SIR WILFRID LAURIER PUBLIC SCHOOL

160 HAZELTON AVE, MARKHAM, ON, L6C 3H6

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

FEBRUARY 2017

Administrators' Message

It has been an eventful winter and the students are enjoying the outdoors on snowy days. Parents and students are asked to continue to monitor the weather on a daily basis to ensure appropriate outdoor clothing is brought to school. We will go outside unless the temperature and wind chill combination present a serious health risk.

The return to school since the winter break has been busy with the students and staff hard at work. Report cards will be going home on Wednesday, Feb. 15th. This is a great opportunity for you and your children to reflect on their achievement over the first term and co-create goals for the second term.

We continue to focus on critical thinking tasks across the curriculum. Our students are talking about what they're learning and are able to confidently show their work and talk about their personal learning goals. Learning goals are posted in the classrooms and students are becoming familiar with the vocabulary of assessment. They are able to talk about why what they're learning is important.

Reading at home is an important part of developing strong literacy skills and we encourage students to read independently, with a sibling, a parent, another family member or a friend to practice the skills they are learning in their classes. This should be part of the regular homework routine for all of our students.

Please continue to engage your child in conversation about their learning at school. We appreciate the support you give your children. An important piece of this is your on-going communication with your child's teachers. Should you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact staff at any time.

Our grade 8 students are also entering an important phase regarding decision making for course selection for high school. Parents should be involved in this process and have the opportunity to provide advice and support to their children. There have also been on-going transition activities in collaboration with Pierre Elliot Trudeau Secondary School over the past month.

The month of February sparks excitement at home as the Family Day long weekend approaches. Whatever you choose to do, we wish you a fun-filled long weekend with family and friends. March is just around the corner and we look forward to working with all of you in the upcoming months and thank you for your ongoing support. Working together, we make a difference for our students and their growth and development.

We welcomed Mr. Wally Robinson, who has joined our school as interim Principal, on January 30, 2017 after saying good-bye to Ms. Williams. We will miss her smile, laughter and diligence in supporting our students and wish her all the best in the future.

Mr. Robinson is an experienced YRDSB administrator who looks forward to joining our SWL community and carrying on with the great work taking place at the school.

Wally Robinson Interim Principal Kathryn Gravill Vice Principal



Interim Principal: Wally Robinson

Vice Principal: Kathryn Gravill

Office Staff: Carmen Lo Antonietta Lawrence Shelley Young

Superintendent: Peter Tse (905) 940– 7800

Trustee: Billy Pang (905) 476– 3655

Inside this issue:

Administrator's Message	1		
Trustee Message Dress for Weather & Extra Clothes	2		
Inclement Weather/School Bus Cancellation	3		
Student Drop off & Pickup			
School Planning			
Vulnerable Sector Screening	4		
We are hiring Lunch Assistants			
Blue Hills Child & Family Ctr.			
Pediculosis	5,6		
From the Library Mega Hoops	7		
Secondary School Parent Course Selection Workshops	8		
Caribou Contest Math & Computer Science Club National Sweater Day	9		
Higher Order Thinking Question National flag Day of Canada YRDSB School Climate Survey for Students	10		
Scientist in the School	11		
School Council News	12		
School Calendar	13		

A Message from our Trustee

We are now halfway through the school year. This is a good time to reflect on all that your child has learned and to look at setting goals for the rest of the school year.

Our Board believes that student well-being and achievement go hand-in-hand. One of our goals set out in the <u>Board of Trustees' Multi-Year Plan</u> is to "continuously increase student achievement and well-being through a culture of caring and learning."

The Ministry of Education has recently identified <u>four priorities for well-being</u>: positive mental health, safe and accepting schools, healthy schools, and equity and inclusive education. As a Board of Trustees, we will continue to further work in all of these areas to support student well-being in line with these priorities.

There are many resources on the Board website to help support student well-being, including tips for talking about mental health, managing stress, packing healthy lunches and addressing incidents of bullying.

Creating a healthy, safe and welcoming learning environment is key to helping our students reach their full potential. All of us have an important role to play in creating an environment that enables our students to thrive.

