



Laurelwoods Elementary School Newsletter

June 2023

Principal News

June is a busy month here at Laurelwoods Elementary School! Teachers are wrapping up units of study, assessments are being completed, and transition plans for next year are being put into place. We encourage regular attendance so that your child is not missing out on social or academic opportunities. If your child is going to be absent, please contact the school office to let us know.

There are many exciting things happening within the school. Please read the newsletter carefully so that you are aware of important dates and keep up to date with classroom communications.

Thank you for a wonderful school year! I wish all of you a safe and adventure filled summer and look forward to working with you again in September!

Lori Shilvock
Principal

Staffing Updates

As the Upper Grand District School Board District Staffing Committee continues to work through the staffing process, I would like to update you on some staffing changes for September. We will be saying good-bye to Mr. Gertzbein, Ms. Thomson and Ms. Legault at the end of June. We wish all of them well as they pursue the next step in their professional journey. We are thrilled to welcome Cameron Brubacher to our team as the grade 6/ 7 teacher!

Final Report Cards

Parents will be able to access their child's report card from a secure webpage, using a board issued account. To ensure we have the most accurate data and parent information, please contact the school at 519-940-3666 if your email information has recently changed. To access your child's report card, parents/guardians access the parent portal on ConnectEd

<https://www.ugdsb.ca/parents/connected/>. Parents will use their email address to authenticate their account. This email must match the email address we have on file. Parents/guardians can create their account provided they have an email on record with the school. Once your account is activated, you will see each of your children listed. Elementary report cards will be available for downloading beginning June 22nd at 4:30 PM.

Grade 8 Graduation

Our grade 8 students will be celebrating their graduation on Monday June 26, 2023. The ceremony will begin at 7:00 pm in the gym.

Moving??



Just a reminder that if you know you are moving over the summer, please call the office and let us know. It helps when we begin to make up our draft class lists to know who is attending or not. Any changes to your child's information can be updated by speaking to our Office Coordinator, Karen Gardhouse.

Medication

If you have medication for your child at school including epi pens and puffers, please stop in at the school the week of **June 26th between 9:00 am to 3:00 pm.** to pick it up for the summer. In September, forms will once again need to be completed to have medication administered at school. Thank you for your assistance.

September 2023 – 2024 School Day Schedule

8:45 am – Entry

8:45 am – 10:25 am Instructional Time (100 minutes)

10:25 am – 11:10 am BREAK/Snack (students have snack 15 min. / outside 30 min.)

11:10 am – 1:10 pm Instructional Time (120 minutes)

1:10 pm – 1:55 pm BREAK/Snack (students eat Lunch 20 min. / outside 25 min.)

1:55 pm – 3:15 pm Instructional Time (80 minutes)

3:15 pm - Dismissal

PA Day

There is a PA Day on Friday, June 2nd. The last day of school for the 2022-2023 school year will be on Thursday, June 29th, 2023. The first day of school for the new 2023-2024 school year will be Tuesday, September 5th, 2023.

STWDSTS Annual First Rider Program:

Laurelwoods is an all bus school. In order to ensure your child is assigned to a bus for the fall, please click the link to register and get more information [First Rider Flyer](#).

The First Rider Program is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2023. They recommend that all First Riders participate in this valuable program, which usually includes a short video, question-answer period and Family bus ride. Registration will be required – www.stwdsts.ca/first-rider-program



For students in SK and up please visit the student login website at www.findmyschool.ca after August 22nd for all bussing information. Sign up for email notifications for all delays/cancellations during the school year. If your child **will not** be riding the bus for the 2023 – 2024 school year, please call 519-824-4119 to let STWDSTS know.

YMCA Before & After School Program

Laurelwoods Elementary School is now accepting registrations for a YMCA Before and After School Program for children 4 – 12 years of age. Programs will run from 7:00 am until school bell, and after school until 6:00 pm. There will be P.A. Day, Winter Break, and March Break programs available. For program details contact: Kirsten Almand at 519-215-0936 or Kirsten.Almand@ymcagta.org.

Library News

Thank you to everyone for coming out to support our Scholastic Book Fair during the week of May 15th to 19th. With your support, we have earned funds that allowed us to purchase new books and other items for our September 2023 start-up!

Starting **next week** (June 5th-9th), all students are asked to **return all library books (and book bags** for students in Kindergarten-Grade 3) for end-of-year organization. The first class in each division to bring in all their borrowed LLC items will receive a prize! After next week, students with outstanding items will be receiving an overdue items list. Please do your best to help your child find the items on the list and return them to the school as soon as possible.

