

# SIR WILFRID LAURIER PUBLIC SCHOOL

160 HAZELTON AVE, MARKHAM, ON, L6C 3H6

<http://sirwilfridlaurier.ps.yrdsb.ca/>

## December 2016

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK . . .

As we approach the end of the 2016 calendar year, we take time to reflect upon the many ways our students, staff and families have been directly involved in contributing positively to our school learning environment. We are grateful for the dedication and continuous support of all!

Time has truly flown by since the start of the school year. Our students have had a successful block of learning, and are well on their way to completing the first term of this school year. We would like to thank families for attending the student-led conferences held during the last few days. Communication between home and school is an essential element of student success. We appreciate your ongoing involvement in your child's education and the time you have spent communicating with staff. First term reports will be going out February 15. This is a good time for students to set goals for learning and act on next steps in order to achieve their personal best.

Administrators and teachers are continuously learning about new ways to capture students' learning to ensure their successes. Triangulation of data and formative assessments have been on our agenda for the last few months. I hope you had a chance to hear this dialogue during the student led- conferencing.

Our last Primary and Junior assemblies were a hit for our students and their parents. House colors were formed and students are taking the lead in Mc'ing and presenting. Students are receiving certificates in the following three categories: Oral French, Global Citizenship, and commitment to Academics. Our intermediate success assembly will be announced shortly.

We are looking forward to seeing the parents at our next **school council meeting** on Wednesday, December 7th, at 7:00 p.m in our school library, and at our school **Holiday Concert** on Wednesday, December 14th, at 6:00 p.m in the gymnasium.

On the advice of my doctor, due to a pre-existing medical condition, I will be away temporarily until after the New Year. In the meantime, please join me in welcoming Debbie Williams who will be joining the Sir Wilfrid Laurier administrative team from November 28 to December 23, 2016 during my absence.

#### Challenge of Practice:

*When engaged our students can demonstrate literal comprehension and work both collaboratively and independently in groups.*

#### Theory of Action:

*If we use oral production as a strategy, then we will increase student achievement in critical thinking*

**Student Achievement!**

*Students: need to use higher-order thinking skills when communicating their thinking*

*Staff : are learning how to support student articulation of critical thinking as it pertains to the higher levels of Bloom's Taxonomy*

Ghada Sadaka: Principal

Kathryn Gravill: Vice Principal

Carmen Lo, Antonietta Lawrence,  
Shelley Young

Office Administration

Peter Tse: Superintendent

(905) 940- 7800

Billy Pang: Trustee (905) 476- 3655

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

From the principal desk	1
Remembrance Day	2
Primary/Junior Assembly	3
Halloween/ WE Scare Hunger	4
Holiday Heros	5
Formative assessment	6
Eco Club	7
Bibliotheque	8
Quest/ Math	9
School Council	10
Calendar	11

Follow Sir Wilfrid Laurier  
PS on Twitter!

[@laurieryrdsb](https://twitter.com/laurieryrdsb)



# REMEMBRANCE DAY



Earlier in the month, staff, students and families participated in our Remembrance Day assemblies where we recognized the contributions and sacrifices of Canadians. Many of our primary, junior, and intermediate classes showcased their understanding of this very significant day. Our school band and choir performed several pieces including our national anthem in English and French and our adult audiences appreciated very much the talents we have at SWL.

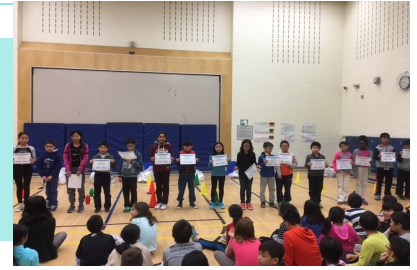






## First Primary/Junior Assemblies

### Bleu, Rouge, Jaune et Vert



Our very first Primary and Junior success assemblies of the year took place on November 2nd and 22nd respectively. Grades 2, 3 and 4 came down to the gym in their designated house colours (Blue, red, yellow and green) and sat with their house colour team! A group of ambassadors were greeting the students at the door and guiding them to their spots. Our grade four ambassadors led the assembly by Mc'ing, cheerleading, and singing /acting to their respective house colours their own homemade cheer.