I wish you all the best for a healthy, happy and successful 2017.

Dress for the Weather and Extra Clothes for School

With the colder weather and snow upon us, please dress your child(ren) warmly and in layers. Hats, mittens, boots, and snow pants are recommended. Please label all items to prevent your child from losing them. We encourage students to bring indoor shoes.

With weather being wet, muddy, and snowy, students have been requesting some dry clean clothes from home. We encourage families to pack extra labelled clothes for their child(ren) for use at school if they become wet from playing outside at recess. This will help avoid phone calls to families during the school day.



Inclement Weather – School Bus Cancellation Notice

To ensure the safety of students, school bus service may be cancelled due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and/or poor road conditions. In these cases, parents and students should develop alternate care/transportation arrangements. Cancellation decisions will only be made after thorough consultation with the Safety Officers of school bus companies servicing York Region and are based on several factors including precipitation, air temperature, road conditions and weather forecast.

Please note the following;

- a decision to cancel school bus service will be **region-wide** meaning all school buses, vans and taxis will not operate.

- school bus routes may be cancelled when severe weather may not be affecting all municipalities in York **Region.** Both the YRDSB and YCDSB operate many regional educational programs. Students attending these programs are transported over large attendance areas encompassing several municipal boundaries. This limits the ability to cancel bus service using a municipality or zone methodology.

- when bus service is cancelled all school tests and/or examinations will be cancelled and rescheduled.

- student trips involving the use of school buses will also be cancelled.

- unless otherwise stated, schools will remain open and parents can make arrangements to transport their children to and from school even if school bus service is cancelled. If buses are cancelled in the morning, they will not operate in the afternoon. Therefore students transported to school by parents will require the same transportation home.

Parents, students and school staff are asked to access the following radio and television stations after 6:00 a.m. to receive bus cancellation information:

RADIO

590 AM	640 AM	680 AM	860 AM	1010 AM	1050 AM
1540 AM	1580 AM	88.5 FM	89.9 FM	92.5 FM	93.1 FM
94.9 FM	95.9 FM	97.3 FM	98.1 FM	99.1 FM	99.9 FM
101.1 FM	102.1 FM	104.5 FM	100.7 FM	107.1 FM	



TELEVISION

CITY TV CTV Barrie CTV Toronto CP24 GLOBAL NEWS A bus cancellation message will also be available at www.schoolbuscity.com and by calling 1-877-330-3001, or by following @YRDSB on twitter.

Please call the school attendance line if your child will stay home due to a bus cancellation. The number is 905-927-1452, press 1. In your message, please include your child's first and last name, grade, teacher and the reason for the absence. Thank you for your assistance!

Student Drop off and Pick up

Reminder to parents that morning student supervision starts at 8:15am. Please do not drop off your child(ren) before 8:15am as there is no staff on duty at that time.

When dropping off your child after the 8:30am morning bell, please bring your child to the office for an admit slip. This will allow office staff to update attendance records.

When picking up your child, please ensure the teacher and student are aware. Writing early pickups in the agenda is very helpful for the teacher and student so they are prepared at pickup time. This will help decrease the amount of interruptions to the class when the office calls for the student. We encourage students to remain in their classrooms for the instructional time.



School Planning

Are you moving?

In order to plan for September 2017, it is important to have accurate enrolment projections. If your family is planning to move, and you have not already done so, please inform the office. It would be helpful if you could provide us with your new address and the name of the new school.

Contact Information

If any of your contact information has changed (e.g., phone numbers, address, email address) please ensure you have provided the office with updated contact information. Thank you.

Vulnerable Sector Screening – YRP

Volunteers assume an important role within a school. A requirement of York Region District School Board is to assist in ensuring a safe environment for students and staff is the completion of a **Voluntary Sector Screening (VSS)** and the signing of a **Confidentiality Agreement**. If you wish to volunteer in the school or on a field trip, please ensure you have a VSS completed with York Regional Police. A letter will be provided by the office that is presented to York Regional Police Community Resource Centre located at 10720 Yonge Street in Richmond Hill.

