

ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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



THE CEDARS' BARK- January 2020

Principal:	Shannon Burton	604-713-4650
Vice Principal	Dominic Maggiolo	604-713-4650
Director of Instruction:	Aaron Davis	604-713-4424
School Liason/Trustee	Lois Chan-Pedley	

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year to everyone in the Selkirk Community. I hope that you had a restful and enjoyable winter break spent with those close to you. It is wonderful to see everyone refreshed and rejuvenated. It is hard to believe that we have only been back at school for one week. There are many exciting programs and events that are approaching which will be shared in this newsletter.

The theme for the month at Lord Selkirk (both sites) is perseverance. Developing the virtue of perseverance (or grit) is essential for building character and necessary in order to achieve success. One definition of grit is perseverance and passion for long-term goals (Duckworth et al., 2007). Students at Selkirk are encouraged to try new things, face their fears and not give up when things become challenging. At our assembly we watched a few videos of animals that were faced with obstacles and had to persevere in order to achieve their goal. You can ask your children about the mammal videos and what they learned to help connect this theme at home.

Here are some quotes that illustrate what Grit/Perseverance looks like:

"Grit is pushing beyond the platitudes, and finding authentic connections that will encourage you to embrace discomfort and embark on a journey that always seeks to push you outside the box." unknown

"Grit is staring down the barrel of the difficult and the unknown, rejecting the voices that say I'm not enough, and pushing through anyway." unknown

Students may often not try due to fear of failing, or may simply give up when things get difficult - this is possibly due (in part) to a lack of grit. We can encourage grit by reassuring students that it is better they take a risk, try and experience failure instead of not trying at all. We need to teach them that there is much to learn when we fail and that is often where the most growth is. I encourage you to work with your child(ren) and encourage them to develop perseverance/grit throughout term two. One great book on Grit is [How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity, and the Hidden Power of Character](#) by Paul Tough.

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,
Principal

IMPORTANT DATES

January 13	K Choice Program registration opens
January 31	Reports Go Home
January 31	Last day to register at catchment school for K Priority
February 3	Cross Boundary online Registration opens
February 4 @ 4 pm	K Choice Registration CLOSES
February 7	Are you returning to Selkirk forms due back
February 14	Pro-D No School
February 17	Family Day – No School
February 21	Selkirk Royale(adults only)
February 27	Pink Shirt Day

CONGRATULATIONS

We would like to share that our Vice Principal Mr. Dominic and his wife had a baby girl, Sunday Maggiolo, over the winter break. Mr. Dominic will be off on parental leave until January 31. We have an interim Vice Principal at our school until his return. Please welcome Mr. Chuck McNicholl to Selkirk.

COMMUNITY SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS STARTING SOON

Gladstone Community Schools Team After school programs are back!

Programs start January 21 - March 12, 2020.
Tuesday programs: MAD Scientists (Gr. 1-3) and DIY Crafts (Gr. 4-7)
Thursday programs: Books and Blocks (Gr. 1-3) Arts and Crafts (Gr. 2-4) and Baking (Gr. 4-7)
Programs will run from 3:15pm – 4:30pm.

If you have any questions please contact 604-713-5884.

REGISTRATION HAPPENS..... January 14 at 3:05pm in the Multi purpose room 101SW

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration for 2020-2021 is well underway. If you or someone you know has a child born in 2015 please have them register at their English catchment school. Selkirk is a very sought after place to be so in catchment students must register before January 31st, 2020.

Everyone **MUST** register at their home school even if they are applying to a K Choice program or cross boundary to another school. K Choice online applications open January 13th, 2020 and closes February 4th.

Cross Boundary applications are online this year and start February 3rd, 2020.

K CHOICE: The last day to register for K Choice (French Immersion, Mandarin Immersion, Montessori etc) is February 4th at 4pm. No late applications accepted. Please call your English catchment school for your child's PEN number to register online at VSB.

SEVERE WEATHER- SNOW DAYS

Vancouver School Board has procedures that are followed in situations where severe weather, like heavy snowfall or very high winds, might be affecting schools.

All schools in the Vancouver School District will remain open if at all possible during severe weather events. Any district-wide closure will be decided by 7:00 a.m. at the latest. Details of district-wide or individual school closures will be announced through the media and the [district website front page](#).

Please note that no announcement will be made stating that schools are open. Only closures and delayed openings will be announced. Information about any district-wide closures will be sent to Metro Vancouver radio and television stations. Please also visit the Lord Selkirk website from updates:

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/lord-selkirk/Pages/default.aspx>

Student safety is the first priority of Vancouver School Board. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision to attend is the responsibility of each family.

