

ECOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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



THE CEDARS' BARK- September 2019

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

We have had a fantastic first three weeks at Lord Selkirk. We have so many positive supports here for the students at Lord Selkirk and value our relationship with parents as partners in education. The staff at Lord Selkirk is excited to be embarking on a new journey with all the students and families.

With the beginning of the new school year, I like to share important school information for the year so you can enhance the learning between home and school. Each month we will have a theme that helps develop children's social emotional well being and competencies. We ask that you help by talking about this theme and topic at home as well. It will be woven into our daily announcements, monthly assemblies and our educational practices. I will always include an information sheet where you can find book ideas, and activity suggestions for your children around this topic. If there is a theme you feel relates to your profession please let me know and you can come to share at an assembly or in a class.

The theme for October is empathy and understanding. With the recognition of Orange Shirt Day on September 30th and the Terry Fox Run on September 26th, these are excellent opportunities to help students develop skills to try to understand what others have gone through.

We have our Meet the Teacher and Selkirk School Picnic on Wednesday September 25th, 2019 from 6pm-8 pm. We are having a community picnic with food trucks and music from 5:30-6:40, followed by classroom visits from 7:00-7:25 and 7:25-7:55. This is a fantastic time to come and meet some of the school staff that support your children over the year, including our teacher librarian, administration, physical education staff, inner city support staff and of course classroom teachers.

Please bookmark the Lord Selkirk website <https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/lord-selkirk/Pages/default.aspx> so that you can check regularly. In addition, I will be sending out our school newsletter via email. If you do not receive it please let the office know. An update about events and information specific to our Gladstone site will be included at the end of each newsletter.

My door is always open if you have any questions, concerns or comments. Thank you for your continued support of Lord Selkirk School.

Sincerely, Shannon Burton

Principal Lord Selkirk School

IMPORTANT DATES

September 25	Meet the Teacher 6 pm-7:55pm
September 25	Individual Photo Day at Selkirk - 6/7s @ 9:10
September 26	Terry Fox Run 11:00-12:00
September 27	Pro D Day- No School
September 30	Orange Shirt day
October 7	PAC AGM 6:30
October 9	Conferences-early dismissal 2 pm
October 10	Conferences-early dismissal 2 pm
October 14	Thanksgiving No School
October 25	Pro-D Day No School

SAFE ARRIVAL AND REPORTING YOUR CHILD'S 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 Child's 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!



LIBRARY NEWS

Welcome to the new School Year!

It has been wonderful to see so many familiar faces and to meet some new ones! As we get everything rolling in the library here is some general information about the library and upcoming events:

Opening Hours

In addition to the Primary and Intermediate book exchange periods during school time, the library at Selkirk Main is open from 8:40 to 9:00 am Monday, Wednesday and Friday and 3:00 – 3:20 pm, Monday through Friday for parents and students who want to come read, check out books or catch up on homework. Please check the door for any changes to the schedule as these do occur when we have staff meetings or unexpected circumstances.

This year, I will be splitting my time between the Selkirk main building and the Gladstone location where I will be putting together a pop-up library for our grade 6 & 7 students. The Selkirk @Gladstone library will be open for students every Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

Library monitor recruiting is under way. Training sessions for our grade 4 and 5 monitors will be available the week of Sept 16th. I am so thankful for all these wonderful students whose contributions are invaluable.

Volunteering

If you are interested in getting involved, there are many opportunities for parents/guardians to volunteer at the library. Some amazing volunteers chose to come on a weekly basis to help with shelving. Others come in from time to time to work

on specific projects. There is always something to do in the library. Please come to visit me if you are curious. I also invite you to support our school and participate as a volunteer at this year's book fairs. See below for more details.

Book Fair

Our Scholastic Book Fair, with French and English books, will be arriving very soon. It's a fantastic event to celebrate reading and a great way to raise funds for our school library. We are fortunate to always have a great turn out and therefore can use all the help we can get to run it smoothly.

Here are the dates and times:

Monday, October 7th 3:00 – 4:00 pm

Tuesday, October 8th 8:30 – 9:00 am

Wednesday, October 9th 8:30 – 9:00 am & 2:00 – 7:00 pm

Thursday, October 10th 8:30 – 9:00 am & 2:00 – 5:00 pm

I always appreciate parent volunteers who help-out in the following areas:

Book Fair set up and pack up: Friday, October 4th & Tuesday, October 15th, greeting customers at the door, Working at our Cashier Table, Tidying shelves and restocking books.

