

JUNE 2023



Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

From the Head of School Erin Hayes

How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard. ~Carol Sobieski and Thomas Meehan, Annie

How lucky we all are to be saying goodbye to some very special people this year. For those inspiring grads, dedicated staff, and supportive families we will be saying goodbye to this month, know you will always have a home at Selkirk Montessori School.

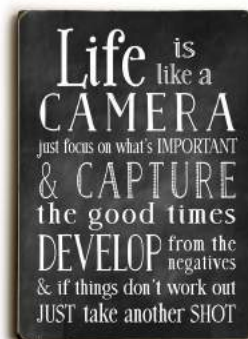
Our graduates this year head off to a number of different schools. Without a doubt, they will make a lasting imprint on the culture there, too. This group will fondly be remembered for their advocacy, humour, creativity, willingness to grow, and appreciation of diversity. Fifteen of the twenty-one graduates have been with us since Preschool/Kindergarten, and the other six slipped in to make a perfect combo, and it shows in their relationships. Over the years, they have taken the time to work things out with each other when challenges have arisen, they communicate openly and have genuinely embraced each other in their final year. Some have given sage advice to the grade 7s, telling them to really savour their final year as it goes by so fast. They carry gifts of knowledge, understanding, and experience with them as they head off into the big world and we hope they are able to hold onto their true selves in the years to come as each of them is a pretty special being!

Thank you to all who helped make this year happen - the students, staff, and parents. We have something so very special here and I am already looking forward to what the new school year will bring.

Don't cry because it's over. Smile because it happened. – Dr. Suess

Inside this issue:

Message from Erin Hayes	1
Happy Retirement, Dominga!	2
Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update	3
Track & Field Gallery /PFC Comes to Selkirk!	4-5
Auction Wrap-up & Photo Gallery	6-8
Counsellor's Corner/Westmont Prize	9-10
TC 10K Photos/Dates to Remember	11/12



Happy Retirement, Dominga!



It was a beautiful, sunny evening on Friday, June 2nd as we honoured and celebrated Dominga Passmore for 40 years of service at Selkirk Montessori School and a lifetime of service in the community.



We had a great turnout, with both current and former families representing the school and a fabulous contingent of community volunteers and leaders joining us for speeches, presentations and — which was a must — a delicious spread. This time, we let Dominga have time off and other volunteers helped with the hospitality!



Dominga's daughter Stephanie, and her nieces, Tamiko (who flew up from California) and Sophie, sat with Dominga on the stage. Dominga's son, Michael, sent a video message thanking her for finding our school for him — and for her — when he was wee.



We were treated to a variety of performances. The Sampaguita Dancers from the Victoria-Filipino Canadian Association shared the 'Kapag-apir' with us. Kristen and our Triple Threat group sang, 'Food, Glorious Food' from the musical, Oliver. Mr. C. and Christine Taber played. For the finale, Jhoanna, Carmelle and some of our Kingfisher students danced the 'Tinikling'. They did an incredible job!



Many thanks to Amabel de Lara for coordinating the event, to Susie Rialp for co-Emceeing, for the many volunteers who created decorations, set up the gym, designed the buffet, and who helped to clean up at the end of the evening.



A few of our retired teachers who attended: Diane Chappell, Barbara McDavid, Amabel De Lara, Dominga, Catherine Scorey and Susie Rialp.



Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

And here we are, at the end of the school year! When you blinked just a moment ago, that was September through May. As you make your way through the flurry of June activities—end of year field trips, end of year concerts, end of year projects—please pause for a moment so you can soak up our gratitude.



Thank you for folding origami flowers; baking for school events; buying spiritwear, chocolates, cheese, pizza, hot lunches, and art cards; donating to Angel Gifts for Our Place; reading emails (So. Many. Emails.) and so much more. We appreciate your creativity and enthusiasm, your children appreciate the activities you've helped provide, and above all the school community has benefitted from your active engagement.

Image by Patrickss on Freepik

Community education night with Roxy Humphrey

Roxy, a Selkirk parent, led an engaging, inspiring and practical community education night on the topic of navigating uncertainty. The in-person evening was full of helpful information and practices to support our kids - and us - to face the future. Thank you, Roxy!



Many hands make light work ...

And many helpers make for a blast of a time! We'd still love help with these upcoming events:

- Freezies on the Green: join us on the fly to hand out freezies, or just swing by and have a chat!
- Back-to-school BBQ in September
- Hot Lunch Program starting up again in September

For more information about any of these roles, reach out to the Selkirk Parent Group directly: spg@selkirkmontessori.ca.

TRACK & FIELD 2023

Once again this year, we were on our own for track and field! Our grades 1-4 competed in the morning and our grades 5-8 in the afternoon. Our Track & Field club members took part in the event hosted by the Vancouver Island Independent Schools' Sports Association.

Thanks to all the teachers—especially Brian and Bree—for putting together another excellent event for our students! Thanks also to the wonderful volunteer parents who were able to stay to help with the event and cheer the students on.

