



We Strive for the Highest

LAURIER HOTLINE

Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School

Home of the Lancers



February 2015

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Mental health problems affect 1 in 5 Canadians. Most people will begin to struggle with these problems before 24 years of age. Parents can watch these videos at www.haveTHATtalk.com to learn how they can talk about stress, coping, depression and when and where to get help. For more information contact Ottawa Public Health at 613-580-6744 or visit www.ottawa.ca/health.

Principal's Message

We are now into the second half of the school year and I hope that students have enjoyed a successful semester one at Sir Wil. There continue to be many clubs, teams and special activities for students to get involved with. A sense of belonging and connectedness within our school community can be achieved by joining one of these opportunities.

Our school hours for 2015-2016 have been confirmed as 8:30 a.m. to 2:35 p.m. Thank you to those members of our school community who provided feedback to OSTA (Ottawa Student Transportation Authority) in the bell time consultation period.

We have some staff changes in second semester. We bid farewell to teacher **Tricia Leduc** who has moved to Colonel By S.S. as the new teacher-librarian, and to educational assistant **Gabrielle Filby** who is now working in a variety of OCDSB schools. Teachers **Allison Bruneau**, **Laura Killen**, **Dana Wardrop**, and **Rebecca Wemyss** have completed their temporary assignments. We welcome returning teachers **Heather Buchanan** and **Rosalie Crich**. We are pleased that educational assistant **Catherine Rochon** and teachers **Graham Clark**, **Allison Cleary**, **Melissa Jerome**, **Amy Loder**, **Anita Permanand**, **Wesley Scheer-Hennings** and **Megan Schwartz** have joined our team.

Our entire staff was saddened by the passing of **Ruth MacLeod**. Ruth was a much respected member of our office staff for many years. Ruth lost her battle with cancer on January 10th. She is sorely missed.

This year's **Link Crew** class was honoured to receive the first Caring and Kindness award given out as part of February's Kindness Week in the City of Ottawa. The award was presented by Rabbi Reuven Bulka and Cindy Smith of the Caring and Sharing Exchange. Compassionate and attentive, the Link Crew students are responsible for mentoring and supporting our grade 9 Lancers. The Sir Wil community is very proud of our Link students and the Caring and Kindness award they have received. See the photo on page 2.

Thank you for taking the time to read our school newsletter. Our most current information is maintained on our school website. I encourage parents and guardians to consider attending School Council meetings, where your presence is always welcomed. I look forward to continued partnerships with you for student success at Sir Wil!

Barry Armstrong

Student Services

COOP

Congratulations to **Kyle Carter** who has been accepted into the Level 1 Automotive Service Technician starting in February at Algonquin College. Kyle will attend Algonquin and finish his last two credits for his high school diploma through the coop program at Sir Wil.

GUIDANCE—Option Sheets

Counsellors have been making option sheet presentations to students starting the week of February 9. When deciding which courses and/or level of course to take next year, students are encouraged to discuss their choices with their parents and subject teachers. Starting this year, students are asked to fill out the option sheet online at www.CareerCruising.com. Written instructions along with log-in and password information will be distributed in February.

After the course selections are made at home, students will print the option sheet and bring it back to Sir Wil with a parent's signature. Option sheets are due on March 2. Be sure to submit your option sheet on time so that you get the courses you want! Please choose your courses carefully because no changes will be done once the timetabling has been completed in June.

Scholarships

Graduating students are reminded to check the bulletin board outside Student Services and the scholarship binder in the Guidance office. They may also meet with **Ms. Crawford** to receive more information on various scholarships offered.

For students seeking assistance in paying tuition fees, the site <http://osap.gov.on.ca> gives information on loans and bursaries. It will be up and running in late April or early May.

Student Transfers

The **Student Transfer Application** period in the **Ottawa-Carleton District School Board** for the **2015-2016 school year** is from **February 9-20, 2015**.

Parents or guardians of students who wish to attend a school other than their designated school should complete an **application form** and submit it to the school they wish to attend.

A student who is not currently attending an Ottawa-Carleton District School Board school must register at his/her designated school **prior to** completing a Student Transfer Application/Tracking Form.

BABYSITTING COURSES—Age 10-16

Friday, March 20 *or* Saturday, March 28 *or* Saturday, April 11, 2015
 Orleans Library—10am to 4pm—Cost \$55
 Register: www.biblioOttawaLibrary.ca/en/program
 Call Elaine at 613-443-2027 or email: menard@menardsc.com

Global Studies

Canadian film maker **Andrée Cazabon** screened her short documentary, *3rd World Canada*, to a grade 10 Civics class and grade 12 Writer's Craft class. Her film touches on very tragic events in the First Nations community of Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug (KI) in Northwestern Ontario. She spoke to the students after the film about the active citizenship of the youth from the First Nations reserve.

The senior politics class attended the NATO conference at Foreign Affairs Canada. The theme dealt with the unfolding situation in Ukraine. The politics class also had an opportunity to listen to retired general **Andrew Leslie** speak about the relationship between Canadian foreign policy and the Canadian military.

Ms Rab's grade 9 geography class invited the school to come and see their Attractions Canada summative projects in the library. The event was well attended and the students and visitors had a great learning experience. **Mr Fyfe** took his grade 10 civics students to Parliament Hill and Rideau Hall.

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF GRADUATING STUDENTS



While there may be a student-run "Grad Committee," it functions as a non-authorized body. Its activities are neither approved nor sanctioned by Sir Wilfrid Laurier Secondary School nor by the Ottawa-Carleton District School Board. Please check the letter to parents of graduating students from the principal on the school website.

Upcoming Musical and Theatrical Events—

⇒ **Jazz Dinner:** Feb. 19—Doors open @ 6 p.m.
 Dinner & Concert @ 6:30 p.m.



⇒ **School Play "Once Upon A Mattress"**
 Apr. 22-23-24—Doors open 6:30; Curtain 7 p.m.



Link Crew 2015—recipients of Caring and Kindness Award

Dates to Remember 2014-2015

Friday, February 13, 2015	Secondary Professional Activity Day
Monday, February 16, 2015	Family Day Holiday
Monday, March 16 to Friday, March 20, 2015	March Break
Thursday, March 26, 2015	EQAO Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test
Friday, April 3 and Monday, April 6, 2015	Good Friday and Easter Monday Holidays
Thursday, April 9, 2015	Parent/Teacher Interviews
Monday, May 18, 2015	Victoria Day Holiday
Tuesday & Wednesday, June 9 & 10, 2015	EQAO Grade 9 Math Assessment
Wednesday, June 17 to Tuesday, June 23, 2015	Final Examinations
Wednesday, Thursday & Friday, June 24, 25, & 26, 2015	Secondary Professional Activity Days
Friday, June 26, 2015	Commencement and Last Day of School Year