

# ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1750 East 22<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5N 2P7

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



## THE CEDARS' BARK- April 2019

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

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are now in the home stretch of the school year. It is hard to believe that we have had 7 months fly by. April is a time for planning for the next school year, while simultaneously learning and moving vigorously forward.

This newsletter contains key information for parents. First and foremost, if your status has changed for next year and now you are moving, or alternatively you would now like to stay, please let the office know right away. School organization and class casting are dependent on numbers. A change of one student can cause an entire shift in school organization.

We strive at Lord Selkirk to make social emotional learning a key part of school. Improving social emotional competencies in the area of self-awareness and self-management is our school goal. At this point in the year, as students get prepared for the next grade, we encourage increased independence and responsibility. Students are expected to show increasing ability to know what they need to do in order to be ready to learn and what tools are available if they need to get back into the green zone where they can learn. We are beginning several new initiatives here at Lord Selkirk to help improve children's ability to navigate daily life. 44 grade 4-7 students have been trained as WITS leaders. They have learned to help students solve conflict and deal with bullying using the strategy Walk Away, Ignore, Talk it Out, Seek Help. The talk it out piece is key and that is where leaders are coming in to help students look and listen to each other when talking, know how to explore points of view other than their own, make a plan, decide if it worked and then where to go next. This is teaching students to learn how to problem solve and use kindness, open mindedness and critical thinking when dealing with conflict. This ability to navigate challenges is a life skill that will help students be successful across all environments. Conflict will not go away however, providing students with the tools to deal with it will empower them for life.

At home you can encourage these things by giving your children small tasks and by talking about the processes they use to solve conflict and problems. This responsibility and reflection are important parts of learning. See info on WITS below.

I hope to see you soon. As always, my door is open if you have any questions, comments, or concerns.

Sincerely, Mme Burton

## IMPORTANT DATES

Fri April 19	Good Friday NO SCHOOL
Mon April 22	Easter Monday NO SCHOOL
Mon April 29	Pro D Day NO SCHOOL
Wed May 1	Volunteer Tea 2:20pm
Thurs May 2	Earthquake Drill at 2:00 PM
Thurs May 9	Hearing Screening "K" Quebec Students Arrive
Tues May 14	Immunization Follow-Up K&6
Tues May 14	PAC Executive 6:30pm
Wed May 15	Seismic Safe Travel Meet/Greet 6:30 – 7:30 Gym
Thurs May 16	Sports Day
Fri May 17	District closure day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Mon May 20	Victoria Day <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Wed May 22	Welcome To Kindergarten 11am
Wed May 29	Multicultural Dinner 5:00-7:30
Thur June 27	Last Day of School

## WITS PROGRAM

We have completed our training of 45 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

Please find attached the WITS FAQ and also great online parent resources.

<https://witsprogram.ca/families/using-wits-with-your-child/wits-parent-toolkit-helpful-resources>



## SEISMIC UPDATE

Thank you to everyone that attended the Seismic Public Information session held at our school on Tuesday April 2, 2019.

We are getting ready to have our Grade 6 and 7 classes move to Gladstone for September 2019 school year as our frame building will be seismically upgraded. Information about this can be found here

[https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning\\_and\\_Facilities/current-capital-projects/Pages/Selkirk-Elementary.aspx](https://www.vsb.bc.ca/District/Planning_and_Facilities/current-capital-projects/Pages/Selkirk-Elementary.aspx)

On May 15 the PAC is hosting a safe travel discussion regarding the students that will be heading to Gladstone Secondary. Come meet your neighbours to help make safe travel groups for our students. This will be the only topic for the night.

## LIBRARY NEWS

The third issue of Le Litmag, the bilingual literary magazine written by our very own students, is published and in classes.

Please have a look at the digital version.

[https://vsbworld-my.sharepoint.com/personal/agodin\\_vsb\\_bc\\_ca/\\_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fagodin%5Fvsb%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FLibrary%2FLitMag%2FSpring2019%20%2D%20Le%20litmag%2Epdf&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fagodin%5Fvsb%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FLibrary%2FLitMag&cid=86df26f7-1b28-4a00-b330-018e8ce3bf8a](https://vsbworld-my.sharepoint.com/personal/agodin_vsb_bc_ca/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fagodin%5Fvsb%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FLibrary%2FLitMag%2FSpring2019%20%2D%20Le%20litmag%2Epdf&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Fagodin%5Fvsb%5Fbc%5Fca%2FDocuments%2FLibrary%2FLitMag&cid=86df26f7-1b28-4a00-b330-018e8ce3bf8a)



## PROJECT BACKPACK

Project Backpack was a HUGE success. Grade 7's will be heading over to Gladstone and Van Tech to pack the bags with all of the items we've collected. The bags will then be picked up and distributed to vulnerable youth living on the streets. Thank you to the entire Selkirk community for the generous donations. Keep your eyes out for the next community outreach event.

