

# Sir Wilfrid Laurier News



## “LAURIER EAGLES SOAR”

Supportive, Open-minded, Awesome, Respectful

7350 Laurel Street  
Vancouver, BC V6P 3T9

**MS ARMIN SAMIEI**  
**PRINCIPAL**

PHONE: 604-713-4925  
FAX: 604-713-4927

Ms. Magdalena Kassis  
Director of Instruction  
Field Services Team  
604-713-5000

Ms. Lois Chan-Pedley  
Liaison School Trustee

Ms. Ann Mukai  
PAC Chair  
[laurier.pac@gmail.com](mailto:laurier.pac@gmail.com)

**NEWSLETTER #1 September**

**August 30, 2019**

## Principal's Message

Dear Laurier Community,

On behalf of the entire staff, it is my pleasure to welcome you to the school year 2019-2020!

I hope you had a joyful summer. Laurier staff members are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school and to meeting the newest members of our community. The beginning of a new school year always holds such excitement and promise, as we all continue to work collaboratively to review, discuss and share our hopes and dreams for the coming year.

Students and parents can look forward to working with a talented, caring staff, who are dedicated to providing the highest quality of education for every child. 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. Please consider joining the many events that will be organized in our school throughout the school year and volunteer in your child's classroom.

At the beginning of September, we are treated to a variety of S.O.A.R welcoming activities in the afternoons of the first week. Special thanks to Ms. Sprintzios, Ms. P. Lee and Mr. Hong for assisting with these events. Last year, our Gr. 6 students were trained by our Community Schools Team to lead these activities, and as our Gr. 7 leaders this school year, they will be leading the S.O.A.R. stations during the first week. Through these activities, our students will have excellent opportunity to make new acquaintances, reconnect with their peers, remain active and transition to the school routines and expectations through fun and engaging games.

As always, you will receive a newsletter on a monthly basis *via* email. Please read the information provided, and if you have any questions about our code of conduct 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 the 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.

I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your principal. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.

Armin Samiei  
Principal

School Website: <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-wilfrid-laurier/Pages/default.aspx>

School Twitter: <https://twitter.com/lauriermain?lang=en>



## Encouraging Our Students to Reach Their Optimal Academic, Social and Personal Potential

As always, we ask our families to guide and support their child(ren)'s learning by ensuring that they:

- Attend school daily and arrive 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
- Review the Code of Conduct with your help (In this newsletter/Also on our website)
- Are responsible, courteous and helpful to others – We all S.O.A.R at Laurier!
- Complete all homework assignments given by teachers
- Read daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
- Share school experiences with you so that you are aware of their school life
- Know that you expect them to succeed in school



## 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. 3, 2019 but prior to Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Please notify the school if your child(ren) will be returning LATER THAN noon on Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, but prior to September 27<sup>th</sup>. Please note: If the school cannot verify your child's attendance at school by noon on Wednesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>, your child's space will be given to another student on the school's waitlist. Please call school at 604-713-4925 or email Laura Horne at [lhorne@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:lhorne@vsb.bc.ca).

Again, please let us know as soon as possible, preferably by the first day of school but no later than Wednesday, Sept. 4, 2019 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 current 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.

## 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. Jennifer Baxter, who is joining our resource team and will be working at Laurier on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Ms. Janie Lo, Ms. Jessica Yang and Ms. Nobuko Young, who are joining our team of Student Support Assistants.

Ms. Natasha Kadola, Extra Clerical Office Support Staff, who will be at school on Thursdays.

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

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>:**  
School in session 9:00-10:00am

**WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4<sup>th</sup> and on:**  
School in session 9:00am-3:00pm

**Returning Students:**

Please go to the same classroom as last year.

Last year's Div. 5 students, please go to the portable.

Last year's Div. 7 students, please go to Room 005.