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Healthy Schools

I wanted to share some great news. Mrs. Jordan, Mrs. Ludzik and Mrs. Rayfield worked hard to put an application in for our School to get OPHEA's Healthy School Certification. We are pleased to inform you that our school received a **Gold Healthy Schools Certification** this year! This is a huge step to creating a healthier school. We will be receiving a school recognition banner that should arrive at our school in mid-June. Healthy Schools Certification is guided by the following goals:

- To support schools who want to enhance the health and well-being of their students and staff.
- To increase student engagement and leadership opportunities to support health and well-being at school.
- To increase adult engagement in prioritizing health and well-being at school.
- To strengthen community engagement and partnerships.

Eco Updates

A huge thank you to all of those who have worked hard to contribute to our Eco initiatives this year - your efforts are VERY appreciated! We will continue to collect clothing donations until June 13th.

Pride Month

The month of June is Pride month. Some students, staff, parents/guardians and community members in the Upper Grand identify as members of the 2SLGBTQIA+ community. Flying the Pride flag not only signals that our schools are safe spaces for everyone, it also aligns with our guiding principles of inclusion and student and staff well-being, and our Equity Plan. Laurelwoods will be flying the PRIDE flag during the month of June. Should you have more questions about the flag and how it supports our vision, please visit our UGDSB Website at: <https://www.ugdsb.ca/>

safeTALK Suicide Prevention Training

We are offering 2 summer SafeTALK trainings to parents/caregivers and guardians. The flyer has registration links.

[safeTalk Flyer](#)

Calendar 2023 - 2024

The Ministry of Education has a pending approved Upper Grand District School Board school year calendars for the 2023-2024 school year. Students will start the year on Sept. 5. Winter Break will be from December 25, 2023, to January 5, 2024. March Break will be from Monday March 11 to Friday

March 15, 2024. The last day of school will fall on June 27 for elementary students. The approved calendars will be posted on the board website under [School Year Calendars](#).

Wellness Works! UGDSB June theme is Reflection and Celebration

This month students will be learning about reflection - the benefit of reflecting and looking back at goals and successes. How students can become more aware of how they learn, take more responsibility of their learning and see growth in their learning.

Reflection is:

- A consideration of events - including the emotional responses to them and the causal factors (*why* things might have happened the way they did)
- Connections between events and what they mean - for the learner - in terms of curriculum/world/self-understanding.
- Personal
- An illumination of the learning that occurred and what the learner aims to do with that learning (you're different now)

Public Health

With the arrival of the warmer weather and people spending more time outdoors Wellington Dufferin Guelph Public Health is sharing information with families about the dangers of ticks and Lyme disease. [Blacklegged Tick and Lyme Disease](#)

Upcoming Events

National Indigenous History Month & Pride Month

May 31	1500 m Meet @ ODSS 6 pm
June 2	PD Day (no school)
June 6-9	Grade 6 EQAO
June 7	Grade 7 trip to Island Lake
June 9	Beach hat day
June 13	Last day to drop off clothing for the clothing drive
June 19	Grade 8 Trip to Niagara
June 20	Volunteer Appreciation Tea
June 21	National Indigenous Awareness Day
June 21	Track and Field (ODSS)
June 22	Report Cards Are Available online
June 22	Track and Field Rain Date
June 23	Secondary rain date for track and field
June 26	Grade 8 Graduation
June 27	Canadian Multiculturalism Awareness Day
June 29	School Colours or Spirit wear Day
June 29	Last Day of School

June 30 PD Day (no school)

School Council

A big thank you to our school community for making our Spring Family Night a great success. All funds raised go back into our school to support mental health programs, classroom and library supplies, playground equipment, scientists in the school and much more. Without the continued support of our school community, these things are not possible. We are winding down our fundraising for this school year. We wish everyone a safe and happy summer and look forward to another successful year ahead. The Last School Council Meeting will be on June 8th, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

Student Nutrition Program

Our student nutrition program has been an important part of this school year, providing healthy snacks available to all students with bins in every classroom. We look forward to continuing the program next year and offering more food days as well. Have a wonderful summer!

Talent Show

The Laurelwoods Talent show will be held during the middle block of the day (11:10am – 1:10pm) on Wednesday June 28, 2023. Sign up has just begun and the students are super excited to finally be able to show off their talent after a 3-year hold.

Bikes at school

With the warm weather arriving, some students like to ride their bikes to Laurelwoods. Parents, please complete and sign a permission form before your child rides their bike to school. Permission forms can be picked up in the office. All bike safety rules including wearing helmets must be adhered to.

French Culture

As part of exposing students to the French culture in Canada and around the world, we will be having a French artist from Prologue Performing Arts, Ontario on June 21st at 11am. The artist Njacko Bako will be performing live arts on African Voyage / Voyage African. It is an interactive performance where students will learn the important role that music, dance, and storytelling play in everyday life in Cameroon, Central Africa. Students will experience traditional dance and drumming, listen to a traditional story, and learn about the importance of community in Centre Africa. This performance will take place in the Gym and is open to all students in the school especially students from grades 4-8. All class are invited.

Have a Safe Summer

