

ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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



THE CEDARS' BARK- June 2020

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

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We have had a very successful first week back at school for our BC Phase 3 Education Re-Start. I want to begin by thanking all our engineer and custodial staff (Dan, Alex and Angela), and office staff (Cristina and Katy) for getting our building and school ready according to new Health and Safety guidelines. Catherine and the supervision aides for distributing lunches to our families on a daily basis. Also, a huge thank you to all our teachers for working so diligently to make their physical classrooms ready for students to learn in our current circumstances. We were so happy to connect with students in person this week.

I want to take this opportunity to reflect on the importance of community. We are all fortunate to be part of a large diverse community here at Lord Selkirk. We have people from various cultural heritages, a spectrum of sexual and gender identities, varying socio-economic backgrounds, racial diversity, diverse daily living situations and so much more. We respect, value and appreciate the diversity that creates the community of Lord Selkirk. We come together on a very strong common goal to unite in creating a school where learners are at the center, where everyone feels safe and welcome and where every community member feels valued.

We want to acknowledge the tragic killing of George Floyd and the seismic effect it has had on the Black community not only in the city of Minneapolis but globally. Systemic racism is important to acknowledge if we want to work towards authentic equality in society. Teaching children at an early age to understand prejudice and discrimination as well as recognizing their own privileges are important lessons. The Vancouver School Board has clear processes about how to respond to racism in our communities. Please see attached PDF for helpful information on this. We must stand together against racism in order to create safe communities for everyone. Students should feel safe to be themselves and to share their cultural background and experiences.

We have a big mission to accomplish during these challenging times and can only do that when we work together. It will not always be smooth but it is in those challenging times if we maintain respect and be open-minded we will be able to achieve great things.

Sincerely,

Mme Burton

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday June 23	Last Day for Students/Reports Out – Group A
Thursday June 25	Last Day for Students/Reports Out – Group B. Note Group B only has 1 day the last week!
Tuesday Sept 8	First Day back to School

RETURN TO SCHOOL REMINDERS

The Provincial Health Office has deemed schools safe to welcome students and staff back. In order to maintain a safe environment we have various protocols we must adhere to. For more information from the BCCDC you can visit

<http://www.bccdc.ca/health-info/diseases-conditions/covid-19/childcare-schools>

A few reminders:

- No students can come to school with any cold, flu or COVID symptoms. You MUST do a daily health screen of your child. Students will be sent home if sick and not be able to return until they have medical clearance.
- Students must wash hands before they come to school, upon entry, before and after breaks and eating and before departure.
- All students must try to maintain physical distance. We are using the word “Noodle” at Selkirk since we have pool noodles to use a visual for distance.
- Student should bring all their items with them labelled. Water fountains are not in use so bring a full water bottle each day.

A reminder that if your child is not currently attending and they would like to attend on their scheduled day with their teacher (Monday/Tuesday OR Thursday/Friday for Grade K-5 and Tuesday OR Wednesday for Grade 6-7) you must contact the administration at selkirk@vsb.bc.ca. We have both classroom and school density targets we must maintain so please contact us prior to coming.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS



Usually in June we have the pleasure of thanking our community volunteers. Volunteers graciously and generously give their time in many different ways to make our school a great place to work and learn. Volunteers don't necessarily have time but they definitely have heart. Selkirk volunteers go above and beyond. They eagerly step up when and where the needs arise. Some of the many ways people volunteers are:

- Reading with children through our One to One Program
- Volunteering in the Library
- Driving on field trips and helping in the classrooms
- Organizing events like Selkirk Royal, Multicultural Dinner, Bikes and Bling, Bike to School Week, PAC Welcome BBQ and more
- Sorting and organizing the lost and found
- Serving on PAC executive
- Raising funds in many ways to serve the needs of the school and children
- And many more

As a thank you we have put together this video to show appreciation. Thank you to the students and staff who contributed and Mme Astrid for the coordination and production.

