



# Laurelwoods Elementary School Newsletter

## Mental Health & Education Week – May 2 to May 6, 2022

*“Moving Forward Together: Learning, Wellness and Connection”!*

*“Allons de l’avant ensemble: apprentissage, bien être et relation humaine”*

### PRINCIPAL NEWS

I hope that this newsletter finds all of you well. On Friday I enjoyed a lovely walk through the forest with one of our Kindergarten classes. It was so joyful to watch the excitement of the children as they discovered buds, sprouts and watched robins land on nearby tree branches. We are truly fortunate to have such an idyllic school environment!

From May 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, the Upper Grand District School Board will be participating in our annual Mental Health and Education Week. This year’s theme is, “Moving Forward Together: learning, wellness and connection.” We launched the week with a school wide spirit day. Each division will participate in daily activities connected to Mental Health & Well Being.

Wellness Works! UGDSB May theme is integrity. This month students will be learning about integrity- what it is, what it looks like and why it’s important to themselves and others:

- When we have a set of positive values and our actions in life match those values.
- If you look up integrity in the dictionary, it also means ‘wholeness’.
- What allows us to feel whole and take responsibility for our actions.
- The number one quality people look for in a leader and will help our children feel proud of who they are.

Integrity also increases the release of *oxytocin* in our brain which is our bonding hormone and it makes us more trustworthy to others. (from The Umbrella Project)

We will continue the momentum we have gained from our Earth Day focus in April by having Brenna Thompson, Waste Reduction Educator, from Dufferin County Public Works in to deliver a Waste 101 Presentations for all classrooms this week.

Students in grades 3 and 6 will participate in EQAO towards the end of the month. If you have a child(ren) in grade 3 or 6 please watch for more information about this in the coming weeks.

The Ministry of Education has approved the Upper Grand District School Board’s school year calendars for the 2022-2023 school year. Students will start the year on September 6<sup>th</sup>. Winter Break will be from December 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022, to January 6<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Furthermore, an additional board holiday is on December 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, so the last instructional day before the Winter Break is December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022. March Break will be from Monday March 13<sup>th</sup> to Friday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The last day of school will fall on June 29<sup>th</sup> for elementary students. The approved calendars will be posted on the board website under [School Year Calendars](#).

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.

## Reminder

Just a reminder that there will be no school for students on Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> as we celebrate Victoria Day. Our next P.A. day will be on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.



## 2022-2023 School Organization

Another administrative task that we begin in late May and into June is determining the 2022 - 2023 school organization, and the make-up of classes. We would like to inform parents about how we approach this important task.

First, our in-school staffing committee receives a tentative school organization from the Board's District Staffing Committee. This school organization is based on the expected student enrolment and the number of teachers that are allocated to our school by the Upper Grand District School Board's Staffing Committee.

Next, our staff collects data on each student which is then used at grade level placement meetings. Teacher collaboration occurs around determining student placement for the subsequent year.

Teachers spend a considerable amount of time determining the best possible placement for each student. Teachers have expert knowledge about how your child learns, their learning interests and work habits, and what kind of social groupings foster their growth.

**If you have any specific concerns or requests around class placement for next year, put your concerns/request in an email) addressed to [karen.gardhouse@ugdsb.on.ca](mailto:karen.gardhouse@ugdsb.on.ca) for consideration.**

We appreciate your trust in our professional judgment in the student placement process.

## Amaranth Soccer Program is Back!



Registration for the 2022 soccer season is open. Registration forms can be found on the Township Website at:

<https://www.amaranth.ca/en/resident-services/Recreation-and-Programs.aspx>

The 2022 soccer season runs from June 1, 2022 to August 3, 2022. The league is co-ed and non-competitive for ages 4 - 16 years and hosted in a smoke free environment.

Registration fee is \$80.00 per child. Fee includes a uniform, photo, trophy and end of season BBQ.

Completed registration forms and payment (cash or cheque) will be received at the Amaranth Municipal office during office hours (Monday to Friday between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm). After hours, registration forms and payment can also be placed in the drop box (located at the front of the municipal office) or mailed to the Municipal office at 374028 6th Line, Amaranth ON, L9W 0M6.

\*Volunteers for team coach and/or assistant coach are appreciated\*

If you are interested in coaching (no experience necessary), please contact Kevin Ewen, Recreation Co-Ordinator at 519-806-0731.

## Moving?

If you know you will be moving over the summer and not returning to Laurelwoods Elementary School, please inform the office. This helps us to plan classes for the fall.



## Parent Council BBQ and Laurelwoods Book Fair

Come join us for a burger, ice dawg and buy some books at our Scholastic Book Fair.

The Book Fair runs from May 2<sup>nd</sup> until May 5<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Artuso will keep the book fair open on May 5<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm for parents to walk through with their child and purchase a book if they like. As we are in the sixth wave of COVID we do encourage families to bring a blanket and plan to picnic on the lawn.

## News from the LLC

April has been a busy month in the LLC. Voting celebrations for the Forest of Reading took place on April 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> with over 100 voters at Laurelwoods who read 5 or more books. Our school's votes have been submitted to the Forest of Reading and we can't wait to find out which books will win! Grade 7 Library Helpers did a fantastic job decorating for the event.

The LLC is hosting a Scholastic Book Fair May 2<sup>nd</sup> - May 5<sup>th</sup>, with an online extension open until Wednesday May 11th. Each class will have a preview day early in the week to write a "Wish List". Students can buy Book Fair items at various times during the week, during the BBQ on Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> or online. Virtual orders and "out of stock" items will be delivered to the school.

Here is the virtual Book Fair link: <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5159693>

## Graduation

Graduation night is Monday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Graduates and their families can arrive for outdoor pictures at 6:30 pm, and the ceremony begins in the gym at 7:00 pm. There will be a reception to follow in the library afterwards, and then a dance for Laurelwoods 2022 graduates only.

Mrs. Jordan is hoping that some parents are available to help set up decorations in the gym the day before (on Sunday). If parents could give an hour or two of their time, we can get the gym done quickly. Everything will be ready to go for an easy set up, and the stage will already be done. Many hands make light work! More specific details will follow, but if you think you can help out, please mark your calendar. Thank you in advance!

### Laurelwoods Spring Open House

Please join us  
Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
4:00 pm – 6:30 pm



**Book Fair in the LLC**  
(cash or credit payment available)

**Complimentary BBQ provided by Parent Council**  
(one hamburger or hot dog per person. Halal hot dog option available. Bring your own drink).

#### **\*\* Classroom Basket Raffle\*\***

1 card - \$10.00 for 25 chances, 3 cards - \$20.00 for 75 chances  
Do not need to be present for the draw. Winners will be contacted.  
Proceeds of this Raffle will go towards Family Transition Mental Health  
and Healthy Relationship Programs

**Ice Dawgs (\$2.00)**  
Available for sale supporting the Graduating Class.

We look forward to welcoming our families back into the school!