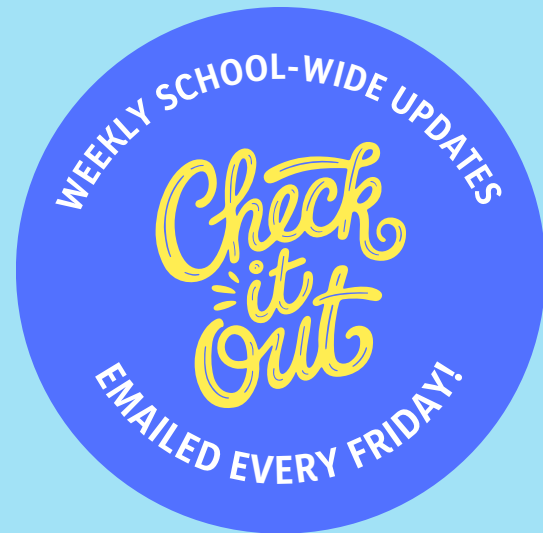




SELKIRK MONTESSORI SCHOOL



We acknowledge with deep gratitude the Ləkʷəŋən Peoples, known today as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations, upon whose lands we are fortunate to teach, learn, and live.



MAY

2025

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IN THIS ISSUE

A Message from the Head of School	2
A Message from the Board of Directors	3
Counsellor's Corner & Blood Drive	4-6
Selkirk Parent Group	7
Island Health – Vaccine Status Reporting	8-9
Assemblies and Observances	10
Events & Activities	11-12
Dates to Remember	13

FROM THE HEAD OF SCHOOL, ERIN HAYES

A Season of Energy, Community, and Celebration

May is here, and with it comes a wonderful, whirlwind energy that fills our classrooms, hallways, and playgrounds. From the thrill of track meets to the laughter at swimming lessons, the excitement of out trips and field studies to the beauty of spring concerts and community gatherings, there is a delightful sense of movement and connection everywhere we turn.

This month, we've seen students stretching their muscles and minds — running races, exploring new places, sharing songs, and diving deep into learning beyond the classroom walls. Special events like the upcoming Multi-cultural Social remind us of the joy and richness that comes from coming together, celebrating traditions, and experiencing the many cultures that make our community so vibrant.

In all this busy-ness, there's a beautiful rhythm: one of growth, of celebration, of community. It's in these moments — whether cheering at a track event, splashing in the pool, or gathering around shared meals and music — that we see the true heart of our school. Thank you for being part of this lively, joyful season with us! We look forward to carrying this energy right through to the final weeks of the school year — and beyond.



PACIFIC MONTESSORI SOCIETY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS CHAIR, PENNY BARNER

Director Wanted!

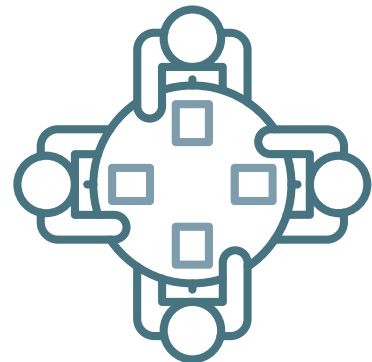
The Pacific Montessori Society (PMS) invites applications from committed, energetic individuals who want to be part of shaping the future of the Selkirk Montessori School by serving on the Board of Directors.

This is an excellent opportunity for you to meet and work with people who share your interest in, and commitment to, Montessori education. In addition, you will have the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge in new areas and contribute to the governance of PMS. Board terms are for three years, effective November 2025. Meetings are held monthly, except for July and August. Currently, meetings are on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 pm at the school.

Please prepare a brief written submission expressing your interest and attach a copy of your resume. Each submission must be accompanied by a letter of support from a non-related Society member in good standing, and delivered to the School offices no later than 3:00 pm on June 20, 2025. Selected information from your resume and letter will be distributed to the membership prior to elections at our next Annual General Meeting (AGM) in November.

No submissions or nominations will be accepted at the AGM. Contact pjbarner@shaw.ca if you have any questions.

