



Laurelwoods Elementary School

November 2018 Newsletter

PRINCIPAL NEWS

I hope all of our families that participate in Halloween activities had a great evening!

Things are wonderful here at Laurelwoods; lot's of "extras" for the kids to get involved in, and many take advantage of the opportunities that are provided to them.

We would like to remind our families of the importance of informing the school of your child's absence. When a child is absent from school and the school is not notified, the school will attempt to call home. If there is no answer, we would then call the parent's place of employment, the emergency contact, or the police as a last resort. Thanks for helping us in our efforts to keep all of our children safe.

We will once again be using an online system for booking parent-teacher interviews this year (unless alternative arrangements are communicated with you by your child's teacher). There is a PA day set aside for interviews, and teachers will also be available at various other times that work for families. Booking interviews using this system is extremely easy; the instructions for booking an interview are as follows:

- the system will be open from November 20th @ 3:00 pm to November 26th @ 10:00 pm
- you will need your child's date of birth and OEN to book and interview (the OEN is found on the Progress Report)
- go to the website <https://webapps.ugdsb.on.ca/InterviewSchedule/Account/Login>
- this link can also be easily accessed by viewing our school web page
- log in at the top left-hand corner of the page
- a screen with available teachers will appear
- click on the teacher that you would like an interview with, then click the "Book For Selected Student" button
- pick an available time that you would like, then click "Close To View Schedule"; your confirmed appointment will now appear
- no interviews will be able to be selected after the deadline

If you do not have internet at home, please call the school and we will set up the interview for you. Please contact Karen Gardhouse or myself if you have any questions about using the online system.

Thanks as always for all of your support!

Sincerely,

Darren Hale

P.A. DAY

Just a reminder that Friday, November 2nd and November 30th are P.A. Days and there will be no classes for students.



Weather:

With the unpredictability of our weather, it is strongly recommended that students come prepared with extra clothes. An extra pair of dry socks and mittens are always a good thing to have tucked into the backpack. A warm coat, hat and mitts are recommended for outdoor recess times.

Inclement Weather:

With the colder weather coming, the snowflakes are not too far away. Please note how school closures are announced to the public. If buses are cancelled or delayed in the morning due to icy roads or snowy weather, the following radio and television stations will be notified:

Toronto: CBC FM 99.1, CHFI FM 98.1, CFTR AM 680

Guelph: CJOY AM 1460, MAGIC FM 106.1

Kitchener: CKGL AM 570, CHYM FM 96.7

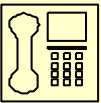
Barrie: CHAY FM 93.1 and THE New VR (TV)

Please listen for the following:

All school taxis and buses serving the Upper Grand District School Board in **Dufferin County** will not be operating today. When buses are cancelled, Laurelwoods E.S. is CLOSED. Do not send or drop off your child when the school is closed.

Parents can also check the Board's website as well as www.findmyschool.ca for any bus delays or cancellations. Parents can also call the school at 519-940-3666 ext. 601 for any bus cancellations or school closures. The transportation website is www.stwdsts.ca. Cancellations are made after 6:30 am.

Attendance:



Just a reminder that if your child will not be attending school or will be late on any given day, please call us at 519-940-3666 on the attendance line ext. 100. Please include your child's name, the bus number, the teacher's name and indicate illness or absence. **It is the parent's responsibility to notify the school if their child(ren) will be absent or late.** We also request that you send a note

(include the bus number and teacher's name) or call the school **before 2:45 p.m.** if you are picking your child(ren) up during the day or at the end of the day.

Parent Council:

Halloween Fun Night was another FANG-tastic success! The decorations were awesome, the pumpkins/crafts/treats were amazing and the costumes were incredibly creative. The decorated classroom pumpkins and class baskets were remarkable – very original and artistic. Great job! The Parent Council would like to thank you for all the donated pumpkins, candy and decorations.

Thank you to all the committee members and the volunteers for their time and dedication. So much effort goes into preparing for this night, setting up, decorating the gym during the day and of course the clean-up at the end of the night. It's because of so many people getting involved and lending support that LES can enjoy such great family events. The next Parent Council meeting is November 7th at 6:00 pm.

