

ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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



THE CEDARS' BARK- February 2019

Principal:	Shannon Burton	604-713-4650
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Director of Instruction:	Aaron Davis	604-713-5016
School Liaison/Trustee	Lois Chan-Pedley	

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

What a wintery past week we have had with the experience of a rare "snow day." This cold weather comes upon us as we officially pass the mid-way point of the school year. Students and staff are already beginning to work on areas of growth as communicated in our Mid-Term Progress Report. Conferences are on March 6th and 7th. These are an important time to share in the success that students have experienced this term. It is a time to give credit for their accomplishments, no matter how big or small. It is also a time to set goals for the remainder of term two. This leaves a lot of time for students to work hard towards their goals before then. This mid way check in point is important for parents to attend in order so they can better know how to support their children's learning at home. Parents can help ensure students are actively engaged in their daily schoolwork and using deep thinking strategies when they come across problems. Encourage them to go further and develop grit (as I spoke about in previous newsletters). This resiliency towards problem solving is critical for their success in adulthood.

On February 27th, we celebrate PINK day where we come together to promote kindness, acceptance and appreciation of diversity. Promoting these key values is an essential part of teaching, both at home and at school. Many of our difficulties are often created from the feeling that we're separate and somehow different from everyone else and feel alienated due to these differences. Part of our job is helping students see that we are ALL similar and different in various ways. It is our differences that make our community vibrant and strong. We accept people regardless of race, language, ability, appearance, religion, or cultural affiliation. Selkirk School and The Vancouver School District prides itself on the inclusive approach to education where diversity is celebrated and equality and mutual respect is promoted. I encourage you to help your child see ways they can show kindness and respect to everyone. We will be launching our WITS program this month to teach students way to deal with conflict and strategies with bullying. I am currently training peer leaders to help on our school yard. Stay tuned for more information.

The rest of the newsletter has important information about what is happening at Selkirk this and next month. Please let me know if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you around the school. As always, my door is always open.

Sincerely,

Mme Burton

IMPORTANT DATES

February 14	Valentines Day
February 15	Curriculum Day - No School
February 18	Family Day – No School
February 19	PAC Meeting- 6:30
February 22	Selkirk Royale
February 26	Seismic Info Session 6:30 – 7:30pm Library
February 27	Pink Shirt Day
February 27	Pink Day Assemblies 10:50 Primary/11:25 Intermediate
March 6 and 7	Early Dismissal 2 pm Conferences
March 15	Last Day Before Spring Break
March 18 –29	Spring Break
April 1	School Re-opens

SEISMIC APPROVAL

We are happy to find out that Selkirk Elementary has received funding to proceed through the seismic mitigation program. Please see attached letter from early this week. This is great news for the Selkirk school community. The project to upgrade Lord Selkirk Elementary includes an upgrade of the frame building. During this time the grade 6 and 7 students will be relocated to their own wing of Gladstone Secondary. This will enable their senior programming to continue and to ensure the learning environment is not disrupted during construction.

The District is committed to maintaining an open and transparent dialogue throughout the Lord Selkirk Elementary seismic upgrade project.

I will be speaking to this at the PAC meeting on February 19th as I have been since September. In addition, we will host an information session on Tuesday February 26th at 6:30 pm in the library.

If you have any questions or feedback about this announcement, please contact me directly at sburton@vsb.bc.ca.

PINK DAY- FEB 27th 2019

We are looking forward to hosting Pink Shirt Day Assemblies for both our primary and intermediate classrooms to talk about kindness, acceptance and anti-bullying. There are a number of books available at our school and the local library to support your child's learning at home.

Pink Day started as a result of an amazing act of friendship by a group of students in Nova Scotia in 2007. We are encouraging all students to wear a pink shirt or something Pink on February 27th to stand together against bullying and all forms of discrimination. Help us celebrate Selkirk diversity and acceptance.

We are working hard at Selkirk to ensure all students feel accepted, included and connected. There are several actions you as a parent can take, at home and at school, to help your child feel more connected to his or her school, including:

- Encourage your child to talk openly with our teachers, counselors, and other school staff about his/her ideas, needs and worries.
- Attend school meetings, read information that the school sends home to you and talk to teachers and staff. Find out what your child is expected to learn and how they should behave in school, and support these expectations at home.
- Help your child with homework and teach him/her about good time management techniques.
- Encourage your child to participate in school activities. Keep informed of these by reading school newsletters, attending parent meetings, checking out the school website, etc.
- Get your child involved in helping other adults – at home, school or in the community. Volunteering is a great way to do this.

- Attend term meetings with your child's teacher to discuss his/her behaviour, accomplishments, challenges, etc.
- Get involved as a parent in various school activities, committees or working groups.