Each month, three students from each class in each grade will be receiving the following certificates:

- 1) French / Langue Francaise. Success Criteria: good use of oral communication in the French language inside and outside the classroom in a more consistent way
- 2) Global Citizen/ Citoyen de Demain. Success criteria: student who demonstrate good overall character and leadership
- 3) Achievement / Buts d'apprentissage certificate. Success criteria: student who is showing progress towards learning, and committed to working toward own learning goals

Please look at the calendar for our next assemblies. Parents of the students receiving certificates, get an invitation from their child's teachers. All parents are welcome to attend and celebrate our students' achievement!





# Halloween/ WE SCARE HUNGER donation



Students had so much fun preparing for the Halloween celebrations! Primary students had their own parade and showed off their scary/ unique/ and creative costumes. Some of the junior and intermediate students were busy preparing for the dance while our students council came up with a student initiative to SCARE HUNGER. Like busy bees, they started announcing and asking class reps to remind their classmates to bring non perishable food items to send to the most needy during this time. 648 cans and food items were collected. Student council collected, organized and the Markham Food Bank picked up all of the boxes a few days later. Money raised from the dance admission was sent to Sick Kids Hospital as again student council decided to think about other kids who might be suffering and might use some help. We are trying to fill our students' days with high academic achievements and lots of fun activities inside the school; however as a staff, we are trying to instill in the students how to be global thinkers and good and responsible citizens, how to be inclusive and diverse in their approaches when dealing with outside issues!

Thank you for your support with all the extra projects we are undertaking here at Sir Wilfrid Laurier.



No one should have to go hungry!

SWL Student Council and Class Representatives played a vital role of change-makers. They collected 643 canned food for our local food bank to ensure that everyone in our community can stand up to hunger. What an incredible effort on the parts of the students and the staff!

Thank you parents for your ongoing generosity!!!

Thank you to our SWL Student Council for organizing a successful Halloween Dance for Grade 6-8.

From the Student Council and their teachers.

# Holiday Heroes



The 2016 holiday season is just around the corner and we are looking forward to helping our community through participation in this year's **Holiday Heroes campaign**.

Since the launch of the campaign in 2008, York Regional Police has raised more than \$1 million in monetary donations, new toys, new children's clothing and food. All donations raised in York Region, stay in York Region.

**SWL** will be running our campaign from December 5th to December 15th 100% of donations directly support the children from our community who are in need. We are hoping that all of our school community can take part in being **Holiday Heroes**

Here are some ways that we would encourage you to help out:

- **Grades 2 and 3:** Toy Drive: contribute new unwrapped toys for all ages
- **Grades 4 to 6:** Children's Clothing Drive: donate new warm clothing, pajamas, coats, hats and mitts
- **Grades 7 and 8:** Gift Card Drive: donate grocery, department store and gas gift cards. Remember that all donations count, regardless of the amount. Also, you might pair up with another student to donate a bigger gift card.

Help keep this holiday season warm and joyful for everyone!

December 5th will be a school wide spirit day where we encourage students to Dress up as their heroes!



Be a holiday hero!