Hot Lunches: Parent Council will be holding a Hot Lunch Day on Wednesday, November 28th. A grilled cheese sandwich and fruit will be offered for \$5.00. Orders will be available online! No orders will be taken on the day of the event. The last day to purchase a Grilled Cheese Lunch will be midnight on Wednesday, November 21st, 2018.

Remembrance Day Presentation:



Mrs. Jordan's class will be presenting an Assembly in honour of all those who have fought, and continue to fight for freedom in Canada. All are invited to join us for the presentation at 11:30 am on Friday, November 9th in the gym.

Remembrance Day Artifacts for the Front Display:

This display is most meaningful when students have a personal connection. If your family has any artifacts that would add to our display, please consider loaning them. Each year the display is a little different, as students bring in medals, letters, photos, helmets, canteens, and certificates. Mrs. Jordan will create the display, and they will be treated with the utmost care and respect. Please bring any items in as soon as possible.

Movember:



The month of November is upon us! With this, men around the world are shaving their faces in support of Men's Health. Yes, that's right, Movember is back! This year, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Gertzbein, Mr. Gordanier and Mr. Hale are all participating hoping to help raise awareness for Men's health concerns. You can help this worthy cause by making a donation to help support the many foundations helping men around the world, and here in our community, stay healthy.

As in previous years we are also looking to hold a "Movember day" for students. For a donation of a Toonie, the students will receive a moustache that they can wear during school hours on November 29th, 2018. All loonie donations should be received by November 27th if your child wishes to wear a moustache on the 29th. Thank you for your support.

Food & Friends:

Our Breakfast Program is now in full-swing! All food that we serve in our student nutrition program must meet the nutritional guidelines set out by the Ministry of Children and Youth Services. You see, we truly are bringing healthy food to hungry minds! If you have any questions or concerns about our student nutrition program, or would like to contribute in some way, please contact Mrs. Kate Bryan (parent council co-chair).

Clothing Drive at LES:

Did you know that:

- In North America people are buying and getting rid of five times as much clothing as we did 25 years ago?
- We only wear 20% of what is in our closets?

The Environmental Club is holding another clothing drive and we hope you will consider donating! The clothing drive has already begun and it will run until **Thursday, November 15th**. There are labeled blue recycling bins in the front hall for you to drop off bags of clothing. This clothing drive is offered through the Kidney Foundation and will help to support their efforts.

Acceptable Clothing Drive Items

- Clothing- Men's, Women's, Children's, Belts,
- Purses, Wallets, Sports Bags, Knapsacks, Shoes, Boots, Slippers, Hats, Mitts, Gloves, Scarves, Makeup Bags, Draperies, Curtains, Bedding, Linens, Towels, Shower Curtains, Bath Mats, Wool, Yarn, Fabric, Craft Materials

Thank you for your support!

Spirit Days:

The Spirit Club has prepared a monthly challenge for the students. Each class must guess which Elementary school picture belongs to which Teacher. The class, who gets them all correct, gets a recess in the gym with the Spirit Club!

Thank You!

A big thank you to the Laurelwoods' community for contributing to the FCC Drive Away Hunger Event. We managed to collect 660.2lbs. of food that will be distributed to our local food banks. That equates to 1980.6 meals for those in need. Once again, students participated by carrying out bags of non-perishable food items and cheering on the tractor as it drove off. Congratulations to Mrs. Matthews's class who collected the most food items and were rewarded by loading the food into the trailer!



Primary Library Bags!

Our primary Library bags are a hit! Last month each student in grades K-3 received a library bag to bring back and forth to school. These bags, used to keep Library books safe, clean, and easy to locate, are a yellow cotton tote bag with the Laurelwoods logo on the front in dark blue. Each bag has the student's name on it, and will be returned to the school in June, to be laundered and used for the next year, or until students start grade 4. Lost or damaged bags will be treated the same as lost or damaged books. Please see Mrs. Whittington with any questions.

Book Fair!