Parents/guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If for any reason a parent/guardian feels that a child cannot travel safely to school, then they should make other arrangements.

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Students will not be penalized for lack of attendance under such poor weather conditions. Students are reminded to wear appropriate clothing for the conditions. When sidewalks and roads are slippery, students walking to school should take extra care.

Please do not call the school.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

A huge thank you to the members of our community that participated in the Secret Santa gift donation. The gifts were received with a tremendous amount of gratitude. The Selkirk community is simply THE BEST!

RETURNING TO SELKIRK

Will your child(ren) be returning to Lord Selkirk Elementary in September 2020?

Please watch for the Returning to Selkirk form with your child's report card that needs to be filled out and returned to your classroom teacher no later than FRIDAY February 7th. If the form is not returned we will assume that you are not returning and we will be unable to guarantee continued enrollment at Selkirk Elementary.

PARKING CHANGES

Please be aware of the parking changes that were recently passed by the Vancouver City Council. The fines will now be double for stopping violations which occur in the vicinity of schools, 8am-5pm on school days. This was passed Dec. 3, 2019 and will come into effect Jan 1, 2020. The Council report notes that "to support the City's Moving Towards Zero goals, (City) staff have identified a number of safety related parking offences, in particular those that impact vulnerable road users, where fine amounts should be increased to further discourage unsafe parking behaviour."

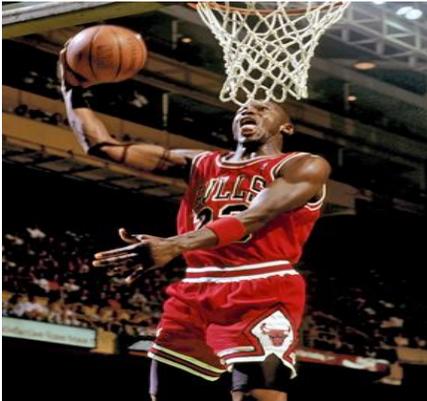
COMMUNICATING STUDENT LEARNING

CSL is about more than the written reports. Communicating Student Learning (CSL) is meant to be an ongoing process of communicating to parents using strengths-based language, from the new BC curriculum, about your child's learning with regard to student's strengths, their areas for growth, and a plan for further support with the goal of advancing student learning. Over the course of the year, teachers will be communicating with families 5 times. Examples of this may be report cards, parent conferences, phone calls, meetings or email. As to written progress reports, they should be viewed simply as 2 of the communications, but in written form and are meant to work alongside the other

communications. This year, the school will be sending home 2 reports cards, the first will be on January 31st, and the second on June 25th. Reports will include examples of the student's strengths, stretches and goals for the student moving forward.

BASKETBALL

Jr Boys and Girls basketball season officially kicks off Jan 20. Please check with Mr. Nickel and Mr. Chou regarding schedules. Go Cedars!



LEGO CLUB

Please join us every Monday at lunch in the library for Lego club. You can come and build on your own, in a small group, or participate in a challenge activity. All students in grades K-5 are welcome every Monday!

Schedule for Challenge Activities:

Monday, January 20: Lego Town
Monday, January 27: Amazing Mazes
Monday, February 3: Amusement Park Ride
Monday February 10: Animal Aid
Monday, February 24: Bridge Building
Monday, March 2: Pyramids
Monday, March 9: Ultimate Playgrounds



DIVERSITY CLUB

Selkirk has begun hosting a drop-in Diversity Club for interested students in grade K-5 (Main Site) and 6/7 (at Gladstone) on the first and third Friday of the month. The club will be providing a safe place for students to hang out regardless of their ethnicity, religious background, gender identity or sexual orientation. The club will meet once a week as a drop in. This may just be an opportunity for students to get together to chat or play games. However, there may also be some advocacy work where the club raises awareness regarding certain issues or events such as: Orange Shirt Day, Eliminating Racial Discrimination Day, Anti- Homophobia day, Anti Bullying Day, etc. The club's objectives will be determined by its members with support from the staff sponsors: **Ashley, Julia, Rene and Kaye.**

WITS PROGRAM

Students at Lord Selkirk are learning to use their "WITS." WITS is a strategy to help students deal with conflict and bullying situations.

WITS stands for:

W- Walk Away
I – Ignore
T – Talk it out
S – Seek Help

We have 40 peer WITS Leaders that are trained by Ms. Burton to help students use the WITS strategy at recess and lunch. LEADS stands for Look-listen Explore points of view Act it out and Did it work? Seek Help.

The WITS program is a researched based program that has been shown to reduce bullying and victimization by 20 percent.



