

ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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



THE CEDARS' BARK- March 2020

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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:

It is hard to believe we are just one week from Spring Break. Since we are approaching a break this newsletter will be fairly short and sweet.

We are all looking forward to seeing you next week for conferences. If you have not arranged a conference time with the teacher please contact them directly at the school. These conferences are one of the five communications that teachers are required to do each year. **Your participation in them is essential.** When strong home and school partnerships are modelled to children we see increased effort and engagement from children at school on every level. Children must learn that both their teacher and parents support their learning.

As a school and district we are using three key questions to reflect on learning:

- **Where am I now?** (*what are my strengths? what have I done well? what am I working on?*)
- **Where am I going?** (*what are my goals? How can I grow my thinking? what are my next steps?*)
- **What do I need to do to get there?** (*what do I need to do? what supports do I need? who can help me? how can I help myself?*)

The theme for the short month of March is citizenship. Citizenship is about helping children understand their rights and responsibilities as Canadian citizens, and encouraging them to think about what they appreciate about our country such as individual freedoms, valuing multiculturalism, volunteerism, helping those in need, welcoming new citizens, taking care of the environment, and protecting Canada's heritage and culture. It is a great opportunity to reflect with your child on what they do to develop citizenship at school and in the community. We are never too young to start developing a strong sense of active citizenship.

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

March 8	Clocks Spring Forward
March 16 – 27	Spring Break
March 30	Welcome Back
March 31	Group/Class Photos
March 31	International Transgender day of Visibility
April 3 – 29	Welcome to Kindergarten
April 8	International Day of Pink
April 10	Good Friday No School
April 13	Easter Monday No School
April 14 – 16	Grade 7 Camp (English)
April 21	Earth Day Assemblies
May 7	Volunteer Tea 2:30 pm
May 14	Sports Day
May 15	Pro-D Day No School
May 18	Victoria Day No School
May 21	Multicultural Potluck/Bike Decorating Event
May 25-29	Bike to school Week
June 10 – 12	Grade 5 Camp
June 25	Last Day of School
June 26	Administration Day

LIBRARY UPDATE

Scholastic Book Fair

It's that time of year again! The Spring Scholastic Book Fair is coming to Lord Selkirk next week. This fair will have an entire room of French books as well as English books. This is a good time to stock up on great books for Spring Break and for the summer.

March 9 - 12
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

Looking forward to seeing you there!



KINDERGARTEN UPDATE

Thank you to all those parents who registered on time for kindergarten for 2020-2021 at Selkirk.

Choice program draws have finished and we have confirmed acceptance of 20 Kindergarten students for French Immersion for next year. We see very little, if any, movement on our wait list for French.

We have not given English Kindergarten offers yet as we will have space between Selkirk main and Selkirk annex(which are considered one school) for all kindergarten students. We are awaiting confirmation on staffing and will get back to parents as soon as we hear. We appreciate this can be stressful for parents but ask you do not call the school. We will send information as soon as we have updates. Thank you for your patience.

PROJECT BACKPACK

A HUGE thank you to the Selkirk community for participating in Project Backpack! Thanks to your contributions, the grade 7 students were able to fill 50 backpacks and had 8 boxes of additional items that have been donated to Directions Youth Services.

Selkirk-you have shown the true spirit of giving and should be so proud of our community. Well done!

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME

MARCH 8, 2020 Don't forget that on Sunday, March 8th Daylight Savings Time begins and clocks "spring forward" one hour. The time should be changed one hour ahead before going to bed on Saturday evening.

LOST AND FOUND

Recently there have been several new items added to the Lost & Found from two boxes worth of stuff that had been accumulating in the gym. This is on top of the several items that show up daily! The Lost & Found is bursting with lost items, please come and claim them!

Next week, March 9-13, will be your last chance to look as most items will be donated during Spring Break. Please come by while you are at the school for student led conferences.

A reminder to please, please, please LABEL YOUR CHILD'S BELONGINGS!! We have been returning items that have names, so please be sure to label them! Please include their last name or last initial, it can be hard to find the owner when their are multiple kids with the same first name. Again, MOST ITEMS WILL BE DONATED AFTER NEXT FRIDAY SO COME ON DOWN AND TAKE A LOOK!

IMMUNE BOOSTING

Health Tips on how to boost your immune system during cold and flu season.

