



ÉCOLE LORD SELKIRK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1750 East 22nd Avenue, Vancouver, BC V5N 2P7

Phone: 604-713-4650 Fax: 604-713-4657

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

THE CEDARS' BARK- December 2020

Principal:	Shannon Burton	604-713-4650
Vice-Principal:	Meghan Gomes	604-713-4650
Director of Instruction:	Aaron Davis	604-713-4424
School Liaison/Trustee:	Lois Chan-Pedley	

Principal's Message

Dear Selkirk Community,

It is hard to believe it is December next week. We hope that you and your family have been staying healthy and well during these continued challenging times.

I want to begin this newsletter by sharing my gratitude for the staff at Lord Selkirk Elementary. Each day these caring dedicated professionals come to work and invest in the well-being of our students. They put students first regardless of what else is going on around them. For this, we are very grateful. We are continuing to share some of the highlights that are happening in the building to help you stay connected to the great things that are going on.

Thank you for participating in the student conferences with your child's teacher in early November. As you continue to support your child towards our mid-point of the year when they receive written reports (January 29) keep these questions in mind when you talk with them about their progress:

- Where am I now?
- Where am I going?
- How do I get there?

The answers to these questions are found in assessment which is ongoing and responsive. If you did not have the chance to participate in these conferences, please make time to connect with your child's teacher. It is through each partner (teacher, parents, student) taking an active role that we see children experience the most success and growth.

Our theme for December is Generosity. We know generosity in terms of the act of giving to help others. During this holiday consider the challenges people have gone through due to COVID-19 and those community members who have been impacted in one way or another. Please see some of the acts of giving you can participate in organized by Ms. Mani below.

You, however, do not have to share a material good to be generous. Generosity can come from sharing moments or experiences. Being generous towards another means you try to see their best light and to interpret their actions as well-meaning until proved otherwise and you treat everyone as innately worthy of your respect and care. Sharing positive words, a smile, holding the door, or asking how someone is doing helps to build a culture of generosity.

Please read the important information in the rest of the newsletter. The door may not be literally open as it has been, however, we are here for you and are just at the end of a call or email. Please reach out if you have questions or concerns.

Warm Regards,

Mme Burton

Important Dates

Sunday November 1-Jan 2021	Kindergarten Priority Registration- must register online and make an appointment via https://outlook.office365.com/owa/calendar/KindergartenRegistration2021@vsbworld.onmicrosoft.com/bookings/
Friday November 27	Pro-D Day: No School
Monday November 30	Virtual Book Fair @ Selkirk
Thursday December 17	Check that your child's login for TEAMS works
Friday December 18	Last day before Winter Break
Monday January 4, 2021	School Re-Opens after Winter Break
Monday January 11, 2021	Choice Program registration opens
Friday January 29, 2021	Written Reports go home

COVID-19 RELATED UPDATES AND INFORMATION

NEW PHO UPDATE AND CHANGES TO DROP OFF/PICK UP

When announcing the orders on November 19th, Dr. Henry specifically indicated that parents socializing with each other outside schools at drop off and pick up before and after school is **NOT** permitted under the current orders.

Thank you for dropping your student off promptly at 8:55 on school days. We kindly ask that once you get to your division sign and make contact with the classroom teacher/prep teacher you promptly leave the school grounds. Please do not wait until classes go in the school.

We also ask that ALL ADULTS ON THE PROPERTY consider wearing a mask. This will help us reduce the chances of a spread if anyone is contagious. Everyone needs to do their part and the VSB is encouraging masks for everyone.

Please do not walk into the school with your child(ren) call the office and someone will pick up or drop off your child(ren) to you.

OPTION 4 LEARNING FROM HOME TRANSITION PROGRAM STUDENTS

Thank you to all our option 4 students for continuing to engage in school activities virtually and in person when possible. An email will be sent to all option 4 families about the next dates to transition to face-to-face learning.

TEAMS CLASSROOMS LOGIN

Before the winter break, please make sure that you can log in to your child's TEAMS account. If you have any issues logging in, please contact your child's teacher for further instructions or to reset your password. This is a critical task that ALL SELKIRK students can get online. Passwords expire so please put this on your TODO list.

SEISMIC UPDATE

We are happy to report that the seismic upgrades on the “Frame building” are on track and on schedule to be completed in 2021. We are hopefully that are Grade 6, and 7 students and staff can return to Selkirk Elementary sometime next year. We will provide more information when it is available.

FRENCH IMMERSION REGISTRATION

Do you have a child currently in French Immersion who has a sibling born in 2016? If so, are you planning to register them for French Immersion for the 2021-2022 school year? Remember this process is done online via the Choice program VSB website. Please visit https://www.vsb.bc.ca/School/School-Registration/Kindergarten_Registration/Pages/Kindergarten-Choice-Programs.aspx for more information.

SECRET SANTA & COCOA and CANDY CANES

Secret Santa-2020 Style!

It is that time of year again when Selkirk families step up and help others in our community. We all know how different things look this year, but that will not stop us from helping those who need it! Historically, our Secret Santa Tree would be going up in front of the office in the next 2 weeks for families to choose an ornament and purchase a gift. Since we are limiting the amount of people in the school to keep everyone safe, we are going to do this in a different way this year. Instead of wrapped gifts, we are asking for gift cards to give to families so they may shop for a gift for their children.