If you have completed a VSS and submitted it to the school in a previous school year, an **Annual Offence Declaration Form** and **Confidentiality Agreement** are required. Please complete these forms and return them to the school. Forms are available through your child's teacher or the school office.

Thank you to all our wonderful volunteers!



We are hiring Lunch Assistants

We have openings for Lunch Assistants at Sir Wilfrid Laurier. This is a paid position. The hours are from 12:20-1:20pm. If you are interested in applying for this position to support our school, please contact the school office at 905-927-1452.

Thank you to our parent community for your continued support.

Blue Hills Child and Family Centre



Helping Families, Help themselves Blue Hills Child and Family Centre is now recruiting volunteers for our Board of Directors. Blue Hills has been serving York Region's children, youth and families with mental health needs for over 47 years.

If you are up to the challenge or know someone who might be: Please call (905) 773-4323, extension 329, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday to Friday or email <u>bluehills@bluehillscentre.ca</u> to receive a nomination package.

PAGE 5

Pediculosis (Head Lice)

Head lice are tiny insects that live on the scalp, where they lay eggs. Head lice do not spread disease. It's not your fault if you or your child has head lice.

Having head lice does not mean you are not clean.

WHAT DO HEAD LICE LOOK LIKE?

Lice have 3 stages - the egg (nit), the nymph and the adult.

States .

(Figure 1) An adult louse measures 2 mm to 4 mm.

Reprinted with permission from www.headlice.org

- Nits are whitish-grey, tan or yellow ovals, about the size of a grain of sand. They stick to the hair close to the scalp and can look like dandruff. Nits hatch into nymphs in 9 to 10 days.
- Nymphs are baby lice. They look like adult lice but smaller. Adult lice are hard to see since they are about the size of a sesame seed. Adult lice can live for up to 30 days on a person's head, but they die within 2 days away from the scalp.

HOW DO THEY SPREAD?

Head lice spread easily, especially where people are in close contact. They are very common among school-aged children or children in child care.

- Head lice spread through direct hair-to-hair contact or indirectly by sharing hats, combs, hairbrushes and headphones.
- Head lice don't fly or hop, but crawl very quickly.
- The head lice that live on people are different from the kind that live on cats or dogs. People cannot get head lice from animals.

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU HAVE HEAD LICE?

One of the first signs of head lice is an itchy scalp, but it's possible to have head lice without any symptoms. Most itchy scalps are not from head lice. If your child has an itchy scalp or was exposed to head lice, check his hair right away. Check again once a week for 2 weeks in case you missed them.

HOW DO I CHECK FOR HEAD LICE?

Look carefully through the hair for live lice and nits. If you only find nits, your child may not have head lice. Usually children have no more than 10 to 20 live lice.

- Because lice are so small, good lighting is important. A magnifying glass may help.
- Head lice move fast and are hard to see. You may just see movement rather than the actual lice. Lice are usually found very close to the scalp, at the bottom of the neck and behind the ears.
- To look for nits, part hair in small sections, moving from one side of the head to the other. Look close to the scalp. If you only find nits and no lice, check again every day for 1 week to make sure that you did not miss any live lice.

HOW CAN I TREAT HEAD LICE?

Do not treat anyone with a head lice product unless you find live lice in their hair. If someone in the house has lice, check all family members.

Head lice can be treated in a variety of ways:

Insecticides

Insecticides are chemicals that kill insects. In Canada, 2 insecticides are approved to treat head lice:

- pyrethrin (found in R&C shampoo + conditioner)
- permethrin (Nix creme rinse or Kwellada-P creme rinse)
 Pyrethrin and permethrin are safe when used on humans over two months old. You do not need a prescription. Over time, head lice have become resistant to some of the chemicals used to kill them. So some products may be less effective than they used to be. But they are still worth trying.

Pediculosis (Head Lice) cont'd

How to apply insecticides:

- Follow package directions carefully.
- Don't leave the shampoo or rinse in the hair longer than directed.
- Rinse hair with cool water after the treatment. It's best to rinse over a sink, not in the bath or shower, so that other body parts don't come in contact with the product.
- Repeat the treatment after 7 to 10 days, in case new lice hatched from the nits.
 These treatments can sometimes make the scalp itchy or can leave a mild burning feeling. If your child is scratching after treatment, it does not necessarily mean the lice are back.

