

**SEPTEMBER  
2021**



# Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

## From the Head of School, Erin Hayes

---

We are washed, polished, and enjoying every minute together! It is rejuvenating to have teachers and students back in the bright and organized Montessori environment.

As educators' thoughts turn to preparing our spaces, parents' thoughts turn to preparing their children. Social media comments and forum questions begin to pop up everywhere: what "should" a child know when they enter pre-school? Kindergarten? middle school? High school? There are as many opinions as there are families but given what a variety of interesting, hardworking, and successful children I have had the pleasure of observing at Selkirk, I wanted to weigh in.

When observing your learner, big or small, please consider that the pace at which you learn something (or where you measure at this very moment) doesn't determine your future engagement or ability in this area. Those who are early readers tend to balance out with their peers in the preteen or teen years, for example. Instead, when a child enters a new school experience, they should know that it is important to be kind to oneself - this means taking a positive attitude toward things, believing you can grow or change when circumstances aren't turning out as expected.

(cont'd on page 3)

---

### Inside this issue:

From the Academic Head (cont'd)	2
Reminders from Administration	2
Pacific Montessori Society Board Update	3
Provincial Government Employees	3
40th Anniversary Celebrations	4-5
First Week of School—Photo Gallery	6-7
Dates to Remember	8



## From the Head of School, Erin Hayes (cont'd)

---

A child should know that it is just as important to be kind to others – this looks like being welcoming and inclusive, and speaking positively, ready to listen, too.

They should know that we all make mistakes and that it is important to acknowledge and learn from them.

They should know that some things are really hard, different things are hard for different people, and that if we are patient and work hard it will get easier.

And every Montessori student must know that curiosity is an invaluable asset - foster it, follow it, share it! Embrace the opportunities before you and you will know what you need is within you when the time comes to dig deep.

Welcome back our curious, kind, resilient, creative, perseverant students!

---

## Reminders from Administration

### **FORMS**

We will be using Transparent Classroom to send permission slips electronically throughout the school year. For example, will be having outdoor education, field trips, soccer jamboree, etc., coming up soon. Parents will get emails throughout the year asking them to complete forms for their child(ren). Only one parent needs to complete the form.

### **COMFORT ITEMS**

Laura is still missing comfort items from some of our new families! These items are important in case of emergency, as students are able to have something from home to help them feel safe. If you haven't brought yours in yet, please drop it off at the office window as soon as possible.

### **Masks**

Please remember to mask up if you are able on the outside stairs or whenever distancing is not possible. If you are not able to tolerate a mask, please be sure to maintain appropriate physical distance from other families.

---

## Pacific Montessori Society Board Update

---

Our first meeting of the new school year will be held on October 26th at 6:00 pm on Zoom.



If you are interested in attending the meeting, please contact Penny for the link. All members of the Pacific Montessori Society are welcome to attend.

---

## Provincial Government Employees' Community Services Fund

---

Thank you for including us in your donations through the provincial government Employees' Community Services Fund. The total donated last fiscal year was \$916.24!!

For those who aren't in the know, the campaign runs between September and November and is a very easy way for parents who are provincial employees to contribute to the school.

If you have any questions, please contact me :  
[penny@selkirkmontessori.ca](mailto:penny@selkirkmontessori.ca).



**You have made a difference!**



## Celebrating our VOLUNTEERS

We are having a belated celebration of our school's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this school year. Our school opened in 1980 as Montessori Centre of Victoria located beside Oaklands School.



Montessori Centre of Victoria opened in 1980

We are a school built by **volunteers**, and we take pride in how far we have gone from a 2-classroom setting of around 40 children to a community of almost 300 children, and their families plus a staff of over 50 people. We are happy to fulfill the vision of our founding parents to offer quality education to young people in a beautiful setting.



Selkirk Montessori School opened in 1998

As we celebrate the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school this school year 2021-2022, we would like to focus on celebrating our school community and honouring the countless volunteers who contributed to establishing our wonderful school.

Watch out for the many different ways that we will be celebrating our anniversary!



You will be seeing this graphic many times this year as we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Thanks to teacher, Ayako Thiessen for designing this!

Selkirk Montessori rocks 40 years!

*Respect*

*Open-mindedness*

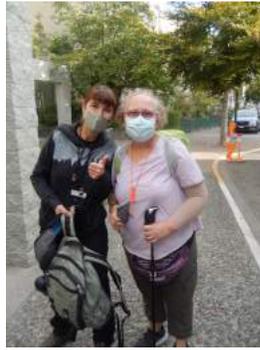
*Communication*

*Kindness*

*Success*

These are our core values!

# First Week Back at School



Students and teachers in grades 5-8 hopped on buses for their first trips of the year.



# First Week Back at School (con'td)



**SELKIRK MONTESSORI SCHOOL**

2970 Jutland Road  
Victoria, BC  
V8Y 2T3

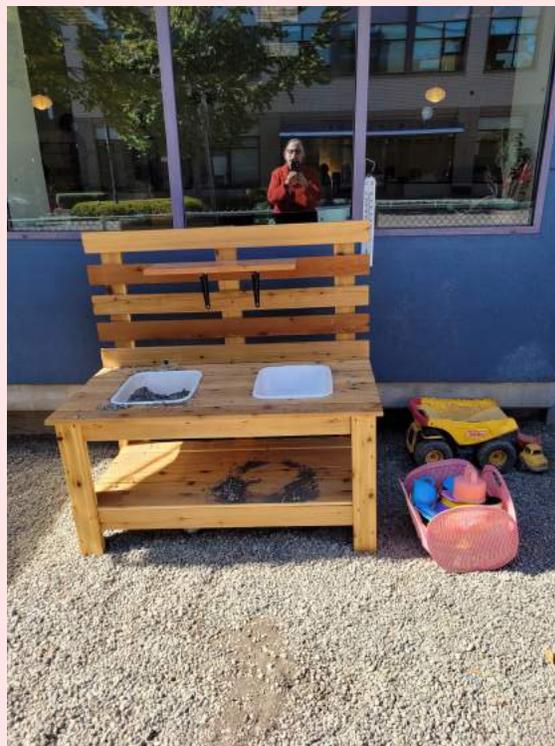
Phone: 250-384-3414

Fax: 250-384-3420

Email: penny@selkirkmontessori.ca

***We can make a difference.***

www.selkirkmontessori.ca



Many thanks to Krista and Grandpa Fred for the beautiful mud kitchen which arrived today. As you can see, it is already being well loved!

## Dates to Remember

- September 22—Terry Fox Run
- September 23—Parent Orientation (online)
- September 27—Non-Instructional Day (no school for children)
- September 30—National Day for Truth & Reconciliation (school closed)
- October 11—Thanksgiving Day (school closed)
- October 12—Individual Student Photos

Selkirk Montessori School is located on the traditional territories of the Lək<sup>w</sup>əŋən people, today known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations.

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