## Giving Thanks letters

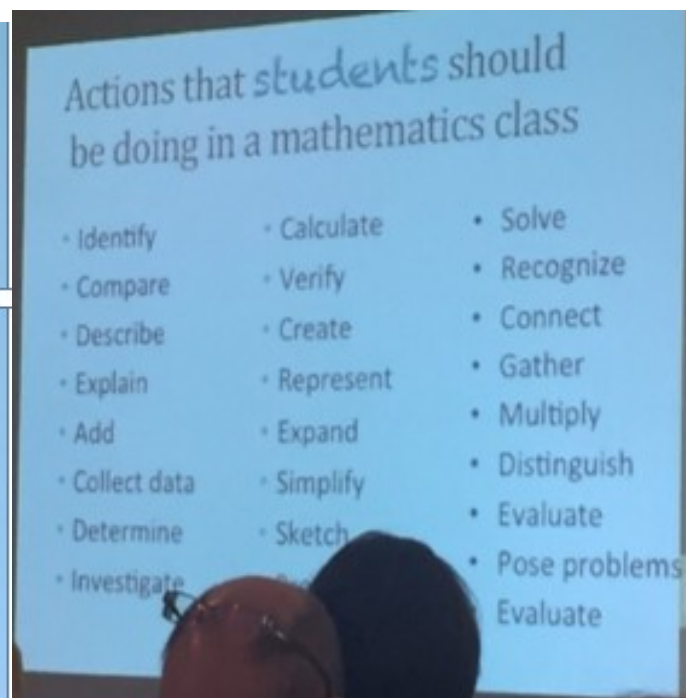
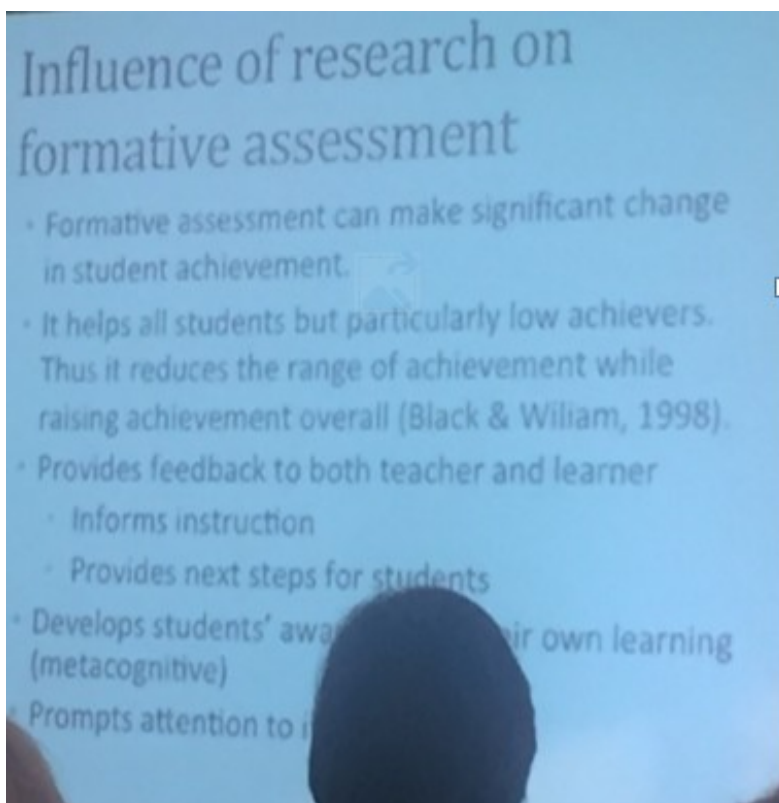


As the holiday season is right around the corner, students at Sir Wilfrid Laurier are invited to write a simple letter or card to former Grade 1 teachers or staff members at SJAM. What better way to give thanks than to write a letter or card and show them you remember SJAM. Students may write to reflect on their time, or to give thanks, or just to say HELLO! This is completely voluntary, and students can write as many letters or cards as they wish. Please find more information attached to the newsletter.

This project is brought to you by caring parents and who will be looking after the delivery of those letters!!