Non-insecticides

- Isopropyl myristate/cyclomethicone (Resultz) is approved for use in Canada, but it should only be used in children 4 years
 of age and older. It dehydrates the lice and they die. Apply to a dry scalp and rinse with warm water after 10 minutes. Repeat
 after 1 week.
- Silicone oil dimeticone (NYDA) is effective against live lice, nymphs and nits. It is **not recommended for children under 2** years old. A second treatment is recommended after 8 to 10 days.
- Benzyl alcohol lotion 5% (Ulesfia) is effective against live lice but a second treatment is recommended after 9 days. These products are usually more expensive than insecticides. It is not known for sure whether they work better.

Other treatments

- Some people suggest home remedies such as mayonnaise, petroleum jelly, olive oil, vinegar or margarine. Although these products may make it hard for lice to breathe, they probably won't kill them.
- There is little evidence that wet combing (removing lice by combing wet hair with a fine-tooth comb) works all on its own.
- There is no evidence that products such as tea tree oil or aromatherapy work to treat head lice.
- Ivermectin is a drug that can be taken by mouth or used as a cream, but it is not approved for use in Canada.
- Never use gasoline or kerosene. These products can be extremely dangerous.

DO I NEED TO DISINFECT THE HOUSE IF SOMEONE HAS HEAD LICE?

Because head lice don't live long off the scalp, there is no need for extra cleaning.

However, you do need to get rid of lice or nits from items that touch the head such as hats, pillowcases, combs and brushes:

- Wash items in hot water and dry them in a hot dryer for at least 15 min; or
- Store the items in an airtight plastic bag for 2 weeks. Use a Ziploc-type bag that is airtight. A regular shopping bag often has little holes.

SHOULD CHILDREN WITH HEAD LICE STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL?

Children with head lice should be treated and then attend school or child care as usual. 'No-nit' policies that keep children with head lice or nits after treatment away from school are not necessary because:

- Head lice are common among young children. Many days of school would be missed if children had to stay home.
- People are often wrong when they think a child has head lice. It would be unfortunate to see children missing school when they don't really have lice.
- Making children stay at home will not get rid of head lice. Often, other children in the class have lice but don't have any symptoms. Without treatment, they will continue to spread lice.
- Head lice don't spread disease. They are a nuisance and unpleasant, but they are not dangerous.

HOW TO PREVENT HEAD LICE?

Teach your child to avoid head-to-head contact. Children should not share combs, hairbrushes, tuques, hats or hair accessories.

PAGE 6

From the Library

Our next **literacy event** will be the week of **February 13 to 17, 2017**. We will be hosting an **English Book Fair** with **Scholastic**. Our school community is invited to visit our library in room #119 and take part of the event. All profits will be used to support and enrich our library collection.

Here is the schedule for the Book Fair:

Monday, Feb. 13 from 8:30am to 3:00pm (class visit)

Tuesday, Feb. 14 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Wednesday, Feb. 15 from 8:00am to 4:00pm

Thursday, Feb. 16 from 8:00am to 6:00pm

Friday, Feb. 17 8:00am to 11:00am CLOSED at 11:00am for packing up materials

Enjoy this Literacy event and Happy Reading!

Francis Hamelin

Teacher-Librarian

Mega Hoops Basketball

The students at SWL had the great opportunity to take part in the Mega Hoops program from Jan 23-27. Each class participated in this exciting and energetic program during their physical education classes and everyone had a blast. Through engaging fun-filled activities, the students learned about the many different ways to pass and dribble a basketball, the proper shooting technique, and how to move around the court when playing offense and defense. We have amazing basketball players at this school and the Mega Hoops instructors were very impressed with the sportsmanship and athleticism of all our athletes.

Way to go SWL!

