**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. 3 2019, 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:  
<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/sir-wilfrid-laurier/About-Us/news/layouts/15/ci/post.aspx?oaid=d5d1d98b-42ac-4cfa-ba6a-56a6c3f95686&oact=20001>

**Tuesday, Sept 4 - NO SCHOOL FOR  
KINDERGARTENERS**

**Wednesday, Sept 4**

Group A 9:15 - 10:15am

Group B 11:00 - 12:00pm

**Thursday, Sept 5**

Group A 9:15 - 10:15am

Group B 11:00 - 12:00pm

**Friday, Sept 6**

Group A 9:15 - 10:15am

Group B 11:00 - 12:00pm

**Monday, Sept 9**

Groups A & B 9:00am – 11:00am

**Tuesday, Sept 10**

Groups A & B 9:00am – 12:15pm

**Wednesday, Sept 11**

**Full Day Kindergarten 9:00am – 3:00pm**



## 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)



# Student Placement 2019-2020

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
- Clerical Office Support: Natasha Kadola (Th)
  
- Enrolling Teachers:
  - Mr. Mike Holdham
  - Ms. Kathy Virvilis (M-Tu) and Ms. Jeanette Murphy (W-F)
  - Ms. Vivian Lee (M-Th) and Ms. Joyce Shi (F)
  - Ms. Kelly Moore
  - Ms. Andrea Millman
  - Ms. Aimee Boucher
  - Ms. Sabrina Wong
  - 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
  
- Non-Enrolling Teachers:
  - Ms. Jen Altman (Teacher Librarian)
  - Ms. Jennifer Baxter (Resource Teacher)
  - Ms. Julisa Lum (Resource Teacher)
  - Ms. Sonja Watson (Collaborative Early Literacy Intervention and Resource Teacher)
  - Ms. Kathy Virvilis (W) (Resource Teacher)
  - Ms. Jeeyeon Chung (Music Teacher)
  
- Student Support Assistants:
  - Ms. Bal Grewal
  - Ms. Naomi Kidd
  - Ms. Kim Kuniss
  - Ms. Janie Lo
  - Ms. Deborah Magdee
  - Mr. Junji Miyake
  - Ms. Grace Robillard
  - Ms. Navleen Sandhar
  - Ms. Shazia Sayedain
  - Ms. Karen Vanjoff
  - Ms. Jessica Yang
  - Ms. Nobuko Young
  
- Youth and Family Worker:
  - Ms. Brenda McElroy (Th-Fri)
  
- Supervision Aides:
  - Ms. Kitty Chan
  - Ms. Masako Chiba
  
- Counselor: Ms. Indira Raj (Tu, Th pm)
- Speech Language Pathologist: Ms. Aoife McNamara (F)
  
- Building Engineer: Mr. Rudy Pangilinan
- Assistant Building Engineer: Mr. Jose Batalla

## 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. They 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](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 am
- **Recess:** 10:30– 10:45 am
- **Period 4:** 10:45 – 11:25 am
- **Period 5:** 11:25 – 12:00 pm
- **Lunch time:** 12:00 – 12:47 pm
- **Homeroom:** 12:47 – 12:50 pm
- **Period 6:** 12:50 – 1:25 pm
- **Period 7:** 1:25-2:00 pm
- **Period 7:** 2:00 – 2:30 pm
- **Period 8:** 2:30 – 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 PAC is looking forward to the new school year and to seeing all parents/guardians feel connected and involved at Laurier.

### PAC Meeting:

Looking forward to seeing you at our first PAC meeting on Tuesday, September 17th. All parents are welcome.

#### *Laurier PAC Leads 2019/2020:*

- Chair: Ann Mukai
- Vice Chair: Anita Parkinson
- Treasurer: Emily Tsen
- Secretary: Donna Lei
- Hot lunch Coordinators: Katy Won, Kate Chang, Winola Chu & Stephan Tollenaar
- DPAC Representative: Anita Chui
- Sports Day Coordinator: Joey & Nadine Wesley
- Event/Fundraising Coordinator: David Shih