Please keep your eye out for more details on the PAC Facebook page or the PAC website as the date approaches.

Thank you. I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible this year. Please pop by and say hi. I am in the main building right beside the office.

Mme Astrid

Teacher-Librarian



CROSSING GUARDS

We take safety very seriously at Selkirk. One way we like to keep Selkirk students safe is with our Crossing Guard program (on 22nd and Commercial St). We need volunteers in Grade 7, wishing to dedicate 20 minutes before and or after school. This is a student-run program, with adult support. VPD will be joining us on September 25 train interested students and will continue to support the school with any crossing guard needs. All crossing guards are equipped with a helmet, flashy vest and stop sign. Students are also equipped with a waterproof jacket for those pesky rainy day's.

Grade 7 can pick up a form for the Selkirk office at Gladstone and are asked to return it September 23.

Parents who would be able to help supervise please contact Mr. Dominic.

TERRY FOX

The Terry Fox Run is happening at 11:00 on Thursday September 26th. It is to raise awareness for Cancer.

It is always a fun event. However, it is important that you send your children with appropriate clothing, water bottles and snacks. The school will be collecting donations of Loonies and Toonies.

It is also possible to donate directly to the Terry Fox foundation website: <http://www.terryfox.org/get-involved/ways-to-give/>

We need parent help to supervise so please contact Mr. Dominic

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>).

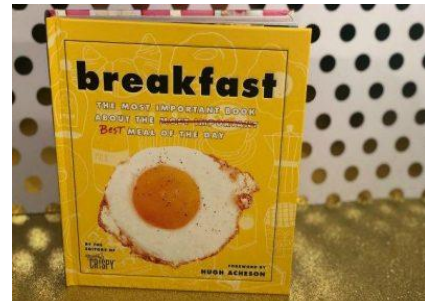
All students at Selkirk are expected to go outside at both recess and lunch so they can get some of this prescribed physical activity. Except for absolute downpours, students are expected to be outside.

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.



This Photo by Unknown Author is

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 a subsidy please contact Ms. Burton as we have a limit amount this year. Previous subsidies are not approved this year.



SELKIRK PAC

PAC AGM will be held Monday October 7th at 6:30PM in the library.

Bring your children, as free childcare + pizza dinner (RSVP lordselkirkpac@gmail.com with numbers for pizza) will be provided in the 002 room. Refreshments and snacks provided during the meeting! Come see what goes on at Selkirk!

Time is precious with our kids and their education experience is important. Did you know that as a 'Selkirk Adult' providing care to a child, you are already part of the PAC? Research shows when adults are part of their children's education, their children do better in school. Your opinion matters. Here are some outside-the-box reasons to consider

becoming more involved with the Selkirk Elementary PAC (Parent Advisory Council).

- get to know the principal and vice-principal
- add a volunteer position to your resume
- have a voice on how to spend PAC money to enhance your child(ren)s schooling experience (~\$50,000 is spent per school year)
- be the first to know about important school decisions (ex. seismic upgrades, accessibility, Saleema Noon education)
- get to know other parents in the community
- set a positive example/role model for your child(ren)
- commit 5-6 hours over the entire year to find out & shape what your child is doing in school everyday!

Work full time or are not available during school hours? Good news, much of the PAC activity is outside school and daytime work hours. There are even things you can do while in your pjs and slippers at home!

You choose your commitment level - from a few hours a year, to monthly meetings or helping during a PAC/school event, to becoming a MAL (member at large) or a member of the PAC Executive team.

Love numbers? Have an accountant or bookkeeping background? You are wanted as our new Treasurer! - commitment approx. 5 hours per month, plus monthly evening meetings when available.

The Lord Selkirk PAC is proud to welcome everyone! We are a friendly group of parents and are looking for all parents/guardians from all backgrounds to join us and share your voice. Let's all continue to work together to make Lord Selkirk Elementary the best place we can for our kids!