Penny Barner
Chair, Board of Directors
Pacific Montessori Society





Counsellor's Corner

Mental Health and Neurodiversity Awareness

Our school recognizes how important our Mental Health is, individually and collectively. We all have ways to support and care for our mental health and some of us need to take extra steps to do so because of health conditions, life circumstances, and neurotypes.

With Neurodiversity Awareness Month just passed (April), and May being Mental Health Awareness Month, our school's Allyship Club would like to create a school display featuring both topics. By spreading awareness, the students hope to encourage more understanding and empathy among the students and staff.

Selkirk Montessori Students: Do you have a mental health and/or neurodiversity story to share? If so, you're invited to complete this form! Submissions will be displayed on a bulletin board at school! All questions are optional, and you can remain anonymous or share your name.

<https://forms.gle/do5hUzDqcEDxwwWU9>

Carmelle Hermoso (she/her)
School Counsellor
counsellor@selkirkmontessori.ca



In response to the recent Lapu Lapu Day tragedy in Vancouver, our school's staff has organized a Blood Drive, pledging 50 blood donations with the help of the greater school community. There is a higher need for blood donations due to many victims in critical condition. For those willing and able/eligible to donate (17+), you can sign up online through the Canadian Blood Services website: <https://www.blood.ca/en> Please refer to the information below for details on how to join our school's team. Blood donations can be done individually or in groups. To book a group appointment, please email ann.chabert@blood.ca

Feel free to share with your friends and family! Your help is much appreciated by the victims' families and the greater Filipino community. Maraming Salamat!

Blood drive – Info & instructions: GiveBlood

- Step 1 Download the **GiveBlood** app from the Apple or Play Store.
- Step 2 If you're new to **GiveBlood**, please **create your donor account** (only need to do this ONCE)
- Step 3: Once you have your GiveBlood account, go to MENU and pick **YOUR team** to register and donate as a group member:

On the menu  click on **Partners** or  and select **+Join Team**

Your Team = **Selkirk Montessori School** (Contact = Carmelle Hermoso)



QR = 1min eligibility Quiz

Once done, you're registered as a member of your team, and you can schedule your individual appointment to donate blood 🙌 Your donation will be tracked automatically in GiveBlood app.

If you would like to organize a Blood Drive with a team (min 3 donors) and donate together, please connect with Ann as she blocks off group appointments around the same time. A group donation is truly the best team building event – snacks on us!

Pick a date, time and # of participant donors and ask Ann to book for you.

Your entire donation visit at the donor centre will take around **45min**, please plan accordingly.

How to prepare before you donate blood?

- 1) Bring a government ID (Health Card, Driver's license, passport, donor card or GiveBlood app)
- 2) Hydrate well (lots of water) before you donate,
- 3) Have a meal and salty snack (snacks provided at donor centre)

Victoria Group Donors ride FREE with our Taxi partner. Call **Blue Bird Cabs** at 250 382 2222 and reserve a ride to and from the donor centre. **Blood Services Account # 22**

Victoria Donation Centre Address: 3449 Saanich Road (across from Uptown, next to BMO)

Questions?

Connect with your local Community Manager, Ann Chabert Text or call #250-686 3315 or email



**Canadian
Blood
Services**

BLOOD
PLASMA
STEM CELLS
ORGANS
& TISSUES

Book your time to donate blood on **GiveBlood** mobile App
or call **1-888-2-DONATE** and go online to **blood.ca**

SELKIRK PARENT GROUP

As the temperatures rise, so do the number of exciting goings-on for our students. Your generous support has helped make these extension activities and out-trips happen!

Multicultural Evening May 10:

Do join this delightful community celebration! Come out Saturday May 10th from 4:30pm - 7:00pm in the gym as we celebrate the vibrant tapestry of cultures within our school. Bring your own dishes and cutlery, along with a meal to share with about 10 people (think: homemade family favourite or a traditional fare).

To let us know how many will be attending and what food you'll be bringing, use the QR code or contact Sarah Bolen at sarahdbolen@gmail.com.

SIGN UP NOW! for some fun volunteer hours:

We'd love some more helpers for these upcoming events ...