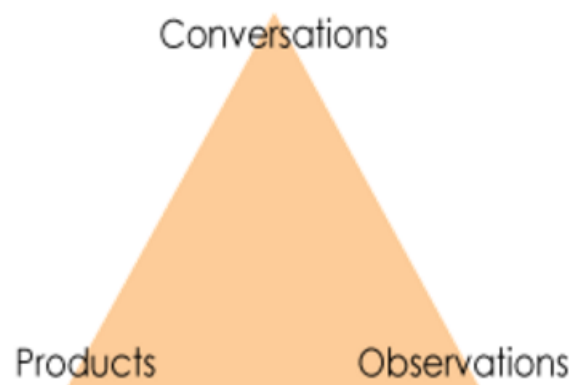
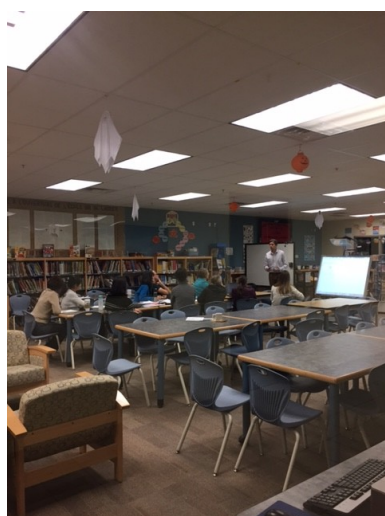
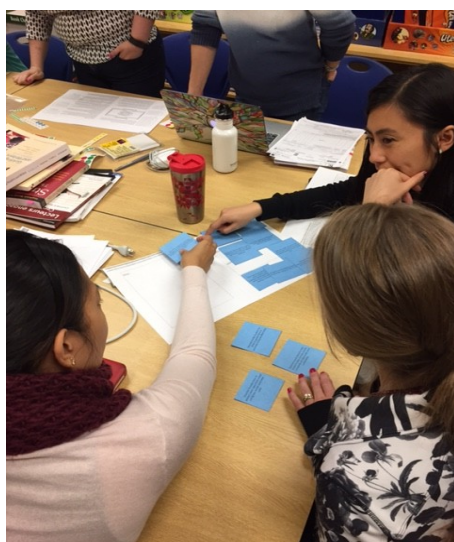
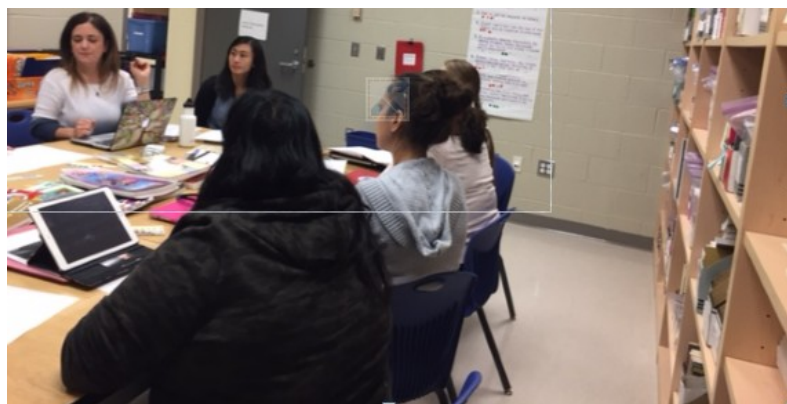
# Professional learning/ Assessment



## WHAT IS TRIANGULATION?

Triangulation is a process by which a teacher collects evidence about student learning; this evidence is collected from three different sources. These sources are conversations, observations, and products.

Conversation is used to talk with students in a less formal, less structured way; observations take place during class time, while students are involved in individual, pair or group work. The teacher will circulate around the room and observe student learning. Observations can be documented using a check list or anecdotal notes. Finally, products refer to the tangible materials, such as tests, tasks or projects, used to assess student learning. These products are used to demonstrate what the student is capable of doing after going through the learning process.



# ECO CLUB/ BOOMERANG

## Boomerang Lunch Program

At the beginning the month of **December**, Le Club Vert has decided to start the daily **Boomerang lunch** program at Sir Wilfrid Laurier which will continue until the end of the year. We believe that engaging students and the school community in small environmental initiatives can have a big impact on our environment.

### HOW IT WORKS:

- All materials in the lunch box that come to school go home!
- Uneaten food and waste material is returned home in your child's lunch bag
- Recyclable materials can be disposed of AT SCHOOL

### BOOMERANG LUNCH GOALS:

- Reducing the amount of waste we create from school lunches
- Encouraging healthy and nutritious lunches (many pre-packaged lunch items contain significant amounts of sugar, sodium, preservatives and fat)
- Creating awareness around recycling and composting
- Encouraging and promoting the use of **reusable containers** and discouraging the use of disposable containers
- Providing Parents with information about what their child is or is not eating for snack and lunch.

### WASTE FREE SNACK/ LUNCH TIPS:

- Use reusable lunch bags and containers.
- Use reusable drink bottles or a thermos.
- Use a cloth napkin and reusable utensils.
- Avoid using plastic wrap and "Ziploc" baggies.
- Get your children to help pack their snacks/lunches with healthy foods.
- Only pack as much food as your child will eat.
- Label all containers with an initial or special symbol.



We look forward to your continued support and hope you will join Sir Wilfrid Laurier with teaching our students how to be environmentally responsible citizens.

