

ECOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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<http://go.vsb.bc.ca/schools/selkirk/Pages/default.aspx>



THE CEDARS' BARK- October 2017

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|--------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Principal: | Shannon Burton | 604-713-4650 |
| Vice Principal | Dominic Maggiolo | 604-713-4650 |
| Director of Instruction: | Aaron Davis | 604-713-4424 |

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It was great to see such a wonderful turn out for our Meet the Teacher Night/Meet Selkirk School Night. There are many wonderful things happening at Lord Selkirk in and outside the classroom.

We have goal setting conferences approaching on October 11th and 12th. **The dismissal time on both these days is 2 pm. Please ensure your child is picked up at 2pm.** These conferences are a great opportunity to look at your child's goals for this term.

We encourage children and their parents to approach goal setting conferences with a growth mindset. In a growth mindset, one believes that intelligence and ability can be developed through dedication and hard work. This mind set creates determination and a love of learning. In a fixed mindset, one's basic qualities such as intelligence or ability are traits which are fixed and static. Too much time is spent doubting abilities instead of developing them. There is a focus on static achievement such as A's and B's rather than on the progress and development of abilities, skills and attitudes. We strive to teach a growth mind set to help children develop a love of learning and view their abilities as ones that can be developed and fostered over time. As we approach goal setting conferences, children, parents and teachers will help shape goals that are not only S.M.A.R.T (specific, measurable, agreed upon, realistic, timely), but ones which focus improving student's quality of thinking, determination and desire to learn.

The new BC Curriculum supports this growth based mindset, incorporating core competencies which children develop along a continuum. You will be seeing a movement towards a strength based assessment continuum from beginning to developing. I will be sharing more information in the newsletter and throughout the year on the changes in Communicating Student Learning (previously known as reporting).

I would like take the time to thank all the parents for their support and contributions to the Selkirk community. We are partners in education together. The Selkirk Parent Group (PAC) is looking forward to many upcoming community events. The PAC AGM is October 17th and is a great way to learn about the school and get involved.

There is more information in this newsletter about some upcoming events and dates. Keep your eyes and ears open for ways you can get involved in helping make Selkirk an even better place to be. It takes a village to raise a child and we, together, are that village.

I look forward to seeing you around the school, volunteering at various events or just popping in to say hi.

Sincerely,

Shannon Burton

Principal Lord Selkirk School

IMPORTANT DATES

| | |
|------------|--|
| October 9 | Thanksgiving School Closed |
| October 11 | Conferences-early dismissal 2 pm |
| October 11 | Photo Packages Due |
| October 12 | Conferences-early dismissal 2 pm |
| October 16 | YWCA program start-gr 7s |
| October 17 | Quebec Meeting 5:30 |
| October 17 | PAC AGM 6:30 |
| October 18 | Be Active Everyday Sessions-Drs of BC |
| October 19 | Cross Country Final 1-3pm |
| October 20 | Pro D Day-No school |
| October 27 | Immunization-k/6 |
| October 31 | Halloween Spirit Day |
| November 1 | Kindergarten Registration Opens (regular and grade 1 FI) |

COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING PILOT-CHANGES TO REPORTING

As a province and school district with the new BC Curriculum we are striving to:

- promote a growth mindset and lifelong learning
- move learning along a continuum rather than a static experience
- encourage critical thinking and self-reflection
- develop self-efficacy
- have students develop independence for themselves and over their own learning

In order to align with the new curriculum a shift in reporting is required. Lord Selkirk school will be part of a pilot project this year with the Vancouver School Board. This gives us the opportunity to trial the proposed new reporting (Communicating Student Learning) methods and provide feedback on them. The anticipated date for a new reporting policy is 2018-2019, therefore this is a wonderful opportunity for our school community to have a

role in testing and giving our feedback prior to a policy being developed.

The main highlights of this pilot include:

1. A shift from primarily focusing on summative assessment to primarily focusing on formative assessment:

- Part of the redesigned BC Curriculum
- Ongoing personal feedback embedded in daily instruction and examples of student work are more critical to supporting student learning than simply reporting on student results.
- The communication is based on clear standards and expectations and is intended to make learning visible. Students are encouraged to think of the questions:
 - Where am I now?
 - Where am I going?
 - What do I need to do to get there?