- The VSB has been very proactive with recommendations to help prevent the spread of viruses during cold and flu season.
- frequent hand washing for at least 20 seconds using soap and water
 - hand sanitizer (with at least 60% alcohol) if a sink and water are not available
 - avoid touching your face, eyes, and mouth with unwashed hands
 - cover your mouth and nose with a disposable tissue or crease of your elbow

Adrian Dix, Minister of Health, and Dr. Bonnie Henry, B.C.'s provincial health officer, have issued the following joint statement regarding updates on the novel coronavirus (COVID-19)

“The most important measure anyone can take is preventing the transmission of respiratory illnesses, including COVID-19. This includes cleaning your hands regularly, avoiding touching your face, coughing or sneezing into your elbow sleeve, and disposing of tissues appropriately.

“It is also very important to stay home and away from others if you or members of your family are sick. This includes staying home from work or school, and postponing visits to long-term care facilities.

WITS PROGRAM



A reminder to all parents we are encouraging students to use the WITS strategy to deal with issues.

WITS stands for:

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

Walk Away: Role-play walking away from the situation. Ask: What would happen if you walked away? Would it solve the problem? If not, try another strategy.

Ignore: Discuss ways to ignore, like leaving the situation or withdrawing eye contact. Ask: What would happen if you ignored? Would it solve the problem? If not, try another strategy.

Talk it out: Suggest statements to use to talk it out with the person bothering him or her. Sometimes saying “Stop” is enough. Maybe a joke would help. Ask: What would happen if you talked it out? Would it solve the problem? If not, try another strategy.

Seek help: Suggest other adults your child could ask for help, like a teacher. Ask: What would happen if you asked another adult for help? Would it solve the problem? If not, who else could you seek help from?

Want to know more? Explore the Using WITS with Your Child section of the WITS website at www.witsprogram.ca/families/using-wits-with-your-children/.

Often in Spring we see a rise in issues so would like parents to reinforce this strategy at home.

PINK SHIRT DAY HIGHLIGHTS



BUILDING FOR MODERN LEARNING

Over the month of February, Selkirk celebrated the monthly theme of *acceptance* and *kindness*. In doing so, students celebrate kindness week by sharing positive messages of kindness and empathy with their classmates and friends. The school also celebrated Pink Shirt Day with a wonderful assembly highlighting what we can do as responsible citizens to help a friend, classmate or colleague if they are being bullied. Students performed a dance to the beat of the "Rainbow Song", including a sing a long with the whole assembly.

Diversity Club promotes a tolerant and inclusive environment, providing a safe space for students to hang out regardless of ethnicity, religious background, gender identity or sexual orientation. Diversity Club is an opportunity for students to get together to chat, play games and raise awareness about issues such as Kindness Week and Pink Shirt Day. The diversity club meets the first and third Friday at lunch in the library and welcome new members.

KID SING

We are excitedly preparing for our performances in the VSB Elementary Choir Festival NEXT WEEK - on Tuesday, March 10th

Tuesday, March 10 - 3:00 to 4:15... REGULAR K-2 choir practice

Tuesday, March 10 - 6:15PM - drop off your young singers in the CAFETERIA of John Oliver School [530 E. 41st Ave] *** you may park for FREE in the West Lot of the school - accessed from E 43rd Ave***

- you are welcome to move to the auditorium and get a seat - - we have a rehearsal for the joint choir pieces at 6:30

- the evening will start at 7PM, with the singing of O Canada

- each choir gets to perform 2 songs on their own - We will perform "The Path to the Moon" and "Zing!"

- at the end, all the singers gather on the stage [about 400 on our night] to perform the two massed numbers: "Father Sky" and "Joy Inside" - led by the guest conductor who also gives recorded feedback to every choir... it is an incredible experience.

Thursday, March 12 - regular rehearsal for Grades 3-5 choir members

So far, the VSB has heard from almost 2000 people throughout Vancouver about their priorities for modern schools. That said, we want to hear more from more of our own students.

We know that students provide an essential perspective on how we can design schools that fit student needs. This is why we're hoping you'll take ten minutes to provide your perspective through the link below.

Online engagement is open now through March 11, 2020. Please go to <https://build2learn.ethelo.net/> to provide your feedback.

It should only take a few minutes to complete the survey, and your input will help us define a vision for the future of schools in Vancouver.

Watch for more information about in-person engagement opportunities.

Thank you for your participation!

SELKIRK PAC

Next PAC meeting is April 6th at 6:30pm in the staff room! All Selkirk adults are encouraged to attend! We will have babysitting available in the library.

