

March 2010

A proud member of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network



Administrator's Greeting

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The school was alive with activity this past month. All classes celebrated French week with dressing as voyageurs, pancake making, bannock making, making sashes, folk dancing, and a school assembly and sing along with traditional Voyageur songs. Our school Concours d'art oratoire was held on the 25th. Students participated in the Division Skating Races at the MTS Centre on the evening of the 25th. It was quite an experience to skate on that ice. The choir is busy preparing for their Music Festival performance on March 3 in the morning at Westminster United Church.

Report cards will be sent home on Friday, March 19 and Student Led Conferences are on Wednesday evening, March 24th, and all day on Thursday, March 25th. A letter and form requesting an appointment time will go out on March 11th. Please return the form as soon as possible so that we may schedule a conference at a convenient time period for you. Please be aware that you do not need to wait until the scheduled conference times to meet and discuss your children's programs. If you ever have any concerns and/or questions, I urge you to meet with your children's teachers about them.

As we approach the spring and final term of the school year many decisions have to be made about the next school year, ranging from the Division budget to decisions regarding the best placement and program for your children. All of the neighbouring schools with Grade 7 programs have made presentations to our Grade 6's, and now is the time for you and your children to discuss which Grade 7 program is best for them. Kindergarten parents need to also consider what Grade 1 program is best for their children. We held an information evening on our Grade 1 programs at the end of January. If you are still undecided about which Grade 1 program would best suit your children, Mme Huggins and I would be happy to discuss the matter with you.

At this time we are already planning for next year. We are striving to make enrolment projections for the upcoming school year. Staffing for our students is directly related to student numbers. If you know that you will be moving, or that your children will be attending another school, please let the office know. I also ask you to encourage neighbours who have children eligible for Nursery or Kindergarten to register early to ensure that a space is available for them.

In closing, I would like to remind all of you about the fundraising seed sale that the Parent Advisory Council is running in conjunction with Sage Garden Herbs. Your children have brought home information about it and an order form. Also, I urge you to come out to the Parent Advisory Council meetings. The next meeting is on Tuesday, March 16th. Some of their important initiatives are playground improvements, garden beautification and upkeep, a seed and plant sale, and of course, the June picnic.

Sincerely,

Roberta Hechter

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Looking ahead:

Tuesday, March 2—Fun
Food Lunch, 2:45 Early
Dismissal

Wed. March 24—
Evening—Student-Led-
Conferences

Thurs. March 25, - No
Classes—Student-Led-
Conferences all day.

Mon. Mar. 30—Fri. Apr. 1—
Spring Break

Monday, April 5, School
reopens.

Tuesday, April 6, Early
Dismissal—Staff Meeting



PICNIC! PICNIC! PICNIC!



It's time to start planning our annual Community Picnic.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

We need over 100 volunteers for this event. Do you have ideas? Opinions? Criticisms?

We need Picnic Coordinators, Crew Chiefs, Assistant Crew Chiefs and more.

Anyone interested please come to the next meeting, Wednesday, March 10 at 7:00pm.

HAVE YOU BEEN TOO BUSY TO VOLUNTEER AT SCHOOL?

THIS IS YOUR CHANCE TO BE INVOLVED.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Please contact the volunteer coordinator with questions/concerns:

Rannie @415-4358 or kimrannie@gmail.com



Vegetable, herb and flower seeds available for sale !!!

Are you getting excited about spring? Do you begin preparing early for your yard? Vegetable, herb and flower seeds available for sale. Order forms went home with students and are due back March 8. Extra forms available from the office.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES...

The Sage Garden Plant Sale will be held at the school the afternoon of Wednesday, May 5th. Volunteers will be needed to assist Sage Garden staff with set-up, at the sale itself, and to clean up after.

Grade 4/Grade 6 girls' Immunizations scheduled for Thursday, May 6. Volunteers needed from 9:00am to approximately 11:45am to monitor children and provide snacks and kindness.

***Merci Beaucoup* to the staff and volunteers for all the activities during French Week!**

Bannock, Pancakes, Voyageur Sashes, Mini Tuques, Sing-a-longs and more.

Thank you to all the teachers for providing this experience for our children.

Thank you to the volunteers:

Jessica, Rhona, Kelly, Carol, Chantel, Brenda, Nicole, Donna, Vanessa, Ruth, Mandie and Alicia.

Your help is greatly appreciated!!



Teachers' Appreciation Dinner

It's time again for all of us to show our appreciation for the incredible efforts of the staff at École Laura Secord School. Parents and guardians are asked to please make, bake or bring a contribution to a staff meal the afternoon of Wednesday, March 24th before Student-Led Conferences that evening. This allows the teachers to have something to eat during their busy afternoon and evening. All items are to be brought to the staff lounge and **must** have a name on it for identification. This is a great way to show our gratitude to the best teachers in Winnipeg!



Concours d'art oratoire

Congratulations to all the students who participated in Laura Secord's Concours d'art oratoire. The speeches were interesting and very well done.