2. 5 required communications with parents within a school year:

- a minimum of three ongoing communications of student learning throughout the school year (timing at the teacher's discretion)
- based on authentic evidence of student learning from a variety of sources (examples of student work, photographs, audio, video, portfolios)
- can occur in different ways (three-way conferences, electronic portfolio reviews, parent-teacher meetings, reflections on student work, on-line platforms, telephone conversations, interim written reports)
- are recorded on the Record of Ongoing Communications of Student Learning form
- one written Progress Report at the end of January
- one written Summative Report at the end of June
- No letter grades, but must be provided to parents on request

I will be speaking at the PAC meeting on October 17th about this. In addition, I will be giving a more detailed presentation at a later date.

SAFE ARRIVAL AND REPORTING YOUR CHILD' ABSENCES

Reporting Student Absences:

Ensuring student safety is a shared responsibility. In order to assist schools, we ask parents to notify schools of student absences.

To Report Your Childs Absence – Please call (604)713-5159 prior to 9 am. Please press # and then # you will then be prompted to provide the two-digit (76) extension for the student's school to access the school's voice mailbox for reporting an absence. #-#-76-#

Student Sign out Procedure

When you pick up your child during the school day, please ensure that you sign them out at the school office. If you do not sign out your child, they will be unaccounted for, and the school will identify your child as a 'missing' student and will commence a search of school grounds. If the school staff do not locate the child, and are unable to reach a parent promptly, the school will call the Vancouver Police Department. Therefore, clear communication is essential for ensuring the safety of your child and to prevent unnecessary searches.

Thank you for helping us keep your children safe!

HALLOWEEN SPIRIT DAY



Spirit Club will be hosting Selkirk's first Spirit Day of the school year on Oct 31.

We encourage everyone to show their school

spirit by joining in on the festivities and wearing a costume to school on Tuesday Oct. 31st. Each costume worn earns a spirit point for your class. At the end of the year we tally up the spirit points earned over the year and give prizes to the classes who participated the most. Last year 8 classes won prizes!

Please listen for announcements to remind you of when Spirit poster parties will be held as well as inform you of our upcoming spirit days for each month. Participating in Spirit Days is a fun way to show your school spirit and make connections with other students and staff at Selkirk. Please remember not to bring any fake weapons with your costumes. We look forward to sharing our school spirit with you!!

LIBRARY NEWS

We are very saddened by the loss of our wonderful teacher librarian Teresa Maier. She truly touched the lives of so many people in our community. Her legacy will live on forever, in the books, in the library and in the laughter and joy she would want in our school.

Thank you to everyone who has sent their condolences to family and friends and to those who have left flowers or words of love and compassion in the library.

SPORTS CENTRAL

Cross Country:

This year we have 71 students participating in cross country. So far, we have had 2 mini meets at Trout Lake. All of our students are doing a fantastic job at practices and meets. We have 1 more mini meet and then the final City Wide meet on October 19th. Good luck to all of our students! Way to Go SELKIRK!!! Thank you to Ms Kernohan and Ms. Mani, for coaching.

Soccer

The grade 7 girls soccer team has had an excellent start to their season. So far they are undefeated after playing against Trudeau and Mckenzie Schools. This week the girls will be playing Beaconsfield as well as Tecumseh and Fleming. We wish the girls good luck as they continue to be excellent representatives of our school on the field.



STUDENT LEADERSHIP

All students in grade 5-7 are expected to be involved in a leadership opportunity contributing to the community; these include office monitor, morning message readers, peer helpers, tech crew, hot lunch monitor and library monitors. As part of the social responsibility curriculum they are expected to do 15 hours per term. Sign up is online at the main Selkirk website. Have a discussion with your child about what they are interested in getting involved in this year. Thank you.

Participating in these activities helps the school community while working on developing strong leadership qualities.

TERRY FOX

We are very thankful to Mme Wendy for organizing the TERRY FOX RUN. The staff, students and community had a great day honoring one of the most admirable Canadians in history. We raised \$856 to cancer research. Students, staff and parents got out and ran in the rain with an awareness that Terry himself ran across our country through rain and snow.

SAFETY ANNOUNCEMENT-NO WHEELS

Wheels of any sort, bicycles, scooters, skateboards, MUST BE WALKED from 8:30-3:30 on school grounds. We have had several near collisions including parents and need to reduce these preventable accidents. Thank you for walking your wheels while on the school grounds.



RAINY DAYS

At Selkirk Elementary, every (almost) day is an outside day. There are many undercover areas for students to play in when it is raining and or blustery.

We live in beautiful but rainy Vancouver so that means we must be prepared for rainy weather and go out and get our exercise even if it is rainy. Students should ALL wear proper rain gear including boots or a change of shoes for wearing inside.