WEEKEND FOOD PROGRAM

We are lucky at Selkirk to have the Weekend Backpack Program that sends extra food home with students over the weekend. We are now in our 7th year offering this program, with a new focus to offer nutritionally dense and healthy food, including some perishable items for families. Our goal is to enhance and expand the program to offer more options to our families. If you would like more information about the program or would like your child to participate in the Weekend Backpack Program, please call Ms. Mani at 604.713.4660 or email her at vmani@vsb.bc.ca. There is no cost to participate in this program.

LE LITMAG

Please find on our school website the latest edition of the Le Litmag produced by Selkirk students.

[F:\Fall 2019 - Le litmag.pdf](#)

PARENTING WORKSHOP

Parenting workshop in Cantonese with Mandarin interpretation Thursday January 30, 2020 at Gladstone Secondary 6:30 – 8:30. More information can be found in the attachment.

[F:\Effective Parenting and Communication 20200130 Flyer.pdf](#)

PAC INFORMATION

Happy New Year! Your PAC has been hard at work getting ready for 2020. Read on for more information on 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, 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!

Next **general PAC meeting** is Feb. 3rd at 6:30 in the staff room. All Selkirk adults are encouraged to attend! We will have babysitting available in the library.

9th Annual Selkirk Royale – Tickets now on sale!

Selkirk Royale 2020 is right around the corner and we can't wait to see you there! Come enjoy the festivities with us on Friday Feb. 21st 2020. 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.

Did you receive gift cards at Christmas that you won't use? Wine that you won't drink? Consider donating to our silent auction! Do you have a connection that can make a donation to the event? Please email the PAC and put Silent Auction Committee in the subject line to make your offer! lordselkirkpac@gmail.com
Deadline for donations is January 31st.

Do you have time to help out at the event? Please email lordselkirkpac@gmail.com to get added to the volunteer list.

The Story Workshop Studio (a space for children to explore a variety of materials to create stories) is coming to Selkirk library! We are hoping to be ready by the end of January.

Please help us stock our space with some clean jars.



Pottery experience? The school has a pottery wheel! We are looking for parents with pottery experience and are interested in helping out with a potential Pottery Club! Email us at lordselkirkpac@gmail.com

PAC Fundraising

Rufus Guitar Shop

Guitar or Drum one-on-one lessons? Sign up for a month of music lessons at Rufus Guitar & Drum Shop on Commercial Drive and they will donate 10% back to our school. Music lessons options include: drums, guitar, base guitar, mandolin and ukulele.

Open to both students and parents of Selkirk kids! Call Rufus Guitar Shop at 604-222-1717, select #2 for Commercial Drive location. Must mention Lord Selkirk Elementary when booking for the school to receive the fundraiser donation.

Famous Foods

Local, convenient, all your grocery needs covered. Get your Famous Foods cards anytime online at [Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC](#). We will arrange to drop off at the school office and deliver to your home. Famous Foods donates 15% of every purchase back to our school!

NEW for Famous Foods - Drop off your own containers, have them filled with 'bulk' items of your choice (flour, oats, spices, beans, nuts, etc...), and pick them up the next day. Amazing zero waste grocery option in our neighbourhood.

Spud.ca - Last Chance for fundraising

Last chance for fundraising as the Spud.ca fundraising program is being discontinued on Jan 31, 2020. For our Spud.ca shopping families, stock up on Spud cards and product boxes before the end of this month. Don't forget to use the promo code Fundraising and select Selkirk Elementary in drop down menu.

- Produce boxes:

<https://www.spud.ca/catalogue/FundRaising.cf>

[m](#) - Spud cards:

<https://www.spud.ca/spudcards.cfm>

GLADSTONE UPDATES

Rainy Days

On rainy days students at Gladstone will be allowed to stay in the cafeteria until 1:00pm. An announcement will be made to let students know.

It is expected that students go outside during recess time in order to get fresh air. In extreme weather situations we will make arrangements for students.

Cafeteria at Gladstone

We are very fortunate and have been given the go ahead to have our students purchase lunch at the cafeteria once a week. The menu is on the Gladstone webpage and updated weekly:

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

Monday Div 20/21 Tuesday Div 1/2
Wednesday Div 3 Thursday Div 4 Friday Div 19

This will change each month dependent on the amount of students purchasing the lunch.

Digital Citizenship Updates

As per Selkirk and VSB policies, we use portable electronic devices to learn and communicate. We use portable electronic devices during designated learning time, not at recess and lunch.

We use portable electronic devices responsibly and in moderation. We create a positive digital tattoo whenever we are online.

We have attached the digital citizenship brochure to review with your child(ren).



Digital Citizenship
Selkirk.pdf