SAVE THE DATE - May 21st 5:00pm to 7:30 - Bikes Decorating Party & Multicultural Dinner

The next event on the Selkirk PAC calendar is the multicultural dinner and a bike decorating party. This year we will combine these two events. We are looking for volunteers to help with setup and clean up for the dinner as well as volunteers to help kids decorate their bikes in anticipation of Bike to School Week! Also, we are looking for donations of streamers and pipe cleaners for decorations. PAC is looking for any parents that are confident bike mechanics and would consider coming out to help kids tune up bikes! Please contact PAC to volunteer!

Selkirk Royale

A BIG THANKS to everyone that volunteered and attended Selkirk Royale - it was a great night again! We raised over \$10,000 thanks to the support of our community!

Parent/Guardian Business Directory

After receiving so many generous donations from businesses affiliated with Selkirk adults PAC would like to start a directory of businesses run by school parents and guardians! We would like to make it a

bit easier to support our community! If you run a business please consider entering it into the google docs linked below!

<<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1fbTiJfLPq2DxbX-rMsRqwNDFT3CXyggS9TOVcu-jPB8/edit?usp=sharing>>

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!

PAC FUNDRAISING

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

How It Works:

- 1) Buy a Famous Foods grocery card from the PAC (either from the PAC website or in person at a PAC meeting).

- 2) The PAC will arrange to get the Famous Foods card to you (school office or deliver 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 (Famous Food does not reload the cards as part of the fundraiser).

Buy your Famous Foods card here - Lord Selkirk Elementary PAC. Available in \$50, \$100, and \$500 amounts with 15% donated to the school!

Mabel's Labels

Camp is around the corner - Spring break camp, Grade 5s and 7s camp, summer camps! 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/support/

- 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)

Rufus Guitar Shop

Guitar or Drum one-on-one lessons? Watch for post cards coming home with your child for more details.

How It Works:

- 1) Sign up for a month of music lessons at Rufus Guitar & Drum Shop (10% donated to our school)

- 2) Mention you are a Selkirk student, sibling or parent (new students only)

- Call Rufus Guitar Shop at 604-222-1717, select #2 for Commercial Drive location.

- Music lessons options include: drums, guitar, base guitar, mandolin and ukulele.

- Must mention Lord Selkirk Elementary when booking for the school to receive the fundraiser donation.

QUEBEC FUNDRAISING INITIATIVES

Emergency and Earthquake Kits

Do you have an earthquake kit? We have partnered with Life472 who sell emergency preparedness kits. No need to assemble your own. In the event of an emergency, like an earthquake, you can have all the essentials you need for your family and pets packed and ready. From Grab and Go family earthquake kits to office, school and vehicle kits. Be Prepared. Have Peace of Mind. A portion of the proceeds will go towards the Grade 7 Quebec Exchange this year. Orders open on March 2 and will close on March 24.

Visit life472.com, make your selections and check out online. Please use the Coupon Code: "Selkirk" when prompted for free delivery to the school and to flag your order as part of our fundraiser.

Orders will be delivered to the school and available for collection in the gym from 3-5pm on April 7.

For more information or other ordering options, contact Melanie Moore -

MelMooreQX20@gmail.com

Purdys Easter Chocolatier Fundraiser

It's back again! The Grade 7 French Immersion class is raising money through Easter chocolate! Get your favourite Purdy's for Easter and support the Selkirk kids.

Follow these simple steps:

1. Login or create a new account at fundraising.purdys.com
2. In the search bar, enter the number 34817
3. Click JOIN CAMPAIGN
4. You can then place your order!

Feel free to invite your friends and family to help! Orders accepted until March 14. Pick up will be April 6 at Selkirk.

Plenty of time for the perfect Easter treat!

Thank you for your support!

GLADSTONE UPDATES

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 Division 20 / 21

Tuesday Division 1 / 2

Wednesday Division 3

Thursday Division 4

Friday Division 19

Basketball

Mr. Chou and Mr. Nickel share a "thank you and congratulations" to all grade 6 boys and girls who played on the Jr Boys and Girls teams. What a Great season!"

Sports Equipment

Over recess and lunch, students at Gladstone have access to bins with sports equipment. Some of the items found in their bins include footballs, basketballs, soccerballs, skipping ropes, spike ball nets and frizbees.

OUT in Schools



Grade 6 & 7 students participated in a SOGI assembly given by the organization OUT in Schools. Out In Schools brings relevant films and presentations into classrooms to facilitate dialogue about LGBT2Q+ lived experiences. OUT in Schools lead students through a dynamic presentation and equipped them with language and tools for inclusion.