<https://web.microsoftstream.com/video/a7be6f37-32c0-4c66-ac52-7a05728e599d>

2020-2021 SCHOOL CALENDAR AND SCHOOL FEES

2020-2021 School Calendar

Schools are required to publish their school calendars before the end of the school year, our school calendar is on the school website.

We encourage parents to frequently check the school website for information about upcoming and current events. The website is updated regularly and is a great way to see what's happening at the school.

2020-2021 School Fees Outline

School fees for the 2020-2021 school year, will be similar to the 2019-2020 school fees and are located on the school website. We encourage all families to pay fees online via SchoolCash on the school website.



CLASS PLACEMENTS

In late June, teachers will be putting together tentative classes for next year. The school works very hard to make the best possible educational placement for your child, taking into account a myriad of variables such as academic progress, individual learning styles, classroom interactions between classmates, specific learning needs in different areas, a balance of gender, a balance of those students requiring additional support, information provided by the child and parents, friendships (that do not interfere with learning) and other factors.

If you feel that you have important supplemental information pertaining to your child's specific learning needs that would assist us in placing your child, please complete the following form. **All forms must be received before June 15th to be considered. No exceptions.**

In all cases, **requests for a specific teacher are not appropriate and will not be addressed.** Please focus on describing your child's learning needs and situations which staff need to know that may affect class placement.

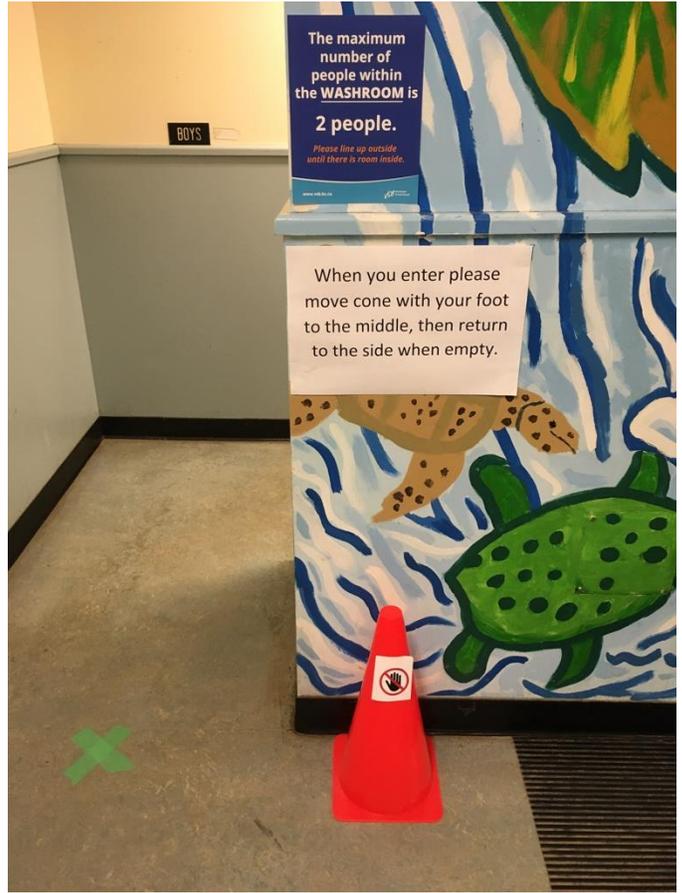
<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WC6KCzB7CEq6t9dVWVeDjpfq6LyBi0UFAkrpV0mE7rVJURUxST1FaUFc4OEPTMINXUzBXTDhIRTNWUS4u>

HEALTH AND SAFETY

This past week, we have worked hard to ensure our building is safe to welcome staff and students. In collaboration with the Health & Safety committee, comprised of teachers, support staff, building engineers, and administrators, we have gone through various steps, led by guidelines set forth by the Public Health Officer and the VSB to prepare our site. While the school isn't open for public access, we thought that sharing some relevant information with our community at large, would give you a sense of the work that unfolded.