Our first Scholastic Book Fair is coming to a close! We had a great night during Halloween Fun Night; thank you to all the families that made it out to help us celebrate. The school receives 60% of total sales to be used at Scholastic, helping us buy books, technology, and resources for our LLC!

Volunteers Needed!

The LLC is also looking for volunteers during school hours to help with shelving, discarding, inventory, book fairs, and other jobs. If you would like to help out, please contact Mrs. Whittington at extension 225, or drop by the LLC.

Lego and Maker Space Materials Wanted!

Thank you to the families and students who have generously donated LEGO, and other items to the LLC Lego Wall! The students have been enjoying crafting shapes, patterns, buildings, and complex machines during our open recess times! Mrs. Whittington is gratefully accepting donations of gently used Lego pieces. We are also looking for any crafting materials to use in our maker space, such as marbles, toilet paper tubes, egg cartons, beads, used tools, string, yarn, and other things. Please feel free to drop them off at the LLC during the school day!



Congratulations to our Book Fair \$25.00 draw winners, Ali and her teacher Ms. Salfi!!

Mrs. S. Whittington, Your Library Ninja!

Equity Corner:

Our Equity Team has been working hard planning for the school year! We continue to enjoy our *We Read Together* classroom time every month. October saw some pretty spooky stories told! This month, students will have the opportunity take part in *We Are Silent*. By taking a vow of silence in solidarity with those who go unheard, we can prove just how big of a difference we can make. As well, coming up in December, we will be selling Rafiki bracelets, with all proceeds going to support various pillars in our global village, such as Education, Clean Water, and Health. Look for more information coming in the next newsletter! Our bulletin board is up in the front hall, with a lot of information and special dates that are coming up this month, please feel free to check it out!

Some notable dates we will be talking about this month, include:

- Nov. 5 – 11 – Veteran’s Week
- Nov. 11 - Remembrance Day
- Nov. 16 - Louis Riel Day
- Nov. 20 - National Transgender Day of Remembrance
- Nov. 20-24th - Bullying Awareness Week
- Nov. 25 - International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women



30th Annual Candy Cane Fair:

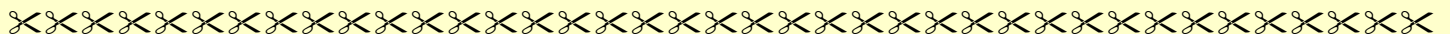
The Headwaters Health Care Auxiliary is holding their annual Candy Cane Fair on November 17th (9:00am – 2:00 pm) at Headwaters Health Care Centre. This is a 30 year tradition that helps children experience the holiday spirit of giving and finding that special gift for Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa or that special person in their family. Perfect for children ages 4 to 10, they are escorted through the Kid’s Gift Shop by their own personal Elf shopper. Tickets, used to purchase each gift are \$2.00 each to a maximum of 4 tickets per child. The spirit of giving extends to Headwaters Health Care Centre as proceeds from the event will go towards the purchase of much needed hospital equipment. The Candy Cane Fair also includes a bake sale, craft table, entertainment, photos with Santa and other child friendly activities.

Chime Choir:

Thank you to Mrs. Moritz for volunteering once again every Thursday to provide many of our students the opportunity to further develop their music skills. We look forward to hearing the chime choirs perform.

Cross Country Running:

Congratulations to all the runners who participated in the Cross Country Run at the Orangeville Fair Grounds. Way to Go LES! Each member of the team trained and worked hard for the event. Everyone showed great school spirit by cheering on the LES runners. The coaches are very proud of how the team conducted themselves before and during the race. This is what makes an athlete a good sport and great team mate!



Win a Dairy Queen Gift Card

After your family has read this newsletter, please sign and detach this coupon. “Our Family” must include at least one parent/guardian who has read the newsletter. This coupon must be placed in the yellow mailbox in the front hall of the school. A ballot will be drawn from the yellow mailbox each month. This month’s draw will be held on Thursday, November 30th, 2018.

Our Family has read the Newsletter corresponding to this draw.

Family Name: _____

Parent’s Signature: _____

