

APRIL 2024



Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

Play Space Renovation

Farmer Construction are on site! They are starting the changes to the handicap ramp before the rubber surface is poured over the break.. We will be back in business in April!

So far we have raised over \$60,000. This includes everything from donations of \$20 to \$5,000! Many thanks to our families and friends of Selkirk Montessori who have made their contributions so far (see page 2).

If you haven't already, please onate now by e-transfer to accounting@selkirkmontessori.ca or login [here](#). You will receive a charitable receipt and our sincere thanks for your generosity. The children will get a new, up-to-date play space. Thanks for making a difference!



Before and After



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“April is a moment of joy for those who have survived the winter.”
— Samuel Johnson

Play Space Renovation (continued)

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Nate Knight
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Penny Barner
Richard Johnson
Richard Slocomb
Robert Morris
Sameer Jinnah
Samson Mow
Sarah Laursen
Steve Hollar
Steve Madsen
Stirling Chow
Sumesh Kariyil
Sung-il Lee
Ted Deng
Vincent Lee
Yuki Evans
Zoe Jackson

thank you

Many more donors to recognize in May!!

Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

SPG activities are budding just like the trees, shrubs and flowers all around us. The last term of school is here, and we've got many exciting things happening to take us to the end of the year.

Watch for details about an upcoming community education night and read on for two events already in the works!

Art Cards, Magnets, Puzzles, Blankets...

Mid-April brings our annual Art Cards fundraiser. Children prepare art specifically for this fundraiser. You'll be able to order cards featuring their artwork, and many other items, too: magnets, puzzles, blankets, mugs ... Even if you don't order anything, you'll have the artwork to keep!

If you do order something, remember to return the artwork to the school for scanning. Don't worry, you'll get it back when your order is filled.

Many Hands Make ... Delicious Dishes

Be sure to mark **Saturday, May 4** on your calendar for a fun and tasty event: Multicultural Night. We'll meet in the gym to taste delights from around the world, courtesy of YOU, our vibrant, diverse, multicultural Selkirk Montessori School community!

More details are on the way, but we'll need volunteers to help organize, set up, bring food, and clean up. Contact Sarah Bolen at sbolen@inspiredentertainment.com, to take part.



Key Dates for April (and one for May) ...

- April 3 to June 13: Hot lunch delivery for term 3
- April 18: Artwork goes home
- April 22: Art card orders due, and artwork due back at school
- May 4: Multicultural Night

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY EDUCATION NIGHT MESSAGE ON LAST PAGE!

Kingfisher Report—CAIMUN

The Canadian International Model United Nations (CAIMUN) conference took place from Friday, March 1 - Sunday, March 3, 2024.

In the months leading up to this event, several of our grade 8 students had joined the INTERPOL committee, become a delegate of a specific country, and intensively researched two topics: Arms Trafficking in Conflict Zones and Predictive Policing. They wrote two position papers (one on each topic) based on their country's history and stand on these topics. Then they prepared a one minute speech on each topic that could be presented to the INTERPOL assembly during the weekend session. As you might imagine, this was a LOT of work on top of the many responsibilities of eighth graders.



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This was our first time being part of CAIMUN so we weren't sure quite what to expect. For the past two years, our students in grade 8 had the option to join Montessori Model UN, but as their session takes place in New York, we had only taken part virtually (online). It was exciting to be able to experience a model United Nations in-person! These ten students were extremely nervous on our way to the Sheraton Wall Centre in downtown Vancouver, but once they arrived and began their experience, time flew by! Many students hope to participate next year when they are in high school and report that all the stress and hard work "was so worth it — it was so much fun!"



(continued on page 4)

Kingfisher—CAIMUN (continued)

Over the weekend, dressed in western business attire (lots of black blazers!) they had ten committee sessions, moderated in formal UN procedure for debate. They had roll call and quorum at the beginning of each session, presented motions, had caucus meetings, passed notes to negotiate with different countries and join blocs, collaboratively wrote directives and resolution papers, and voted. The final session on the first day ended at 10:15 p.m. The following evening, they had to be up at midnight till 2 a.m. to deal with a midnight crisis, which was meant to be chaotic and demonstrate how you can't always plan on making important decisions at ideal times and frames of mind. Many of our school's delegation volunteered to share their speeches and offer motions. We are so proud of their efforts!

Of course, it wasn't all work and no play. There were breaks in between and opportunities to sample restaurants we don't have in Victoria (like Jollibee!) and time to get to know each other outside of school and in a unique situation. There was a delegate social (no chaperones allowed) where there was dancing, singing, loud music, ping pong, and chess, etc. It was a memorable, enjoyable, (and exhausting) experience!



Save the date! Spread the word among our alumni families!



SAVE the DATE!
Retirement Party
in honour of
PENNY BARNER
Tuesday, May 28th
5:30 p.m.
Fireside Grill
MORE DETAILS, LATER!!!

Many of you may already know that our dear Penny is retiring at the end of this school year. We want to do something very special for her and are planning a Gala Benefit Dinner at the Fireside Grill on Tuesday, May 28th at 5:30 p.m. Proceeds are to go to the school bursary fund, a cause close to Penny's heart.

Tickets will include a delicious meal and a tax receipt will be issued for the amount over and above the meal price as a donation to the bursary fund. Additional donations are welcome even if you are not attending the dinner. Tax receipts can be issued for amounts of \$20 or more.

Tickets will go on sale from April 15th. There will only be a limited number of tickets that will be available. Watch out for more details on Facebook and on the school website.

You are also invited to a special assembly in May at school! This will be honouring not only Penny, but all staff who are retiring.

Jazz Concert March 2024



What a treat we had at the first ever Selkirk Montessori Jazz concert last month. From strings to band to choir, students (and teachers) were showing off their chops! Kudos to all the soloists, and special mention to Rhys Madsen and Tess Hellner-Mestelman for their featured performances. Many thanks to Mr. C and Jessica for pulling it all together! You helped us raise more than \$1,700 for the music program.

Immersion Week Photo Gallery



Book Nooks With Jhoanna



Horticultural Heroes with Elizabeth & Gigi



Stop Motion Animation with Marie and Brad

(continued on page 9)

Immersion Week Photo Gallery (continued)



Hair with Carmelle
Special thanks to
Piper London at The
Old Hat Salon and
Jed Dulin at
AtmospHAiRe.



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Spirit Day—Wearing a Sports Jersey



Special thanks to all the staff and students who remembered to wear their sports jerseys for March Spirit Day! From pre-school to grade 8, we had many sports, teams and events represented. Some were teams the wearer was on, many were in honour of a team or sport and some were ones I bought at Value Village! lol Go, Team Selkirk!



**WE 'VE
GOT
THE
SPIRIT!**



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We can make a difference.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION NIGHT

Responsive Parenting for the Montessori Child

Save the date and come join us on **Monday April 8th from 6-7:30 pm** for a Community Education Night with one of our own Selkirk parents, Robin Kiernan.

During this in person workshop, we will be looking at roles and responsibilities in parenting, healthy boundaries and how responsive parenting shares some of the guiding principles of the Montessori philosophy.

This workshop is open to parents of all ages from our preschool kiddos up to our soon to be grades. We hope to see you there!

Dates to Remember

- April 8—Community Education Night (6-7:30 pm)
- April 8-12—Drop off items for Spring Sale
- April 17-19—Spring Sale is on!
- April 25th—Science Fair
- May 1-2—Senior Musical: Buggy Malone (more info to come)
- May 13th—Art Show (10-3pm at GNS Jr. Campus)

Selkirk Montessori School is located on the traditional territories of the Ləkʷəŋən speaking people, today known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on this territory.