Photos courtesy of Erin Hayes, Gigi Cook and the Newhook family.



Events included ball throw, discus, triple and long jumps, high jump, distance running and relays.

Continued on page 4



Congratulations to all of our participants! I heard that personal and school records were broken and that many of our students took part in events they had never tried before. You ROCK!! Can't wait for next year's event.

Pacific FC comes to Selkirk Montessori!



As some of you will know, we do have a large group of soccer loving students at Selkirk Montessori School. We are pleased to announce that we will have some players from the Pacific Football Club, Victoria's professional team, visiting our school Monday afternoon (June 12th). They will talk to students from grades 1-8 about goal setting, the experience of training to become a professional footballer, and what the experience is like. They will then do some drills with our middle years students.

They are also offering an opportunity for Selkirk to attend the June 30th game at Starlight Stadium in Langford as a community, with a discount for tickets and seating the school together. To catch them, and the game, you can purchase the discounted tickets to the June 30th match [here](https://offer.fevo.com/pacific-fc-vs-atletico-ottawa-yhukkw-bfd450b?fevoUri=pacific-fc-vs-atletico-ottawa-yhukkw-bfd450b%2F).

<https://offer.fevo.com/pacific-fc-vs-atletico-ottawa-yhukkw-bfd450b?fevoUri=pacific-fc-vs-atletico-ottawa-yhukkw-bfd450b%2F>

Hope to see you there!

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE!

**THANK YOU TO OUR MANY SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS, FOR YOUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS!
OUR 80'S PROM SILENT AUCTION WAS A MASSIVE SUCCESS!**

**BECAUSE OF YOUR SUPPORT,
WE RAISED AN ASTOUNDING \$30,000
THAT WILL GO DIRECTLY TOWARDS
A BRAND NEW PLAYSPACE
FOR OUR STUDENTS!**



**THIS WAS OUR FIRST BIG EVENT AFTER A LONG
AND ISOLATING PANDEMIC, AND WHAT AN
INCREDIBLE WAY TO CELEBRATE OUR COMMUNITY,
BY COMING TOGETHER AGAIN!**



ecologist

PEARLS ONLY
FINE PEARL JEWELLERY

DODD'S
FURNITURE & MATTRESS



JANITORIAL AND FACILITY SERVICES INC.



McCONNAN
BION
O'CONNOR &
PETERSON
Lawyers



Adventures Made Easy with
Our Potty Training Products

Once upon a child



Megson
FitzPatrick
INSURANCE SERVICES

BURLEY
CLEANING



BOBA DOG ~ DJ DADDY MACK ~ KEITH & AMY NEWHOOK ~ LA TAQUISA ~ POKE FRESH ~ DEVON BEE DESIGNS ~ ACCENT INNS ~
ALLEY KAT SIGNS & MARKETING ~ BEACON DRIVE IN ~ BOBA DOG ~ BOOM & BATTEN ~ BURGER CRUSH ~ CATHERINE SCOREY ~
COMPLEX ~ DIANE YOUNG ~ DINA WOOD ~ DLC WHITE HOUSE MORTGAGES ~ EDWARD JONES ~ EPICURE ~ FIRESIDE GRILL ~ FLOAT
HOUSE ~ VICTORIA ~ FRIENDLY GIANT WINDOW & GUTTER CLEANING ~ GLEE JEWELRY ~ GLO ~ JEAN THOMPSON ~ JENS
ALLDERISSEN ~ KINGFISHER CLASS ~ KRISTA MCCULLOUGH ~ LA LIMOUSINES ~ LAYLEE ROHANI LAW CORP ~ LIMITLESS TRAINING ~
MAX FURNITURE ~ MONK OFFICE ~ NATALIA AND VIKTOR DYAKUR ~ OCEANSIDE HYPNOTHERAPY ~ PABOOM ~ ROBINSON'S SPORTING
GOODS ~ ROYAL & MCPHERSON THEATRES SOCIETY ~ RUSSEL BOOKS ~ SAMSON MOW ~ SARAH & TYL VAN TOORN ~ STRATOS
PERFORMANCE NUTRITION ~ THE LOCAL GENERAL STORE ~ VI PLANT SHOP ~ AMALIA COLUSSI ~ ANGROVE FAMILY ~ BON MACARON
PATISSERIE ~ BOWS COFFEE ROASTERS ~ DEEBEE'S ORGANICS ~ HERON ROCK BISTRO ~ HILLTOP GREENHOUSES ~ HORROR
ESCAPE ~ JAPANESE VILLAGE RESTAURANT ~ JHOANNA CASTILLO ~ LEACHMAN FAMILY ~ MUNRO'S BOOKS ~ PAGLIACCI'S ~ RANGINA
SIDHU ~ ROYAL BANK ~ ROYAL BC MUSEUM ~ RUSSELL NURSERY ~ SELKIRK CAFE ~ SHAW CENTRE FOR THE SALISH SEA ~ THE
MARKET STORES ~ THIS WEEK'S LUNCH ~ TK CLOTHING INC. ~ WISEMAN & MILLS

SELKIRK
MONTESSORI



Familiar faces came out to support!