Both our Gladstone site and Selkirk site have followed similar guidelines. Both sites have entry and exit points for staff and students. Students are always accompanied by a staff member, through any major transition and classes are staggered during recess and lunch. Schools have handwashing protocols for staff and students when entering the building. If staff or students are not accessing a sink or washroom immediately, hand sanitizer has been provided at every major entry/exit point. Our hallways have clearly marked signage including handwashing, physical distancing, coughing protocols as well arrows on our walls, flooring and stairwells indicating the flow of our hallways. Staff are also reminding students about healthy protocols daily.

We welcome you to continue reminding your child to stay safe, keep the adults and students around them safe and ask questions if they do not know. Our school will continue to work at ensuring the health and safety of our staff, students and community as our number one priority. Below are some images of the work that has gone into making our sites safe.



IN CLASS SESSIONS FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICE WORKERS

We are happy to be providing sessions 5 days a week for our children of essential service workers. These sessions are not with their classroom teachers, but a variety of Selkirk staff. The children work on curricular work, their online programs, or other activities in the morning and participate in physical activity and neighbourhood walks in the afternoon.

WELCOME TO KINDERGARTEN



While COVID has put a stop to our in-person Welcome to Kindergarten (WTK), we have been offering a virtual WTK 2.0 to our incoming kindergarten parents and students. Parents and Guardians have been receiving weekly emails including videos filmed by our Strong Start Teacher, Doris Shi. These videos allow incoming Kindergarten students to follow along in a virtual circle time, sing along and teachings of various topics, such as learning about emotions, shapes, colors, numbers, nutrition and reading. Each week has a theme, which includes helpful resources on health, learning, and play. There are weekly introductions to key staff members working with our kindergarten students. We are very excited to welcome our incoming K students in September! Stay tuned for more information about gradual entry and an in person September Welcome to Kindergarten.

LIBRARY BOOK RETURN

We currently have over 2,400 books checked out of the Selkirk library. I hope to collect as many of these as possible before the end of June.

The process for collecting books this month is as follows:

- If your child is attending school in person - please return books to the designated box in the classroom.
- If you child is continuing with online learning - please stop by the Hot Lunch Pickup Table any day of

the week between 11:30 - 12:15. (Gym entrance near Welywn)

- Teachers have received a list of books checked out by their students. Feel free to ask them if you are unsure of your child's current checkouts.
- If it is not possible for you to stop by the school, please let your teacher know and we will collect the books in the fall
- Book bags - I usually store book bags for grades K - 3 students over the summer. Please feel free to drop them off with books.

To all the parents who have helped in the library and during the book fair this year: A great big Thank YOU!

I look forward to seeing you all again soon. I wish you all good health and safety over the summer.

Mme. Astrid

PAC NEWS

Famous Foods - Local, convenient, all your grocery needs covered.

How It Works:

- 1) Buy a Famous Foods grocery card through the PAC website - [Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC](#). Available in \$50, \$100, and \$500.
- 2) A PAC member will email you to arrange delivery of the card to your home
- 2) Spend at Famous Foods when buying your groceries.
- 3) When the money runs out on your Famous Foods card, buy a new one from the PAC
- 15% of each purchase is donated back to Lord Selkirk

Mabel's Labels

Get high quality labels that don't peel off so your kids don't lose their stuff!

How It Works:

- 1)
Go to: https://mabelslabels.ca/en_CA/fundraising/suport/

- 2) Under Support a Fundraiser, choose Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC (20% is donated to the school!)
- 3) Chose your Combo Pack, fill in your child's information (ideally first initial and last name - ex. J. Smith), and purchase.

Under Combo Label Packs, here are some good options:

- The Fundraiser Combo (39 combo labels for \$17.45)
- Tag Mate Stick on Clothing Labels (70 clothing labels for \$21)
- Clothing Label Pack (70 clothing labels and 12 shoe labels for \$25.95)
- Custom Clothing Stamp (1000 imprints on all colours of clothes for \$47.00)