If you have any suggestions or ideas for an event that you'd like to share, please email Ms. Mani a [vmani@vsb.bc.ca](mailto:vmani@vsb.bc.ca) or leave a message at 604.713.4660



## SPORTS DAY

Sports day will be on Thursday, May 16th from 9am to 3pm. More information about this fun day to come in the May newsletter and from your child's teacher. We encourage parents to come join us for the fun and would recommend that you leave your pets at home.



## EARTH DAY

Earth Day will be celebrated on Monday, April 22nd, worldwide. Our beautiful planet has so much to offer and it is up to us to ensure we maintain its health and care for it. Selkirk will be celebrating Earth Day, with an assembly on April 23rd, kick-starting our "zero waste week". We are asking families to help by packing eco-friendly lunches, snacks, and beverages and refrain from sending items that go into the landfill from April 23 to April 26. Students will be encouraged to recycle all items, dispose of all organics and make a conscious effort to pick up any trash in our school community. Students will also be competing as a class to see who can cut down on waste, wherein all classes will be weighing their garbage bins daily and tracking the progress.

If you are interested in learning more about Earth Day or how to help our planet, have a look at these links: <https://www.plasticoceans.ca/>  
<https://www.bcgreengames.ca/how-recycle-pens-markers-and-highlighters>  
<https://www.bcsea.org/cool-it/resources>



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## ACTIVE TRAVEL TO SCHOOL

As the weather improves please have your child walk or wheel to and from school if possible. Research is consistently showing that this has a positive effect on the mental and physical health of school children.

The school is now operating a student lead Crossing Guard program on 22nd at Commercial Street. This should increase the safety of all students and staff entering the school premises from 22nd.

We remind parents that there is no parking on our adjacent streets during school hours. If there is no option but to stop and drop off on the school boundary please use 22nd Avenue between Welwyn and Commercial Street only, coming in from the West and leaving towards the East and Victoria Drive.

Please observe all current city parking signage as vehicles have and will continue to be ticketed if these are contravened. Please be aware that there is a No Idle Bylaw in effect also. We ask that you refrain from using Commercial, Miller or Welwyn Streets at all for drop off and pick up.

Please do not turn in the road or use any entrance to the school to perform a U-turn or stop and drop. Under no circumstance are parents permitted to access the staff parking areas. If you must drive please leave early enough to park a block or two from school and walk the last five minutes. It is a great way to prepare for, or decompress, from the school day.

## OUTDOOR CLOTHING

While the nice weather is on the horizon and sunny days become more frequent, we are still faced with the fact that rain will happen. We are asking that all parents please tune in to the weather forecast for the day and week, to ensure your child come properly dressed for the weather. In the event that a student does not have proper rain gear or outdoor clothing, the school will provide a poncho or light jacket.

**Snacks:** We are asking parents to please ensure they pack enough snacks for their child. It would be encouraged to check in with your child to see if their appetite has changed over the course of the day. Students spend quite a deal of energy on learning and playing throughout the day that they need to be properly fueled. In the event that a student does not have enough food, the school is happy to provide them with a snack.

## GARDEN: GROWING TOGETHER

This year Division 25 has been lucky to have been working with Nikoo to learn all about soil, composting, worms, seedlings, and plants. In the Fall we learned about how our soil is created by worms, and we had a chance to observe some of these critters up close. We then learned how to prepare the plots for the winter by covering them with leaves. Now that the growing season is upon us again, we welcomed Nikoo to our class for two more interesting hands-on sessions. In the first session, we planted broccoli and kale seeds in our classroom and used a grow light to provide some much needed indoor sunlight. The students really enjoyed taking turns watering the plants and watching them sprout and grow into little seedlings. Just before Spring Break, we planted the seedlings outside. Since then they have been growing a lot and we are looking forward to eating our harvest before summer break! Gardening with the class includes Math (measuring the plants), Art (drawing the plants), Science (learning about the different parts of a plant and their functions and needs). Growing their own food also encourages students to eat their vegetables and creates future gardeners! Thank you Nikoo for all of the wonderful work that you do with us in the garden!