Meeting Dates for next year all 6:30 pm in the school library

September	Tuesday, Sept 17, 2019
October	Wednesday, Oct 16, 2019
November	Tuesday, Nov 19, 2019
December	No meeting
January	Tuesday, Jan 14, 2020
February	Wednesday, Feb 19, 2020
March	Tuesday, Mar 10, 2020
April	Wednesday, April 15, 2020
May (AGM & Potluck)	Wednesday, May 27, 2020
June	No meeting

*\*\*Child Care Provided*

### Hot Lunch and Volunteers:

Our hot lunch team is already at work getting set up for the fall term – THANK YOU! Watch for ordering to open the week of Sept 9th. If you have ANY time to spare over a lunchtime we are always looking for hot lunch volunteers to ensure food is delivered to the kids. This is a fun way to spend some time at the school and help PAC's biggest fundraiser. Volunteers distribute the hot lunch to the classrooms we can't run this fundraiser without them! Please email us if interested or for more info.

#### *Disposable cutlery free Laurier PAC Hot lunch Challenge:*

This year we aim to stop using plastic cutlery (spoons, forks, knives). Please plan to send cutlery with your child if needed for their hot lunch.

### Community Potluck:

Save the date for our first potluck which will be on the same evening as Meet the Teacher night on Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> - more details to come.

### T-Shirts:

We will be selling Orange Soar t-shirts for Orange Shirt Day. Watch for an order form coming home with your child. We also have an assortment of t-shirts for sale. Please use the form on our website [https://laurierpac.weebly.com/uploads/1/4/8/9/14892754/t-shirts\\_-nov2018.pdf](https://laurierpac.weebly.com/uploads/1/4/8/9/14892754/t-shirts_-nov2018.pdf) or get one from the office

If you have any question, suggestions or comments, we would love to hear from you, please email us at [laurier.pac@gmail.com](mailto:laurier.pac@gmail.com). Also, be sure to check out our website: [laurierpac.weebly.com](http://laurierpac.weebly.com) where there is information on PAC meetings and minutes, Events, Fundraising, Hot Lunch, Volunteer Opportunities, Earthbites or our facebook page Sir-Wilfrid-Laurier-Elementary-PAC.

Can't wait to see you all!!!

Laurier PAC

[www.laurierpac.weebly.com](http://www.laurierpac.weebly.com)



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

### CALENDAR 2019 – 2020

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Elementary School

#### School Operation Overview

Number of Days in Session	188
Number of Days of Instruction	181
Number of Days of Non-Instruction	6 Non Instructional Days; 1 Administrative Day (June 26)

#### Important Dates

School Opening Day	Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Thanksgiving Day	Monday, October 14, 2019
Remembrance Day Holiday	Monday, November 11, 2019
Last Day of Instruction Before Winter Vacation	Friday, December 20, 2019
Winter Vacation Period	Monday, December 23, 2019 – Friday, January 3, 2020
School Re-opens after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 6, 2020
Family Day	Monday, February 17, 2020
Last Day of Instruction Before Spring Vacation	Friday, March 13, 2020
Spring Vacation Period	Monday, March 16 – Friday, March 27, 2020
School Re-opens after Spring Vacation	Monday, March 30, 2020
Good Friday	Friday, April 10, 2020
Easter Monday	Monday, April 13, 2020
Victoria Day	Monday, May 18, 2020
Last Full Day of Pupil Attendance	Thursday, June 25, 2020
Administrative/School Closing Day	Friday, June 26, 2020

#### Professional Development (school not in session)

Monday, September 23, 2019	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, October 25, 2019	Professional Development Day (Province Wide)
Friday, November 8, 2019	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Monday, January 20, 2020	Professional Development Day (Date set by school)
Friday, February 14, 2020	Professional Development Day (District Wide)
Friday, May 15, 2020	Indigenous Focus Professional Day (District Wide)

#### Parent Conference Dates

#### Early Dismissal Times

Wednesday, November 6, 2019	2:00pm
Thursday, November 7, 2019	2:00pm
Wednesday, April 22, 2020	2:00pm
Thursday, April 23, 2020	2:00pm