

# Have A Fabulous Summer!

## Congratulations & Thank You

Congratulations to all Laurelwoods students on completing another academic year. Thank you to all of the staff and the Parent Council for making our year so special; creating wonderful memories and delivering a solid academic program. This week, it has been mentioned many times how important our grade 8 leaders have been to the school (bus patrolling, lunch help, and library support). As they facilitated the assembly and talent show, and supported the Play Day teams, their leadership was evident this week. I am grateful for all that is happening at the school and it is a pleasure to be a part of the community.

## Staffing Update

As the new grade 3/4 teacher, I want to officially welcome Ms. Popa! We would like to welcome Mrs. Dunville to our team as an early childhood educator working alongside Ms. Ludzik. As EAs, Mrs. Durocher, Mrs. LePage, and Mrs. Begley will join Laurelwoods! We would like to extend a warm welcome back to Mrs. Snider. We look forward to working and learning with all of you.

## Early Reading Resources

The following “Home Reading” guides are being shared with families to support reading during the summer.

- [The 'Big 5+ Ideas' of Reading Development: A Guide to Supporting at Home.](#)

## Ukuleles

Laurelwoods Elementary was the successful applicant for our school ukulele grant in 2023! The package includes 30 quality soprano ukuleles and gig bags from respected manufacturer and family-owned business, Ohana Music in Long Beach, California. We will also receive access to digital method books – the highly regarded Ukulele in the Classroom series from James Hill and Chalmers Doane – and a one-year subscription to the Teacher Toolkit resource. Students also enjoyed a ukulele presentation. The package is valued at \$3500, raised through the community performances of the Royal City Ukulele Ensemble. We want to extend a huge thank you to Ms. Popa for the successful application of this grant. I look forward to hearing students playing the ukuleles during the 2023-2024 school year!

## Summer Hours

Office hours will resume Monday, Aug 28, 2023 from noon- 4:00 pm. Tuesday, Aug. 29, 2023 to Friday September 1st the office will be open from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm. The school email and phones will not be checked during the summer.

## **Gold Standard**

Congratulations Laurelwoods on achieving the Gold Standard Healthy Schools Certification. The program 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.

By completing the 4-Step Healthy Schools Process throughout the school year, registered schools earn points and can apply to be certified as a Gold, Silver, or Bronze Healthy School. Certification is flexible and adaptable for all school communities: it's based on a school's ability to follow and complete the process.

## **School Year Calendar 2023-2024 School Year**

### **[Upper Grand District School Board Calendar](#)**

#### **STWDSTS Annual First Rider Program:**

The First Rider Program is scheduled for Tuesday, August 29, 2023. It is recommended 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 – <https://stwdsts.ca/first-rider-program>

For students in SK and up please visit the student login website at [www.findmyschool.ca](http://www.findmyschool.ca) after August 22nd for all bussing information. Please remember to 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.

I wish all of you a safe and happy summer filled with adventure! I look forward to seeing you again in the fall.

Mrs. Shilvock