Tons of incredible costumes!



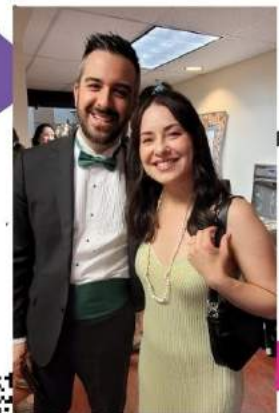
Cheesy Auction Committee photo!



Kris brings home the wine lot!



Epic Lock-box win, Lau!





Our giant wall of Gift Cards to bid on!



Impressive new Selkirk Wear by Ecologist!



From set-up to sun-down, our volunteers & staff worked hard!



Bishop's Family Cycles!



Lovely furniture donation from the Dodd family!



Thank you to everyone who donated to our beer and wine lots!



Brian testing the Photo Booth!

Raffle Lock Box Mystery Box SALES!



Ready, Set... PLAY!

With summer break just around the corner, many parents are likely wondering how to keep their children engaged, entertained, and their brains stimulated over the summer months! Out of all the recommendations that our school team has provided to families over the last few years, this one is the most shared: **make time for playdates.**

Over the course of the pandemic, our children's freedom to play with others has been highly compromised, and at the school level, we have been noticing the effects. In general, our students have shown a greater need for more direct teaching and practice of social-emotional skills, and our teachers have done an exceptional job meeting them where they're at. More opportunities for outdoor unstructured play, connections over interests, and open-ended collaborative activities have been woven into the students' days. The more the children feel a sense of connection and belonging, the more they are able to learn new things and think critically.

So, what can you do to support your children over the summer? **Make time for playdates!** Connecting with school friends over the summer helps to maintain relationships, but further, it gives them the chance to practise their ROCKS (Respect, Open-mindedness, Communication, Kindness, and Success).

To prepare for successful social interactions, it helps to use the ROCKS language in your daily interactions. For example, if your child shows flexibility with something that they're typically rigid about, you could say, "Thanks for being open-minded about this. I know this can be hard for you." Eventually, your child may eventually transfer this flexibility to their social interactions, where they will hopefully recognize the positive effects.

Specifically having one of the ROCKS as a focus for a playdate can be a way to have your child practice a skill that they've been working on at home. Prompting this can sound like: "I have noticed you've been working hard on being flexible and open-minded at home. I wonder how that might look like at your playdate this afternoon." Your child may come up with some ideas such as sharing a toy or being open to their friend's ideas. After the playdate, following up about how things went can help to bring it full circle. If you were supervising the playdate, you could do this by acknowledging how your child showed flexibility (ie. "I noticed you were being flexible by letting your friend choose a game first. Way to go!"). If you were not there, you could ask your child if they noticed themselves being open-minded (ie. "Did you notice yourself being open-minded today? What did that look like?"). Focusing on what went well can help your child recognize their capacity for growth, even in the smallest increments!

Developing social-emotional skills takes time, practice, and in-person interactions with similar-aged peers. So, what's your child's homework for the summer? **GO OUT AND PLAY!**

Westmont Prize 2023

Registration is open for Students grades 7-12

**Spots are
LIMITED!**



About Westmont Prize:

- An annual design competition for youth
- Money Prizes for teams placing 1st, 2nd, and 3rd
- Collaboration with business experts and University representatives

Learn more [HERE](#)

**\$10,000 Scholarship
for 1st place!**
& more money prizes!



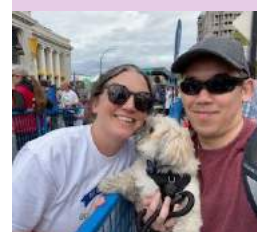
More details at westmontprize.ca / prize@westmontschool.ca

Times-Colonist 10K Photo Gallery



What a wonderful team Selkirk Montessori had for the Times-Colonist run this year!

Special thanks to Bree (and Toby) for being there with them.



SELKIRK MONTESSORI SCHOOL

2970 Jutland Road
Victoria, BC
V8T 5K2

Tel: 250-384-3414
Fax: 250-384-3420
reception@selkirkmontessori.ca
www.selkirkmontessori.ca

Operated by the Pacific Montessori Society

We can make a difference!

[www.selkirkmontessori.ca]



Duck Race 2023! Congrats to the winners:

First Prize—Vivian R.

Second Prize—Makena D.

Third Prize—Theresa S.

Dates to Remember

- * June 5—Preschool Concert
- * June 14—Elementary Concert
- * June 16—Grad and Senior Concert
- * June 20-22—Kingfisher Trip
- * June 21/22—Grade 5/6 Trip
- * June 23—Last day of school for Students

Note: Comfort kits will be sent home on the last day of school if you are not returning.

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.