Secondary School Parent Course Selection Workshops The workshops will be offered at the Markham South Welcome Centre on Jan. 26th from 6:00pm -8:00pm and at Unionville High School on Feb. 2nd from 6:00pm - 8:00pm. Parent Engagement & Network (P.E.N.) Workshop Series (Mandarin & Cantonese) **Ontario Secondary Schools and Course** selection (安省中学系统和学科的类别) The Ontario secondary school learning environment 安省中学学习环境 Graduation requirements and types of courses安省中学毕业条件/学科类别 Post-secondary pathways中学毕业后的不同出路 Where to find information about Ontario universities and colleges 如何找到安省大学和大专学院信息 Date and location日期和地點: Thursday, January 26, 2017 1月26日(星期四)Markham South Welcome Centre 南萬錦迎新 中心(7220 Kennedy Road, Unit 8, Markham, L3R 7P2) 或OR Thursday, February 2, 2017 2月2日(星期四)Unionville High School (201 Town Centre Blvd, Markham, ON L3R 8G5) Time 時間: 6:00—8:00pm 下午6時至8時 Speaker 講員(Mandarin普通话): Cathy Ng (吳老師) Speaker 講員(Cantonese廣東話): Dennis Lee (李老師) Registration 网上報名: https://goo.gl/OEKX63 Inquires 查詢: Wai Chi Wu (School Settlement Worker 吳姑娘) 416-566-1733 Cathy Ng (吳老師) cathy.ng@yrdsb.ca his program is organized & facilitated by: െ 🤨 Immigration, Réfugiés Immigration, Refugees and Cilizenship Canada el Cilovenneté Canada United Way

Caribou Contests



The Caribou Mathematics Competition is a <u>worldwide</u> online contest that is held six times throughout the school year. Each of these days, six contests are offered, one for each of the grade levels 3/4, 5/6, 7/8

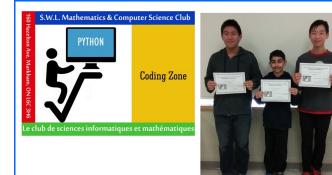
For the month of January 2017, our congratulations go out to:

- Naomi (Grade 8 M. Gratton) Rank: 124th out of 7104 (top 2%)
- Emma (Grade 6 Mme. Didone) Rank: 96th out of 6970 (top 2%)
- Lucia (Grade 3 M. Perret) Rank: 291st out of 5154 (top 6%)

Congratulations, you have made Sir Wilfrid Laurier so proud!



SWL Mathematics & Computer Science Club



The S.W.L. Mathematics and Computer Science Club is a coding space where PYTHON programming language is dominating.

The following students successfully created a program to show "**The Fibonacci Sequence**" (the series of numbers: 0, 1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, 21, 34 ...) ending by any term number chosen by the user.

Our congratulations go out to:

- Ethan
- Justin
- Matin

National Sweater Day is February 2nd

National Sweater Day is a fun way to learn about the importance of saving energy and to inspire you to use less heat all winter. Heating accounts for 80% of residential energy use in Canada and is a significant source of emissions. If all Canadians lowered their thermostats by just 2 degrees Celsius this winter, it would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 4 megatons – that's equivalent to shutting down a 600 mega watt coal-fired power station or taking nearly 700,000 cars off the road! **Students encourage your families to turn down the heat at home by 2 degrees Celsius and wear a sweater to school on February 2nd**!



Higher Order Thinking Question

On behalf of S.W.L. Math Department, we would like to congratulate the following students on their achievements and remarkable success in solving the High Order Thinking Question Intermediate level for the month of January. The winners of the best solution are:



National Flag of Canada Day is February 15

Wednesday, February 15 is National Flag of Canada Day.

Bring in your Canadian Flags and wear red and white to school on February 15.

Join the fun! Celebrate our cherished national symbol!



YRDSB School Climate Survey for Students

Students in Grades 5 to 12 at the York Region District School Board will be invited to participate in a survey between March 20 and April 28, 2017. The survey is voluntary, anonymous and confidential, and will take place at school.

The YRDSB survey fulfills the Ontario Ministry of Education's requirement for schools to conduct student surveys and is aligned with the YRDSB's Board Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being. Survey questions will address topics related to Math, Modern Learning, Mental Health and Well-Being, Equity and School Safety.