These are only a few ways that you as a parent can get involved. Talk to other parents or those in your school community about what you can do to help support or create a positive school culture, so your child is more connected and supported at school.

10 Tips for Parents that Foster Connections to School

1. Model respectful, cooperative, positive behaviour in your everyday interactions.
2. Participate in school events.
3. Show interest. Be involved in your child's academic activities.
4. Maintain regular contact with your child's teacher.
5. Monitor your child's homework completion and work with him/her on homework assignments that involve family participation.
6. Be present when things go wrong.
7. Know your child's friends and their parents.
8. Ask school leaders what you can do to support them.
9. Volunteer at school.
10. Nominate effective school leaders for local awards.

If you have any questions about this topic, please do not hesitate to speak with Shannon Burton, Selkirk School Principal.



SELKIRK PAC

The next general PAC meeting has been moved to Feb. 19th at 6:30 in the library due to the snow day on the 12th. Come out and hear about the seismic upgrade starting next year and the teachers' wish list for this year! All Selkirk adults are encouraged to attend! We will have babysitting available in the 002 room.

8th Annual Selkirk Royale – Tickets now on sale!

Selkirk Royale 2019 is right around the corner and we can't wait to see you there! Come enjoy the festivities with us on Friday Feb. 22nd 2019. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets available for \$15 now at <https://squareup.com/store/LordSelkirkPAC> Our annual fundraiser provides over \$10,000 to support Selkirk programs and services.

We are still looking for volunteers to help make this event run well! Please visit

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1nPVRCoZdKkceAmgD2FdwJ9n6y22Npe3iF7MemS6BKXY/edit?usp> sharing to sign up for a shift

Canucks Fundraiser for Selkirk!

The Vancouver Canucks are pleased to provide everyone an exclusive ticket offer to select upcoming home games at Rogers Arena to cheer on your Canucks! Net proceeds from each ticket purchased will go directly towards Selkirk programs and services.
 Mon, February 25th vs Anaheim Ducks
 Weds, March 13th vs New York Rangers
 Thurs, March 28th vs Los Angeles Kings
 To secure tickets, please go to tinyurl.com/selkirkcanucks and be sure to use the PROMO CODE: SELKIRK18



Ongoing Fundraising

Famous Foods

Why get your Famous Food gift cards through your PAC? We support a local business in our neighbourhood and 15% is generously donated back to Selkirk. Easy and convenient. Purchase on the PAC SquareUp Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC in \$50, \$100 and \$500 denominations. You purchase, we deliver!

Spud.ca

Spud.ca grocery fundraising is ongoing. Purchase a produce box or spud cards, with 25% and 10% donated back to Selkirk. Get started and keep shopping at Fundraising SPUD.ca and spud.ca/spudcards.

Mabel's Labels

Need more sparkle in your life? Round glitter labels are available until Feb 28th! Go to mabelslabels.com/support-a-fundraiser/ and don't forget to choose Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC under support a fundraiser!

Limited time offer!

Round Glitter Labels



Hurry, before they're gone! Round Glitter Labels are only available until February 28th at midnight.

mabel's labels
FUNDRAISING

Visit campaigns.mabelslabels.com
and choose our organization from the list.

Have questions? Comments? We'd love to be in touch with you. Please connect with us via our email lordselkirkpac@gmail.com or stop

and talk in the school yard. We look forward to speaking with you soon!

- Like us on Facebook to stay up to date on the latest Selkirk Events www.facebook.com/selkirkpac
- Sign up for our e-newsletter on our webpage <https://selkirkelementary.com/> Click the "Sign Up Now" button at the bottom of the page!

WITS PROGRAM LAUNCH

We have been busy training 44 grade 4-6 students to be WITS LEADers. WITS is a strategy we are teaching all children at Selkirk to use to solve conflict and deal with bullying.

W – Walk away

I – Ignore

T – Talk it out

S – Seek Help

The Leaders have been trained to

L- Look and Listen

E- Explore Points of View

A- Act

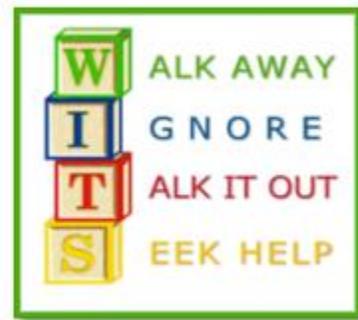
D – Decide if it worked

S- Seek Help

You can watch a short video on the WITS program here.