Students are encouraged to be active as an essential part of school life. Research is increasingly showing that physical activity improves attention span as well as increases academic performance. Children should be doing 60 minutes or more of physical activity per day and vigorous activity at least 3 times a week.
(<http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/everyone/guidelines/children.html>).

All students at Selkirk are expected to go outside at both recess and lunch so they can get some of this prescribed physical activity. Except for absolute downpours, students are expected to be outside.

Please be sure your children are coming to school dressed for the weather with rain boots

and a rain jacket. Getting some physical activity at lunch hour is essential for students in order to maximize learning in the afternoon.



BOOKS AND BREAKFAST

Everyday Books & Breakfast is held in the 002 room in the basement. We open the doors at 8:15 and serve breakfast until 8:45. All are welcome. It's a great opportunity for students to meet different staff, meet other students in different divisions, get help with homework and have a bite to eat. If your child would like to participate, please make sure to sign the consent form the first morning you drop off your child.

SELKIRK IS ALLERGY AWARE!

Children with a severe food allergy must not eat even tiny amounts of the food that cause them to have an allergic reaction. A severe allergic reaction can come on quickly and cause death. Even when a child tries to be careful, an accident can happen. A child with a food allergy and their families are responsible for staying safe but need help from other children, parents, and teachers to help reduce the risk of an accidental exposure. There are a few ways we can help reduce the risk of allergy and/or anaphylaxis:

We ask that you try to avoid sending foods with nuts and/or seeds.

Teach your child to wash his/her hands with soap and water before and after eating. This helps stop food from getting on other things like desks, toys and books. Washing hands is

good for everyone; it can also help reduce the spread of colds and flus.

Teach your child not to share his/her food, drinks or eating utensils with others. Many children love to share. Teach children to share non food items instead (e.g. toys, stickers, games).



HOT LUNCH

Just a reminder that **Selkirk Hot Lunch Program is a full pay program.** That means that the amount is set for the entire month regardless of how many of the days your child wants to eat.

If you require financial subsidy please contact Ms Burton sburton@vsb.bc.ca to discuss further as this approval needs to be done by administration.

HEALTH LIVING

A strong immune system is the first step in prevention during this upcoming cold and flu season.

Did you know too much sugar can reduce your child's ability to fight infections and make them more susceptible to getting sick! Instead of sugary snacks and treats, offer a wide variety of colourful fruit and veggies including berries, pomegranate, avocado, oranges & pink grapefruit, red grapes, apples, kiwi, tomatoes, sweet potato, peas and spinach. These foods contain important immune boosting nutrients like vitamins A, C, D, E and zinc.

To further boost up your child's defenses, ensure they are getting a good night sleep (school aged kids need 9-11 hours), reduce stress levels and consider supplementing with probiotics, vitamin C & D, and zinc.

SELKIRK PAC

PAC AGM-OCTOBER 17th

Join us at the Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC AGM [Tuesday Oct.17 at 6:30pm](#) in the Selkirk Library

All Selkirk Adults are welcome and encouraged to attend

Vote on your 2017-18 PAC Executive Members

Find out what's coming up this year, and how you can get involved. Even if you only have 1 hour to spare, there is an activity for you!

FREE Childcare and refreshments provided - See you then!

FRESH TO YOU FUNDRAISER

Between October 5th and 19th 2017 the PAC will be collecting orders for fall produce bundles provided by AITC.

The AITC provides a \$25 veggie bundle of local produce and an \$18 apple bundle from BC farms for schools to sell to families and then donate 40% of those sales to our school. Included please find the order form and information about how to share this opportunity with your community. Orders with payment are due October 19 2017. Please make cheques payable to Lord Selkirk PAC.

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1vj8ofh17lebaad/AACgHy5_qCSjYduM_Zabhrk5a?dl=0

Please contact Beverly Walker coordinator if you have any questions.

Beverlykwalker@gmail.com

Completed forms can be returned to:

- Classroom teachers
- In the office, or
- The PAC mailbox outside the Library

The delivery date is November 20 - 30 2017 and will be confirmed after orders are submitted.

PAC also has two fabulous ongoing fundraisers which are an easy way to continually support Lord Selkirk School

1. SPUD FUNDRAISER

Fundraising with SPUD.ca is a win-win - healthy delicious immune boosting foods for your family and 25% of your produce box purchase donated to our school!

Support Selkirk with fresh produce and organic BC apples! Now available - the Best of Fall Box. Is this your first time ordering with SPUD.ca? Just enter the code FUNDRAISING at checkout, select Selkirk Elementary from the drop-down list, complete your order, and your Best of Fall Box will be delivered to your home or office. Get started today at SPUD.ca/fundraising.