# Notre Bibliotheque!

## *News from the Library @ Sir Wilfrid Laurier P.S.*

*At the end of October, M. Hamelin, teacher-librarian, in partnership with Éduco Entrepôt Canada (Canadian Education Warehouse), the York Region French Book Store, organized "Livres en Fête". Your French Book Fair. The enthusiasm of all students and the continued support of our parent community, has enabled us to enhance our existing book collections and add new titles. The school received \$420.83 return in book value (10% of total sales). Your support and continued efforts to promote reading as a lifelong gift for your children, our students, is greatly appreciated!*

*To add some fun and a little challenge while browsing the Fair, students had a chance to participate in math challenge estimating the number of pages in a pile of books. We would like to congratulate all participants in their effort to guess the total number of pages in a pile of books. The two students with the closest estimation were invited to pick \$10 of books for their personal pleasure at the fair. Bravo! The winners are: Diga B. in Mme Kheir's class and Andrea R. in Mme Pereira's class.*

*In addition, we would also like to extend our congratulations to Alina J. in M. Perret's class, Ivy Z. in Mme Simonelli's class and Jasmine P. in Mme Sadaka's class. Of the many students who deposited their completed post card invitation, these three student names were randomly selected by our principal and were awarded \$25 each towards books from the fair to share with their teacher and classmates. Thank you to all who participated!*

*A final note and message from Éduco Entrepôt Canada's Team:*

*"Thank you very much for giving us this superb opportunity. The entire school community: students, parents/guardians and all Sir Wilfrid Laurier staff have been "FORMIDABLE"! Also, thank you to M. Hamelin for his outstanding professionalism and dedication from the beginning of the fair to its successful closure!*





# Quest with Mr. Messiah

Mr. Messiah presented along with two SWL former students at one of the largest conference at YRDSB: QUEST! Congratulations to Mr. Messiah and his two students. We are proud of you.

Presentation name: Python Coding for Elementary Intermediate students

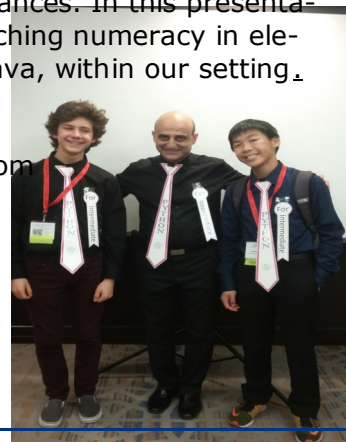
Program Description: How to apply math knowledge from the Grade 8 curriculum to a practical, engaging, motivating, enriching, authentic and forward thinking application by means of Python coding. This enrichment opportunity provided by means of an extracurricular activity serves as preparation for secondary school before students are exposed to Java in Grade 10. Coding is a great way for students to develop valuable skills such as logical thinking, creativity and problem solving. The end result will be helping more students achieve excellence in numeracy, which is the goal of the Ontario Renewed Math Strategy.

Julian C. presentation: There are many different code languages within the realm of computer science, all of which serve specific purpose and are useful in different circumstances. In this presentation Julian explained why python is the ideal programming language for teaching numeracy in elementary school, and why it is preferable to one of its largest competitors, Java, within our setting.

Dylan K. presentation: Dylan explained the steps of how to install Python from the website python.org. What if you can't install Python at school?

Dylan showed an alternative way by using "Online Python Interpreters" as:

- learnpython.org
- repl.it



## PETHS Vocal Workshop

On Thursday November 10th, the SWL Songbirds were invited to participate in a vocal workshop day hosted by Pierre Elliott Trudeau High School (PETHS). 54 SWL songbirds, along with Ms. Holly and Mme Bahadur, participated in this spectacular event! When we got to the High School, we were greeted by two PET students who brought us into the school's cafeteria and were joined by Castlemore Public School. We were then taken to the music room and it was HUGE!

In the music room, the school's chamber choir greeted us and their music teacher gave us each a piece of music entitled "Shenandoah". We were then divided into three groups. The songbird's harmony group joined the alto section, and the melody singers were further divided into two groups, a higher pitched group and a lower pitched group. We practiced for a bit and then went into our assigned room where we practiced "Shenandoah" and our own music piece "Au Champ d'Honneur". At 12:30PM, we ate pizza for lunch. We went back to the cafeteria at 1:30pm to perform our song "Au Champ d'Honneur", while Castlemore performed 2 of their own songs. At the end, the Songbirds, Castlemore's choir and PETHS's chamber choir performed the song "Shenandoah" all together. It was a great learning experience, and I hope to do it again soon.

