem, *In Flander's Fields*, now 110 years old. Each class has decorated a wreath with poppies and will lay their wreath at the base of the Canadian flag during the ceremony. This day is dedicated to honouring those who gave their lives in service to Canada. We thank Ms. Stuart for organizing our gathering.

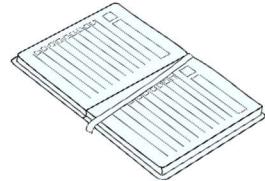
Students are welcome to **bring a loonie** on Monday to donate to the **Poppy Fund** which supports veterans and their families. Coins will be collected from each class on Monday morning prior to the assembly.

We regret that due to our gym's capacity limits, we are unable to welcome parents and families to this special event.

STUDENT AGENDAS

Many Laurier teachers are using agendas to help students develop key skills like time management, planning, and organization. Agendas support independence and give students a sense of ownership over their learning. They're also a fun way to track birthdays, weekend plans, cool facts, and personal goals!

Thank you for making time to review your child's agenda each evening. Your support helps build routines, strengthens prioritization skills, and keeps you connected to your child's school experience.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY INFORMATION PAGE

Did you know the VSB now has a central location for family and community information. Find what you need, all in one place. Explore programs, policies and school supports through VSB's [Family and Community Information page](#).

UPCOMING DATES

- Tuesday, November 11th: Remembrance Day Holiday. School is closed.
- Friday, November 14th: Laurier PAC Craft Fair - After school in the gym. Come by!
- Wednesday, November 19th @ 6:30: Virtual PAC Meeting. Details to come.
- Friday, November 21st: Professional Day for teachers. No school for children.
- Friday, December 12th: Winter Concert featuring Music and Dance @ 1:30 pm. **Note time change!**
- Tuesday, December 16th: Written Learning Update (report card) goes home
- Friday, December 19th: Last day of school before Winter Break

LAURIER PAC

As a parent, you are a member of the PAC! Visit the PAC website to learn more about the committee and how you might become involved, <https://www.laurierpac.ca/>.

The **Laurier PAC Craft Fair** is happening next Friday, November 14th. It is a wonderful event with students selling crafts and treasures alongside their families in the Laurier gym. It's a great way to connect with other families, do a bit of shopping and, of course, to kick off the upcoming holiday season! See you there!