This survey provides an opportunity to hear directly from students and the results will be used to identify student needs and plan strategies to support student achievement and well-being. If you have questions, please contact the school office.

If you do not wish your child(ren) to participate in the survey, please contact the school by March 10, 2017.

Scientist in the School

The grade two classes attended a Scientists in the Schools workshop on simple machines in January. The young "physicists" learned about the six simple machines during hands on centres. A big thank you to the volunteer parents who helped!









Our first Pajama Movie Night is on Friday February 24th, @ 6:00pm

Purchase your tickets via School Cash Online before they are all sold out!



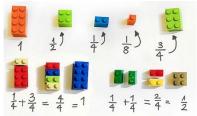
Get in touch & stay in touch...

Contacts for Pizzas: <u>joyceakacj@gmail.com</u>, Lunch Lady Fun Lunches: <u>helen@thelunchlady.ca</u> and for Subs: <u>elisaLau.intl@gmail.com</u>

Stay in the know and tell us how we are doing! Email us at <u>sir.wilfrid.laurier.ps@sc.yrdsb.ca</u>

Stay tuned for...

Our exciting Family Math Night on March 29th! Check out this site: <u>www.jump2math.ca</u> for a glimpse of what to expect! Volunteers are needed! Please contact Elisa: <u>elisaLau.intl@gmail.com</u>



This event is made possible by the Parent Reaching Out (PRO) grant. Parents who attend this FREE event will receive e-books to continue the learning with supports to tutor their kids at home!

International week in March. For the whole week we will celebrate diversity and promote equity and inclusivity at school!

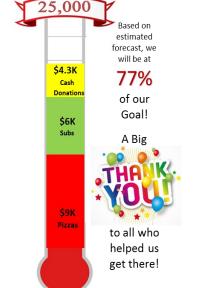


Fundraising Updates!

Holiday Cookies were a hit!



Donate to the School Investment in Education online anytime! https://yrdsb.schoolcashonline.com/



FEBRUARY 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Day 2 Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 4C, some 4D Int Boys Basketball 12:45	2 Day 3 SWEATER DAY Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 4B, some 4D Jr Co-ed Volleyball tournament Shaune Boothe Presenttation Gr 5-8 Int Boys Basketball	3 Day 0 PA DAY NO SCHOOL	4
5	6 Day 4 Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 2A, some 2E Int Boys Basketball 10:10-10:40am Senior Band Music Rm 12:45-1:20pm	7 Day 5 Jr Assembly Gr 4-6 Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 2B, some 2F Int Boys Basketball 12:45-1:20pm	8 Day 1 Pizza Lunch Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 2C, Gr2s fr 23A & 23B	9 Day 2 Senior Band 12:45-1:20pm Swan Lake Outdoor Ed Trip 2D Int Boys Basketball 12:45-1:20pm Int Boys Basketball vs SJAM and LBP 3-5:30pm	10 Day 3 Sub Lunch Immunizations Gr7	11
12	 Day 4 Int Girls Area Basketball Tournament 8am-3:30pm Senior Band Music Rm 12:45-1:20pm English Book Fair 	14 Day 5 Boys basketball practice 12:20-1:20 English Book Fair	15 Day 1 National Flag of Canada Day Report Cards go home English Book Fair	16 Day 2 Boys basketball practice 12:20-1:20 English Book Fair	17 Day 3 Boys basketball practice 12:20-1:20 English Book Fair	18
19	20 Family day no school	21 Day 4 High School Signed Course Selection Forms Due Int Boys Area Basket- ball Tournament 8am-2pm Gr3 Scientist in the School Gr3s of 2/3A, 2/3B AM, 3E PM Rm 132	22 Day 5 Pizza Lunch Gr3 Scientist in the School 3D in AM, 3B in PM Rm 132	23 Day 1 Math & Computer Club 12:45-1:20pm Rm 205 Int. Assembly 9am	24 Day 2 Sub Lunch Senior Band 12:45-1:20pm Gr3 Scientist in the School 3A in AM, 3C in PM Rm 132 Pajama Movie Night 6pm	25
26	27 Day 3 Senior Band Music Rm 12:45-1:20pm	28 Day 4				