The following students will be going on to the divisional finals being held on March 15th at École Riverview:

Catriona	Aidan
Paulina	Andrea

Honourable mentions to the following students for a job well done:

Max	Leah
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Cold Weather

Indoor recess

Students stay indoors for recess when the wind chill reaches -28 degrees Celsius.

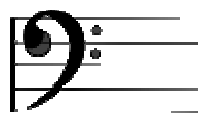
Bus cancellation

During the school year there may be times when school bus transportation is cancelled due to inclement weather or poor driving conditions, but schools will remain open.

School bus transportation for all school divisions in the City of Winnipeg is cancelled when the wind chill reaches -45° C by 6:15 a.m. based on the Environment Canada readings at the Winnipeg Airport. The temperature readings can be found at the Environment Canada website (<http://www.weatheroffice.gc.ca>).

When bus transportation is cancelled in the morning, it will not resume later in the day even if weather conditions improve.

The following media outlets are contacted in the early morning to ask that they broadcast and/or post the information:
89.3 CBC FM; 990 CBC AM; CKSB 89.9 FM (French); CJOB-680 AM; Power 97-FM; 1290 CFRW; 99.9 BOB-FM; Q94-FM; 92 CITI FM; 102.3 CLEAR FM; CKMM Hot 103; QX 04 FM; CTV News; City TV; Winnipeg Free Press website



École Laura Secord School Students Perform at Winnipeg Music Festival

The choir of École Laura Secord School will be performing at the *Winnipeg Music Festival* on Wednesday, March 3, 2010. We will be singing in the School Chorus class which has a number of entries. It appears that we will be singing last in the morning section (approximately 11.15 am) of the class which begins at 10.00 am. The choir will be performing "*The Trout*" by Franz Schubert and "*Obwisana*" an arrangement of an African folk song.

Parents and friends are welcome to attend this event which is held at Westminster United Church (Maryland and Westminster). There is a nominal admission fee.

Robotics

This year Laura Secord received a generous grant from the Winnipeg School Division to pilot a robotics program for students in Grades 5 and 6. Each class chose students to attend 4 afternoon robotics sessions with Herb Reynolds from Manitoba Robot Games. They learned about building a controller and a wheel base, soldering and followed the design process to make, test and improve their own robots. Comments from students included “I never knew it was so difficult to get the wiring right”, “It was awesome”, “It was cool seeing all the different types of designs others thought of”.

On Saturday, March 20th, the students are invited to bring their robots to the Manitoba Robot Games that will be held at Tec Voc. The public is also welcome to come and watch.



Daylight Saving Time

Daylight Saving Time (DST) becomes effective at
2:00 a.m. on

Sunday, March 14. Clocks are to be advanced one hour to reflect this change.

**Our school newsletter is
posted to
our website every month.
www.wsd1.org/laurasecord
Click on 'news'**



SKATING RACES

Over 34 Laura Secord students participated in the Winnipeg School Division Skating Races at the MTS Centre on Wednesday evening, February 25th. We had a great cheering section full of parents. The students skated hard, showed wonderful sportsmanship and represented Laura Secord and the community very well. Bravo to our students!

CanWest Canspell Spelling Bee

Congratulations to Eva . She represented École Laura Secord School at the CanWest Canspell Spelling Bee on Saturday, February 20. Eva went to round four to spell the word “isobar”.

Congratulations Eva!!

MYRCA CLUB



News from the Library

MYRCA club has been meeting every Friday for the last two months. We have had a great time reading, talking and blogging about our favourite books for the last number of weeks. Voting for their favourite MYRCA book will take place Friday, March 19th at lunch hour. I am looking forward to finding out what the favourite MYRCA book will be at Laura Secord School!

Overdue and/or lost books

We will be collecting all the library books before March break. We are currently sending out letters to remind kids to bring in their overdue library books. Please call us in the library if you have any questions.

Remember: call 783-1780 if your child will be late or absent...

March 2010

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1 Day 4	2 Day 5 Fun Food Lunch 2:45 Early Dismissal—Staff Meeting	3 Day 6 AM Choir Music Festival Westminster United Church  2:00 P.M. Contemporary Dancers @ Laura Secord	4 Day 1 9:15 in Library—Basic French Poetry Competition	5 Day 2 Am—Rm. 313 to Planetarium
8 Day 3	9 Day 4	10 Day 5	11 Day 6 Evening—Optional Conferences	12 Day 1
15 Day 2	16 Day 3 Am—Patrols @ Wheelies <u>7:00 P.M. Parent Council</u>	17 Day 4 PM - Rms. 201, 203, 220, 115, 317, 303, 304, 314, 216 to MTYP	18 Day 5 1:00 PM—Rms. 118, 110, 213, 214, 301, 313 to MTYP	19 Day 6 Reports home
22 Day 1	23 Day 2	24 Day 3 PM—Rm. 303 to Misericordia 3:30—8:30 Student-Led-Conferences	25 Day 4 NO CLASSES N-6 Student-Led-Conferences	26 Day 5 Last Day of School
29	30	31	Spring Break	