Meetings for the 2019/20 school year are going to be held the first Monday of each month at 6:30PM in the staff room. Free childcare and refreshments provided. (Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 6, Feb 3, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, June 1)

For more information about the PAC, please visit our webpage at <https://selkirkelementary.com/>

Famous Foods

Shop at Famous Foods? If so, buy your Famous Food cards through the PAC and we our school gets 15% donated back! Parents just like you have helped us raise over \$2400 since Dec 2018. *You purchase, we either leave them in the school office for pick up or deliver to your door!*

Cards are are always available online on the PAC SquareUp [Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC](#) in \$50, \$100 and \$500 denominations. ***Famous Food cards will be available from PAC members at the upcoming Welcome Picnic and Meet the Teacher evening.***

Mabel's Labels

Avoid the Lost & Found at Selkirk. Get back to school labels, so your child(ren) don't lose their stuff!

To get started:

1) Go

to: https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/support/

2) Under Support a Fundraiser, choose Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC (our school gets 20% donated back).

3) Under Combo Label Packs, the Fundraiser Combo the best deal around (\$16.95 + free shipping, 39 labels, waterproof and they really don't peel or wear off!)

Spud.ca

Save time while getting back into the busy school routine. Order prepared meals, groceries, and household items through Spud.ca. and have it delivered to your home or work.

To get started or keep shopping at Spud.ca:

1) Use promo code ***Fundraising*** and select ***Selkirk Elementary*** in drop down menu.

- Produce

boxes: <https://www.spud.ca/catalogue/FundRaising.cfm> (25% donated back to our school)

- Spud

cards: <https://www.spud.ca/spudcards.cfm> (10% donated back to our school)

RED CROSS BABYSITTING COURSE-October 25th

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, Oct 25, 2019, 8:30-3:30

Grade 6+

\$60 + GST online registration

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

All of this would be fantastic.

GLADSTONE SITE UPDATES

ROBOTICS PROGRAM

Grade 6 and 7s are invited to participate in the Robotics Program at Gladstone. They meet after school on Day 2 and we go from 3:00 to 5:30pm. Interested students can participate in the VEX-IQ robotics competition.

Participation is free for Selkirk students however, if the students would like to have a team t-shirt, a charge of \$15.00 will be applied to cover the cost.

If their performance is above expectation, they may advance to the provincial and/or international championship, at which point, all expenses are paid for by the student.

We will meet next week Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afterschool. We will be building robots. Our first competition at Gladstone will be next Friday Sep.27. Interested students can certainly come and watch and cheer on their fellow students.

Ms. Burton will take children over to the Robotics room on Monday after school and parents should pick them up at the school at 5:30.

HIP HOP CLUB AT GLADSTONE

Gladstone is offering a Hip-Hop Club on Fridays from 3:00pm – 4:00pm for any students in grade 6 or grade 7 that may be interested.

Please sign up at the Selkirk @ Gladstone office starting on Monday September 23 – Monday September 30.

If we have enough students interested permission forms will be sent home next week.

CROSSING GUARD AND LIBRARY

Students who wish to do crossing guard or library monitor at Selkirk Main site please return your forms by Monday. These shifts are from 8:40-9:00 and 3:00-3:15. Thank you for continuing to be leaders for Selkirk School

LUNCH HOUR INFO

We have provided each class with a sports bin with a variety of equipment to use at recess and lunch including basketballs, skipping ropes, frisbees, spike ball nets, and soccer balls. Students are asked to let Ms. Burton know if they have other equipment requests.

All students are eating lunch in the cafeteria. They are to bring their own food or to buy the Selkirk Lunch Program. Food is not available at that time from the Gladstone Cafeteria, nor the vending machines.

Although the weather has allowed us to be outside each day, there will be the occasional day when it is too wet to go outside. In these circumstances, students will be able to stay inside the cafeteria and play board games or read.

LOCKER UPDATE

We are waiting for the VSB paint department to paint the lockers before assigning them to our students. We appreciate your patience for this.

LIBRARY UPDATE

All our books have arrived; however, we are awaiting the delivery of a new style of pop up library shelving. We are lucky to be able to test out this new library system. There have been delays at the manufacturing end as some parts were not delivered for the shelving to be assembled. This should be up and running in the next few weeks.

WASHROOM REMINDER

Selkirk students have their own washrooms in B wing. They are able to use these washrooms at any time of the day. If they need to come in at recess or lunch they need to let the supervision aides know so they can account for everyone in case of an emergency. Students are reminded to keep the washroom clean and tidy. If they get to the washroom and it is in need of cleaning they should let their teacher know so we can alert the custodian.