<https://witsprogram.ca/school/wits-in-action/>

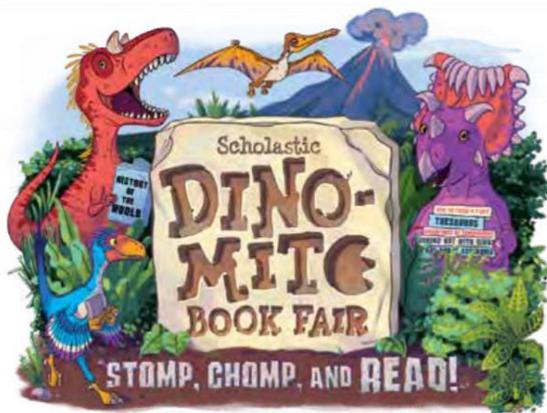
We will be launching this program in the next few weeks. I will be sharing more information on it at the next PAC meeting in March.



LIBRARY UPDATE

Scholastic Book Fair

The spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Lord Selkirk VERY soon! This fair will have an entire room of French books as well as English books.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Every year we depend on volunteers to help run this wonderful event that students look forward to. We would like to invite parents/guardians to participate by volunteering your time (as little as 1-hour commitments are welcomed). You can sign up for a shift here

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B094AAF-AE23A2FA7-scholastic2>

BOOK FAIR SCHEDULE

Our book fairs are generally scheduled around parent-teacher conferences so that it is convenient for you to stop by before or after your scheduled appointment. We hope to see many of you at the fair the week of March 4th to stock up on good books both in French and English for the spring and summer.

March 4 - 7

Mon 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Tues: 8:30 - 9:00AM and 3:00 - 4:00 PM

Wed & Thurs: 8:30-9:00 AM and 2:00 - 7:00 PM @ the Selkirk Library

PROJECT BACKPACK

We have started collecting new, unused items for Project Backpack-a community-based campaign that facilitates the hands-on charitable efforts of those who want to make a difference in the lives of Vancouver homeless youth. This is a joint partnership between Selkirk, Gladstone and Van Tech. Between the 3 schools, we are hoping to fill 50 backpacks with items that will help make it a bit easier for youth living on the street. Drop off boxes are located in each of the 3 buildings to make it easier for students to make their donation. Items listed below are suggestions only, but are the items that are most needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Ms. Mani at vmani@vsb.bc.ca or 604.713.4660.

Week 1: Feb 11-14

Cold Weather gear

- v. Socks & Underwear
- v. Toques & Gloves
- v. Scarves
- v. Hand & Feet warmers
- v. Rain Gear

Week 2: Feb 19-22

Toiletries

- v. Combs & Brushes
- v. Shampoo & Conditioner
- v. Hair accessories
- v. Dental supplies (floss, toothpaste, toothbrushes)
- v. Deodorant
- v. Feminine Hygiene products
- v. Shaving cream and razors (for men & women)

Week 3: Feb 25-March 1

Useful/Handy Items

- v. Sewing kits
- v. Pre-loaded Compass passes
- v. Water bottles
- v. Art supplies/journals/pens
- v. London Drugs gift cards (can be used for prescriptions)
- v. Superstore/No Frills gift cards (food items)

v. Tim Hortons/Starbucks gift cards (warm beverages)

suggestions: Khristine Carino (khristinecarino@gmail.com).

HOT LUNCH

Just a reminder that **Selkirk Hot Lunch Program is a full pay program**. Menus may at times be going out late. For example, the month of April, because of Spring Break, menus will be sent home on or about April 3rd. Students who are regularly on the lunch program will be fed lunch every day even though payments are not yet received.

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 otherwise full payment is expected.

FREE SPRING BREAK CAMP

Vancouver Thunderbirds is pleased to be offering two FREE Spring Break Track and Field Camps this year, at Lord Byng High School and Champlain Heights Elementary, for children in **grades 3-7**. Both camps will run on March 25, 27, and 29th. All information is attached.

To sign up, please visit: Thunderbirds FREE Spring Break Camps 2019 Registration . We encourage you to please pass along this information/registration to anyone/everyone who may be interested, as our goal is to reach as many kids as possible! Both camps are provided at no cost, however spaces are limited to 50 campers at both locations, so we recommend you register early!

Quebec Exchange Fundraising

Selkirk STEM Club

Is your child interested in Science, Tech, Engineering or Math? Sign them up for the new Selkirk STEM Club! Workshops are planned for Wednesdays at noon, starting Feb 18 for an Hour of Code with Lightbot for K-Gr 3. Students heading this initiative are: Kaitlyn & Cayden Carino-Pablo, Reece & Emma Courville, and Nikhil Krishna. Teacher sponsor: Astrid Godin. Contact the parent sponsor for questions and