Special thanks to: Ms. Holly, Mme Bahadur, our bus driver, PET High School, Mrs. Sadaka, Mme Gravill and of course, the SWL Songbirds!

By: Cherise F. 7C





# School Council November News

**Holiday Cookies for only \$1 each! Order yours before December 7th!**

<https://yrdsb.schoolcashionline.com/>

**Ginger Teddy**



**Vanilla Snowman**



**Chocolate Chip Delite**



## Get in touch & stay in touch...

- \* Come to our next Council Meeting on Wed Dec 7<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm, at the SWL Library
- \* Still want to order pizzas or subs? Contact Joyce for Pizza: joy-ceakacj@gmail.com and Elisa for Subs: ElisaLau.intl@gmail.com
- \* Check out our Nov 9<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes: <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/sirwilfridlaurier.ps/SchoolCouncil/Pages/Agendas.aspx>
- \* Tell us how we are doing! Email us at [sir.wilfrid.laurier.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca](mailto:sir.wilfrid.laurier.ps@sc.yrdsb.edu.on.ca)
- \* Healthy eating starts with healthy choices. Find out more about PPM 150: <http://www.edu.gov.on.ca/extra/eng/ppm/150.html>

## Stay tuned for...

- \* Our NEW Community Family Event after the Holiday Break!
- \* Save the date! Fun Fair is June 1<sup>st</sup> (8<sup>th</sup> rain date)

## Resources :

- \* Online Library for parents! <http://www.yrdsb.ca/schools/sirwilfridlaurier.ps/SchoolCouncil/Pages/Parent-Resource-Library.aspx>
- \* Keep your kids safe on the Internet! <http://teens.webmd.com/features/teen-internet-safety-tips>
- \* Donate anytime on: <https://schoolcashionline.com/>

## Fundraising Updates!





# DECEMBER 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nov 27	Nov 28 Day 1  <b>Jungle Sport</b> SWL Mathematics & Computer Science Club 12:45-1:20 Rm 205	Nov 29 Day 2  <b>Jungle Sport</b>	Nov 30 Day 3  <b>Jungle Sport</b> <b>Pizza Lunch</b>	1 Day 4	2 Day 5  <b>Sub Lunch</b> Gr 2 Firefighting Learn Not to Burn Program 10:40-12:20	3
4	5 Day 1 <b>Spirit Day</b> <b>Dress up as your HERO DAY</b> SWL Mathematics & Computer Science Club 12:45-1:20 Rm 205	6 Day 2  <b>Intermediate Boys Basketball Tryouts</b> 12:45-1:20pm In Gym	7 Day 3 <b>Pizza Lunch</b>  Recognition Assembly Gr 2-4, 9:00-9:45am  Gr 8 all day  JA Economics for Success Rm 203, 205, 208	8 Day 4  <b>Senior Band</b> 12:45-1:20pm	9 Day 5  <b>Sub Lunch</b>  <b>Intermediate Boys Basketball Tryouts</b> 12:45-1:20pm In Gym	10
11	12 Day 1  <b>Toronto Zoo Trip Gr 2A, 2B, 2F</b>	13 Day 2  <b>Toronto Zoo Trip Gr 2C, 2D, 2's from 2/3A &amp; 2's from 2/3B</b>	14 Day 3 <b>Pizza Lunch</b>  Gr 3 Firefighting Learn Not to Burn Program 8:30-10:40  <b>Holiday Concert @ 6:00 pm</b>	15 Day 4  <b>Senior Band</b> 12:45-1:20pm	16 Day 5  <b>Sub Lunch</b>  <b>Intermediate Boys Basketball Tryouts</b> 12:45-1:20pm In Gym	17
18	19 Day 1	20 Day 2  <b>Intermediate Boys Basketball Practice</b> 12:45-1:20pm In Gym	21 Day 3  <b>Pizza Lunch</b>	22 Day 4  <b>Senior Band Party</b> 12:20-1:20pm	23 Day 5  <b>Sub Lunch</b>  <b>Last day of school before Winter Break</b>	24
25	26  <b>Winter Break</b>	27  <b>Winter Break</b>	28  <b>Winter Break</b>	29  <b>Winter Break</b>	30  <b>Winter Break</b>	31  <b>Winter Break</b>