



# Laurelwoods Elementary School Newsletter

*April 2022*

## PRINCIPAL NEWS

We have had a great few weeks after March Break! The students are very pleased to be playing with all their friends during recess time. We welcome the milder spring temperatures. As the ground thaws and becomes muddy, please consider packing an extra pair of pants and socks in your child's school bag. We also encourage boots to be worn at recess.

Wellness Works! UGDSB April theme is Authenticity. This month we collectively focus on reminding ourselves to be our genuine selves, staying true to our values and beliefs even under pressure, while still adapting to the world around us. Authenticity comes from having actions that match the words we say and not trying to be someone else to impress others. It's very difficult to feel unconditionally loved and accepted without this critical skill.

Please continue to use the COVID Screening tool **daily** before your child attends school <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/school-screening/>. It will continue to be important for students with illness of any kind to remain home while they have symptoms.

We want to wish all of our students and families who celebrate Ramadan a month full of joy and happiness. Laurelwoods now has a multi-faith meditation and prayer space in our school which is available to both staff and students. It will be located in the south wing in the Learning Commons seminar room. The location is indicated with signage on our front door. The space is equipped with mats to aid in comfort. We will accommodate student participation in learning and school events that may vary during Ramadan. Assessments and cumulative tasks will be scheduled with Ramadan in mind. As a reminder, **students and families who require religious or creed-based accommodations as supported by the Ontario Human Rights Code can make those requests by contacting the school at any time.** If you would like accommodations made for your child who is fasting, please contact Mrs. Shilvock or your child's classroom teacher directly.

Enjoy the longer days and sunshine!

Lori Shilvock



## Reminder

There will be Board Holidays on Friday, April 15th (Good Friday) and Monday, April 18th (Easter Monday). The school will be closed to staff and students.

## Moving

If you know you will be moving and will not be attending Laurelwoods Elementary School in the Fall please let the office know as soon as possible.



## 2022 – 2023 School Organization

We will soon be determining the 2022 – 2023 school organization. If you have any specific concerns or requests around class placement for next year, please put your concerns / requests in an email and send them to the school email address at: [laurelwoods.es@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:laurelwoods.es@ugdsb.on.ca).

## Graduation Preparations

Graduation preparations are underway. We are moving ahead with our plan to celebrate our Graduates! This year the theme will be "A Red Carpet" event and will be held on Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2022. More information will follow.



## Learning Commons

This has been a very exciting month so far in the LLC! The Forest of Reading is well underway with nearly 40 students in Grades 3-8 actively participating and reading. Teachers have been reading the Blue Spruce collection to students in JKSK-Grade 2 and I can see some favourite books beginning to emerge. Students will be voting for their favourites during the week of April 18 - April 22.

Over 100 new equity books are now available for staff and students to check out. These are displayed around the LLC for students to explore.

Maker Space materials are being used by so many students! Botley and Dash robots have been a huge success, with some students beginning to code with them. Some students have even been making their own "robots" using cardboard boxes and our MakeDo kits.

Finally, get ready for our in-person Book Fair taking place April 29<sup>th</sup> to May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Keep an eye out for more information as we get closer to the date.

## Orangeville Rotary Club

Thank you to the Orangeville Rotary Club who dropped off enough Dictionaries for each of the Grade 3 and 4 students at Laurelwoods Elementary School. The Rotary clubs are made up of men and women who are volunteers and community helpers. There are over 1,200,000 Rotarians in more than 200 countries in the world helping with clean water, stopping diseases and helping people learn to read and write. The Rotary Club of Orangeville built Rotary Park, the splashpad at Fendley Park and the outdoor natural playground at Island Lake.

## Grade 7/8 Vaccinations

Nurses from the Public Health Unit will be in the school on Thursday, April 14, 2022 to administer the second round of vaccinations (Hepatitis B and Human Papillomavirus).

## Grade 8 Graduation Photos

The photographers from Edge Imaging will be at Laurelwoods Elementary School, the morning of Thursday, April 21<sup>st</sup>. More information will follow closer to the date.

## Thank you

Laurelwoods would like to extend a huge thank you to Arthurs Fuel for donating a picnic table kit that will be assembled this spring and placed outside for school use! Grand Valley Home Hardware also subsidized the cost of a second picnic table kit. We are incredibly grateful for this community support for our school. We know that these tables will be appreciated and enjoyed during outdoor time!

## School Council

The next School Council meeting will be held on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm. Parent Council would like to thank the community for purchasing gardening seeds etc. from our Make It Sow Fundraiser. We sold over \$470.00 worth of product. All proceeds made from this fundraiser will go to support technology for the Learning Commons

## Eco Awareness

Celebrate Earth Day on April 22nd!

This year marks the 52<sup>nd</sup> anniversary of the very first Earth Day celebrated in 1970.

<https://earthday.ca/about/>

### Earth Day 2022 Theme: “Invest in our planet”

This is the moment to change it all – the business climate, the political climate, and how we take action on climate. Now is the time for the unstoppable courage to preserve and protect our health, our families, our livelihoods... together, we must Invest in Our Planet.

#### Ideas for your family to celebrate Earth Day:

- **Review previous Earth Day Themes. For example, there is an ongoing focus on ending plastic pollution.** Make a pledge to always carry a reusable shopping bag, use alternates to Ziploc bags, buy in bulk, refuse to buy over packaged products and make litter-less lunches. Download your Plastic Pollution Primer to learn more about this problem. Help **End Plastic Pollution!**
- **Spend a day outside.** In the garden with your family, plant vegetables, trees or native flowers and attract native animals and pollinators. Or join a local community event to help clean your neighbourhood by picking up discarded plastic, cans and bottles. Or restore local plant life. Choose a good location for a compost pile – start recycling coffee grounds, egg shells etc. to decompose and to ultimately enrich your garden for the upcoming growing season.
- **Help build a bird feeder.** Build a bird feeder using a plastic bottle and filling it with bird seed.
- **Make commitments to cut down on your energy usage as well as waste.** Turn lights off, power down electrical devices, turn down your thermostat and only do full loads of laundry and dishes.
- **Learn more about the environment and the effects of global warming.** Encourage awareness and promote the **Reduce** (buy less), **Reuse** (repurpose it) and **Recycle** (sort it right!) way of life.

Remember that every day is Earth Day! Don't restrict yourself to just one day a year. Make environmental actions and caring about the planet a habit - on Earth Day and every day.