2. MABEL'S LABELS FUNDRAISER

Lost coats and lunch bags already? Mabel's labels is the perfect solution for stuff kids lose! Great colours, cool designs, and the labels stay stuck to your kid's stuff.

To order, click on the Support a Fundraiser button and select Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC under 'your school/organization' section. It's an awesome deal - 39 customized labels for only \$16.95 + free shipping. Get started at campaigns.mabelslabels.com, with 20% of your label purchase donated to our school!

**Do you have comments?
Questions? Helpful feedback for your PAC Executive? We'd love to hear from you.
Please get in touch with us
at lordselkirkpac@gmail.com**

Like us on Facebook to make sure you don't miss out on Selkirk PAC Updates. Sign up for our eNews by sending us an email with "Please ADD me to Selkirk PAC eNews" in the subject line. We look forward to connecting with you soon!

SAFE TRAVEL PLANNING

SCHOOL SAFE TRAVEL PLANNING

We are happy to say that through the leadership of our school PAC parents in cooperation with the school and school board, we have greatly improved student safety.

The City of Vancouver will be doing safe travel planning surveys to get a sense of how many families are walking, biking and what the main safety factors are with regards to safe travel. Surveys will go home on October 16th and are to be returned on October 30th. The class with the highest participation will win a pizza party.

As a reminder for the **Safety of Everyone** we ask that you:

- Have your child walk to school
- If you must drop-off or pick-up your child, please do not drop off near the crosswalk. Abide by parking regulations posted.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION 2017-2018

For kindergarten entry in 2018, (children born 2013) registration will begin on Wednesday, November 1st, 2017. **ALL** children will register for kindergarten at their **English catchment school – even if you do not intend to attend there**. This includes students who want to go to French Immersion or other Choice Programs – even siblings of children already in the program. You are encouraged to register between November 1st and January 31st. If your English catchment school does not have space for all the children in the catchment, there will be a lottery in February.

Application for all programs of choice – including French Immersion, Montessori, Mandarin Bilingual, Aboriginal Focus School, and Fine Arts – will begin online sometime in mid-January of 2018 and will close in early February (more specific dates will eventually be posted on the VSB website). <http://www.vsb.bc.ca/kindergarten>.

For Grade 1, Registrations are accepted during office hours (9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.) between November 1 and January 31. Registration is not on a first-come, first-serve basis. In-catchment school draw will be held following the deadline for registration.

LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found is **OVERFLOWING**. Students are tending to leave backpacks, jackets, lunchbags and other items outside. Please come check the lost and found.

After Goals Setting Conferences on October 11th and 12th we will donate all leftover items to Big Brothers Clothing Drive.

KID SING CHORUS-

Are you in grade 1,2 or 3? Do you like to sing? Well Kid Sing is the place for you. Please join us. Forms for participation will be coming home soon. Keep your eyes out and then pass the forms to the office.



RED CROSS BABYSITTING COURSE- December 1st

Red Cross Babysitting Course

So you want to be a babysitter? Or, your parents want you to take this course so they feel confident leaving you at home alone?

Babysitting with First Aid Hero emphasizes learning through real life scenarios. information covered includes: Exploring the business of babysitting, creating safe environments, safely caring for ages 0-12, and first aid skills.



Red Cross Babysitting Course
Selkirk, Dec.1st, 8:30-3:30
Grade 6+
\$60 + GST online registration

<http://www.firstaidhero.com/babysitting-vancouver.html>

TRICK OR TREATING TIPS!

With Halloween approaching, it is important to review safety with children. Please be sure that all costumes are safe and age appropriate for your child. We will have our local police coming on October 31st. to share safety tips.



Trick-or-Treating Tips:

- Always trick or treat in groups, accompanied by an adult.
- Stay on the sidewalks and off the streets.
- Cross only at intersections and designated crosswalks. Follow traffic signals.
- Walk. No running.
- Walk with your head up and be aware of your surroundings.

- Don't cut across yards and stay out of back yards.
- Always watch for cars backing up or turning.
- Respect other people and their property.
- Be polite and say "thank you."
- Don't eat any candy until it has been Inspected for tampering under bright Lights.
- Report any suspicious or criminal activity to an adult or the police.

If you see suspicious activity please call the police immediately. Please help keep our school and community safe.

Fireworks:

Parents are reminded that fireworks may only be bought and used by persons 19 years of age or older, they may only be discharged on private property (not on school property), and that four specific fireworks are banned in Vancouver: Roman candles, bottle rockets, lady fingers and fire crackers. Please go to www.vancouver.ca/fire for more information.