Some suggestions of preferred gift cards are:

- Walmart
- Superstore
- Amazon
- Canadian Tire
- Chapters Indigo
- London Drugs
- Shoppers Drug Mart
- Toys “R” Us
- Metropolis @ Metrotown

A notice will go home with each student within the next week. If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Mani at vmani@vsb.bc.ca or by calling 604.713.4660



Cocoa & Candy Canes formerly known as Cocoa & Carolling

Since we cannot get together to celebrate, we are going to try a new way to bring our community together! Cocoa & Candy Canes is the 2020 version of our annual Cocoa & Carolling event! Hot chocolate packages and mini candy canes will be sold for \$1.00. Each package will contain one packet of hot chocolate and a mini candy cane. Students will need to bring in their money to preorder their package(s). Once ordering is complete, we will send the hot chocolate packages home with students. To encourage community connectedness and the holiday spirit, we would love for you to take pictures of your family enjoying your hot chocolate and email them in. We will share the photos on our school website for all Selkirk families to see! All profits will be donated to the Greater Vancouver Food Bank as in years past!

A notice will go home with each student within the next week. If you have any questions, please contact Vanessa Mani at vmani@vsb.bc.ca or by calling 604.713.4660



VIRTUAL BOOK FAIR

Good news!

Although an in-person Scholastic Book Fair is not possible this year, you will still be able to shop online and support our school with a virtual book fair!

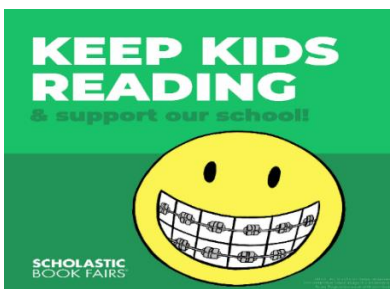
French books will also be available during this fair.

When: Nov 30 - Dec 11, 2020 (sneak-peek available now)

Where: Online - <https://virtualbookfairs.scholastic.ca/pages/5153504>

Shipping: Books will be delivered directly to you via UPS. Free shipping over \$35 (otherwise \$6/order) & FREE shipping (no minimum) on Wednesday evenings from 6 - 8 PM

Rewards: Our school will receive 20% of every purchase in book rewards, this means brand new books for the Selkirk Library for all to share and enjoy!



MINI SCHOOL GLADSTONE

There was no in-person info night this year, so Gladstone has created some digital content that they have posted to their mini school webpage. Please view the link below

<https://www.vsb.bc.ca/schools/gladstone/Teaching-and-Learning/Programs/Pages/Mini-School---Enrichment-Program.aspx>

The mini school application deadline is Thursday, December 17th, 2020. All applications will be submitted by email.

SEVERE WEATHER

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 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 for 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.



PAC INFORMATION

Direct Drive Fundraiser

Over the years the Selkirk PAC has worked tirelessly to fundraise and support Selkirk activities, clubs and programs. We know that engaged and involved parents and caregivers are key to positive outcomes for students. This year we find ourselves, like so many other organizations, challenged to think about how we can do things a little differently.

The COVID-19 pandemic and the public health orders put in place to keep us all safe mean that we cannot host our biggest annual fundraiser, the Selkirk Royale. What we can and will continue to do is look for innovative ways to support our school community and to provide Selkirk children with safe and engaging experiences and activities to enrich their school life. It is with this in mind that we write to you to ask for your on-going financial support. It is our hope that this direct drive fundraising initiative will help us fundraise the \$10,000 normally raised at the Selkirk Royale.

Please see attachment for ways to donate.

PAC Fundraising



Famous Foods

Shop at Famous Foods? Thanks to our generous Selkirk Community, parents purchased \$15,500 in Famous Food cards during the 2019/20 school year. From those purchases, over \$2300 was donated back to our school!!

Support our school with Famous Foods grocery cards. Available in \$50, \$100, and \$500 values, with 15% donated back to Selkirk on every purchase. Open to all parents, family, and friends. We will arrange safe delivery of the card(s) to you!

Available now - Famous Food cards can be purchased online through the Selkirk PAC webpage:

<https://squareup.com/store/LordSelkirkPAC>

Mabel's Labels

Need labels for your kid's stuff? How about Custom Holiday Return Address labels or Gift Tags? Mabel's Labels has you covered!

Durable, affordable, and great designs. As a bonus, 20% of purchases are donated back to our school!

SPOTLIGHT ON SELKIRK STUDENTS

Student Vote 2020

Many schools across B.C. participated in Student Vote 2020. This election, we were voting for a provincial government to elect a premier. Students voted on October 21st and 22nd in their classrooms. Some classes made the election process more authentic by having voting clerks who checked off voters' names off a list. We cast our ballots in privacy partitions and dropped them in ballot boxes. We had a scrutineer, whose job was to make sure we followed the procedure correctly. We live in a democratic society, which means we elect our officials by voting. We learned about different

parties' stances on different issues and voted for who we wanted. The results of the Student Vote this year is an NDP majority. I wonder if this will be the same results of the BC elections?

By Olive Browman-Kwan



The students in Mme Aimee's Kindergarten class have been reading a lot of Mo Willems books lately!



FOLLOW US ON TWITTER

We have a new Twitter page please consider following us at [@LordSelkirkVSB](https://twitter.com/LordSelkirkVSB) where we will be sharing wonderful things that are happening in our school.