- Freezies on the Green in June: we need a co-lead who can help organize volunteers, and a band of merry helpers to buy, freeze and hand out freezies on the last day of school.
- Back-to-school BBQ in September: we could still use help with food shopping and shifts to cover set-up before the event, grilling/food prep, serving during the event and clean-up/take-down after the event
- Hot Lunch Program in September: much of this work can be done outside of school hours and from home; there are many different ways to help out

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



Reminder

Key Dates for May ...

- May 6: Deadline for ordering art cards, ornaments, calendars, water bottles and more
- May 8: SPG meeting at 6:00 pm in the Kingfisher room
- May 9: Pizza Day
- May 10: Multicultural Night 4:30pm - 7:00pm in the gym

School Newsletter – Vaccine Status Reporting Regulation

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Having complete information about students' immunization status allows public health to recommend immunizations a child may be missing and improves the health authority's ability to respond during an outbreak.

The Vaccination Status Reporting Regulation (VSRR) supports health authorities to collect school-aged children's immunization records so that all records are stored in one place: the Provincial Immunization Registry.

If you are new to British Columbia or have received immunizations in travel clinics, pharmacies or physicians' offices, your child's records may be incomplete.

The Vaccine Status Reporting Regulation applies to all students in public and independent schools within the province's jurisdiction, including students who are home-schooled and international students. The regulation does not apply to children attending schools in First Nations communities.

Island Health public health staff will be mailing letters directly to households of students for whom immunization records are missing or incomplete. If your child's record is up to date, you will not be contacted.

If you receive a letter, please update the child's records directly through the online Provincial Immunization Record Registry, or by dropping of records at your local public health unit. Schools do not collect or retain any immunization records. Do not submit immunization records to your child's school.

If you have questions, please contact your local health unit.

Sincerely,

Immunization Program,

Population & Public Health, Island Health

School Newsletter – Vaccine Status Reporting Regulation

HEALTH GATEWAY



View Records at Health Gateway

<https://healthgateway.gov.bc.ca/>

Provincial Portal



Submit Historical Records

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/managing-your-health/immunizations/update-records>

HEALTH UNIT



Find a Health Unit near you

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/find-care/find-health-services>

VSRR



Learn more about VSRR

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/health-library/immunizations/children/vaccination-status-reporting-regulation>

Tips to find historical records



New to BC? Tips on finding historical records

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/health-library/immunizations/children/immunizations-children-new-bc#paragraph-5456>

ASSEMBLIES & OBSERVANCES

EARTH DAY



Thank you
Orca Class
for hosting
this year's
Earth Day
Assembly
and Walk.

EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



Our Cormorant and Sea Star Classes led another successful Spring Sale! Thank you to everyone who came to shop & support their fundraising efforts for their year end trip!

Our Kingfisher Class spent a beautiful afternoon on the gorge Dragon Boating.



SELKIRK MONTESSORI SHINES AT THE TC10K AND THRIFTY FOODS FAMILY RUN!

Selkirk Montessori was proudly represented once again at this year's TC10K and Thrifty Foods Family Run on Sunday, April 27. With perfect weather and plenty of energy, our team—small but mighty—made a big impact!

We had a record number of participants in the 10K race this year, including students Natalie, Maya, and Suraiya, who tackled the full distance with determination. Hats off to our amazing teachers—Brian, Gina, and Mr. C—who also took on the 10K and crossed the finish line strong!

In the Family Run, Selkirk runners of all ages made a fantastic showing. It was great to see returning participants and enthusiastic first-timers side by side. A special cheer goes out to our Selkirk parents, who did their best to keep up with their speedy (and much younger!) runners.

Well done to everyone who participated—we're proud of you all.





PROUD OWL STUDENTS

build world map out of puzzle pieces.
Well done!

1000X5

1000 Books by Age Five

**Children's Book Recycling Project
Greater Victoria**



Bring your book donations to the pink
box in the lobby!

REMEMBER

May: 6th - Art Card Orders Due

16th - NID: No School for Students

19th - Victoria Day

28th - Slide Day Visits

June: 9th - NID: No School for Students

20th - Last Day of School

Selkirk Montessori School

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