## VOLUNTEER TEA

We are so thankful for all our volunteers. We would like to recognize and celebrate all your genuine enthusiasm and dedication to our school. The Selkirk staff warmly invite you to join us for tea, treats and performances as we give thanks to all our volunteers. Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> from 2:20pm to 3:30pm in the Library.



## SUMMER SCHOOL

2019 Summer School Programs. Registration begins on Monday April 29, 2019. If you would like further information please click on the link via the Vancouver School Board.

<https://summer.vsb.bc.ca/Pages/default.aspx>

### SUMMER EXPERIENCE – SECORD

Come join the Summer Experience at Laura Secord. We are the only French Immersion Summer School site in the Vancouver district. Come make new friends, practice your French, review skills and discover new passions.

We offer morning and afternoon programs with a supervised lunch hour. Come for half the day or make a day of it!

Morning session: 9:00-11:40

Afternoon session: 12:20-3:00

Registration begins April 29th and is open to all students currently enrolled in Early or Late French Immersion, or the Intensive French Program. All students are eligible for one free program. Pair it with a second program for a 3-week immersive

experience. More information and registration details available at:

<https://summer.vsb.bc.ca>

We also have a course specifically designed for incoming Ks which has been very popular in the past few years. It is a paid course (\$330). I will be contacting our local bilingual preschools but please pass on the following information at your upcoming “Welcome to Kindergarten” event. This is the course description:

### Getting Ready for French Immersion Kindergarten (Pre-K)

Help prepare your child for a successful year in French Immersion Kindergarten. This course will focus on preparing young students for the routines of Kindergarten, including classroom expectations, songs, games, numbers and literature in French. Students will also practice fine motor skills through fun activities.

## PAC NEWS

PAC has some exciting events coming up!

Have questions? Comments? We’d love to be in touch with you. Please connect with us via our email [lordselkirkpac@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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!

### Multicultural Dinner!

The Selkirk Multicultural dinner is right around the corner! On May 29th we will take over the gym from 5 to 7:30 to celebrate all the different cultures and FOODS we have in our own neighbourhood! Bring a dish to share and come and meet people from our community. SPUD will be there with a produce box to raffle off, if you

bring your own dishes to eat off of you will be entered in the draw!

Do you have time to help out at the event? Please email [lordselkirkpac@gmail.com](mailto:lordselkirkpac@gmail.com) to volunteer.

### **Bikes, Lights and Bling and Bike to School Week!**

The last week of May will be our annual bike to school week! This year we will have a Bike, Lights and Bling Spring Fling event to get everyone's bikes decked out and ready for spring riding! Come out and decorate your bikes and helmet! There will be chances to win great prizes for your bikes! Look for posters around the school with more information. We are looking for any lights, bells, reflective items, craft supplies, etc for the decorations. Donations can be brought to the Selkirk Office.

Volunteers needed! Please contact Alison at [tyketalks@shaw.ca](mailto:tyketalks@shaw.ca) to volunteer or with questions.

### **LANGARA HOMESTAY**

Host an International Student - Join Langara Homestay\*

Langara College invites you and your family to join our highly regarded Homestay Program by hosting a VSB international student this year. Our students come from Europe, Asia and South America - usually stay for five to 10 months, and are keen to experience life with a Vancouver family.

Generous reimbursement is provided. Please call 604.323.5696 or email [homestay@langara.ca](mailto:homestay@langara.ca) for more information.



### **BC SPCA SUMMER CAMP**

The BC SPCA has week-long day Summer Camps that immerse campers in "everything animals."

They'll be challenged, in fun and engaging ways, to learn about responsible animal care, discover fascinating new animal facts and develop positive, respectful relationships between people, animals and nature. They will also get to meet some guest animals and take a shelter tour. The camp will take place at BC SPCA Vancouver Branch, 1205 E 7th Ave, Vancouver, BC. V5T 1R1.

- The camp dates July 2-5: for kids born 2012-2013
- July 8-12: for kids born 2008-2011
- July 15-19: for kids born 2008-2011
- July 22-26: for kids born 2008-2011
- August 6-9: for kids born 2012-2013
- August 12-16: for kids born 2008-2011

To apply for a bursary, please download and complete an application <https://spca.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/BC-SPCA-summer-camp-bursary-application-2019.pdf> and submit it to [camp@spca.bc.ca](mailto:camp@spca.bc.ca) or fax it to 604-681-7022 (attn: Summer Camp Administrator). The deadline to apply is May 31, 2019.

