

APRIL 2021



# Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

## From the Academic Head, Erin Hayes

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We are gearing up to two very important musical events at our school: the senior musical and our year end concerts, including our Graduation Concert. Though they may look a little different this year, they will be just as uplifting.

Music is an essential part of any community, moving us physically, emotionally, and spiritually. It allows us to see that success comes more from hard work and dedication than talent and luck. It is also one of the few clear ways we can see how our actions and dedication can contribute to the increased success of the group. When your child practices regularly, he or she will quickly see how their tone, memory (both recall and physical memory), and physical ability to play increases. Music practice clearly demonstrates how little predetermined ability has to do with success, that it is through commitment and practice that “talent” is developed.

Try this little life lesson with your child: start the term by taking a short clip of your child playing a piece and/or singing a song. Set up a practice schedule together and each week, on the same day, take a video of the same song or songs. Students can review the multiple videos to quickly see how they progress with regular practice. They will also begin to hear themselves as part of the group and be able to tell if they are lifting the group through their regular practice.

Music, itself, is a wonderful career and life skill. But beyond that, it can be a platform for discussion of the values of commitment, excellence, community, and communication. Now open that calendar, set up a schedule and let music be your guide in helping your child become the best learner they can be, in any subject.

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*“I haven’t understood a bar of music in my life, but I have felt it.”*

*Igor Stravinsky*

# Thank you, Garden City!

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Shout Out to Colin from Garden City Tree and Landscape for his donation of time over Spring Break to regrade and level the new play space in front of the Chickadee Classroom.

# Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

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## Upcoming Parent Ed Nights

**Save the Date: Thurs, April 22nd at 6pm - virtual**

**Vision and Learning: Aspects of Vision That Can Help or Hinder a Student**

**Hosted by Dr. Nazima Sangha, BSc, OD**

Email to follow with Zoom link.

Classically, when a student has difficulty seeing the white/smart board they will often demonstrate signs: squinting, straining, moving closer or saying it is hard to see. But what if they see double when they are reading? Or if they see words moving as they read? Or they have difficulty judging depth?

The symptoms are there but may be more subtle: tilting their head, covering one eye, looking away frequently, being clumsy or often being uninterested in the task at hand.

Often, they will not report a problem because they do not know how they see is different from how others see. How we see will guide our interests and in turn guide our life choices.

This discussion will provide some insight into aspects of vision beyond just seeing 20/20 that may hinder academic or athletic growth and ways to identify them and help transform lives.

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**Save the Date: Thurs, May 27th at 6pm-8pm - virtual**  
**Internet Safety and Digital Literacy for Parents and Caregivers**

Helping parents to proactively understand the enabling power of technology and mobile communications, but also how to mitigate the sometimes unintended consequences of high risk or undesirable online behaviour.

**Topics covered include:**

The research on the positives and negative the internet provides  
Challenges youth today face online  
Technology as a distraction  
Media overconsumption  
Online predators  
Challenges parents and caregivers face  
Each person's personal digital footprint  
How online information is collected and used  
Opportunities technology provides  
Data tracking & collection  
App privacy  
Personal online legal consequences  
Concerning signs to look for  
Sleep concerns  
Account management  
Exploitation  
Nudes and sexting

## Bookfair Update—Munro's

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Hello lovely book-loving community!

I am so thrilled to announce that because of your support and enthusiasm, we were able to raise \$5000.00 (!!) for our Munro's Books book fair! This translates into over \$1000.00 raised for Selkirk Montessori to continue to fill our shelves with beautiful and high-quality books. My spies at Munro's reported seeing "lovely, keen families filling the store" and said that this was one of their most successful fairs to date! Thank you for your care and support as we navigate this historic school year and continue to prioritize instilling a love of books and reading in your children. Stay tuned for one more chance to get involved in a virtual book fair with Russell Books coming in May.

Thank you again and keep reading with your children,

Bree



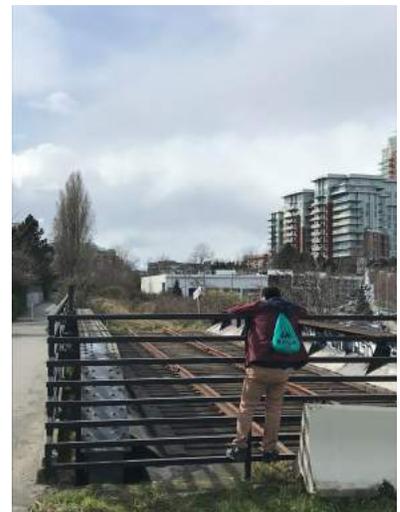
# Immersion Week Photo Gallery



Immersion Week is an opportunity for students in grades 5-8 to step outside their comfort zone — and the classroom, sometimes — to explore an interest, learn a new skill or try a new sport. This is just a sample of some of the activities this year.



## Photography 7-8



# Immersion Week Photo Gallery (cont'd)

## L I B R A R Y



## B U S K I N G



## C h o o s e Y o u r O w n A D V E N T U R E



# Immersion Week Photo Gallery (cont'd)

These were the activity options for Immersion Week 2021:

## Grade 5-6

Photography with Kim

Welcome Back to the Library with Marie

A Taste of Freedom—Your First Set of Wheels with Margie & Danielle

Choose Your Own Art-Venture with Devon

DIY Body & Skincare Products with Sarah

World Music's World of Dance with Shannon

Knitting in Narnia with Elizabeth

## Grade 7-8

Choreography & Dance Film Production with Carmelle

Photography with Judy and Bree

Sculpture: Floating Cities with Trevor

Choose Your Own Adventure with Erin

Busking: From Practice to Profit with Mr. C.

Tennis & Leisure Activities with Brian

Bookshelf Diorama with Jhoanna

Build Your Own Board Game with Gigi



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5-6



## Dance 7-8



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Erin and Karma played an April Fools joke on the staff and students by calling a “Flood Drill”. Everyone had to sit on their chairs with their feet up and start swimming!

## Dates to Remember

- May 6th—Class Photos (details to come)
- May 21st—Non-Instructional Day (no school for children)
- May 24th—Victoria Day (no school)

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.