

**SUMMER
2020**



Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

From the Head of School, Erin Hayes

First Summer Update

I wanted to quickly share Selkirk Montessori's response to Minister Fleming's recent announcement. News coverage can be found here: <https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/plan-on-five-day-school-week-in-fall-for-k-7-education-minister-says-1.24167290>. As you can read, further information should be provided in about three weeks.

We have been working on various plans for service and will be delighted to have all students back, if safe to do so. You may have noticed two exemptions to full time onsite education: grade 8s and those who are immunocompromised. We are waiting to hear more about schools that have grade 8s in with grades 6s and 7s, as this is the norm in most parts of the province, and will be prepared to have them back, if allowed, or deliver in a hybrid fashion, if required. For students who are immunocompromised, as soon as we know who qualifies and how they submit their documentation, we will communicate next steps to families.

Thank you for your overwhelming supportive and positive response in our last survey. I look forward to being in touch in the weeks to come.

New Class Placements

New class placements for students in grades 1, 3 and 5 will be available to you when the fall session begins in Transparent Classroom. Beginning August 31st, when you sign into your Transparent Classroom account, you will be able to view your child(ren)'s class. Karma will be sending out an email later this summer to ask all families to sign in and update their information.

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From the Pacific Montessori Society Board of Directors

The Pacific Montessori Society Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on November 24, 2020 at 6:00 pm. Depending on circumstances, this may take place online.

RSVP penny@selkirkmontessori.ca if you plan to attend. That way, we will have enough chairs and paperwork for everyone if we are onsite.

Directors will present reports for the last school year, the 2020-2021 approved budget will be available and our Treasurer, Francis Rowe, will review the financial statements for 2019-2020

We hope to have an update on our strategic planning.

As always, our hospitality committee will be providing treats for us to enjoy!

Election of Directors

I will tell you more about the individuals who have applied for positions on the board in the September newsletter.



Reception Reminders

- Deadline for ordering school supplies from Monk is July 19th.
- New Families & New Siblings: Have you given Karma your paperwork and other items yet?
- Watch your emails for an “Emergency Info Form” update request from Karma via Transparent Classroom.
- Legion parking passes for the new school year will be available the week of September 1, 2020.

Timing for Start of School In September



Selkirk is hoping to welcome you back to school on Tuesday, September 8th, the day after Labour Day. In past years, we have learned that a gradual intake of students over the first week makes for a very smooth transition for children and staff alike.

Please read the following schedule closely to ensure your child/ren return to school on the appropriate day. All parents will be contacted by teachers close to the end of the summer and offered a chance to arrange a meeting during the week of September 1st. This is a time for your child to meet their classroom teachers, find out about class routines, check and return forms, get the class calendar and — for Kindergarten/ Preschool — sign the snack chart.

We recommend that both parents and child attend the meetings. Returning parents, every year is a “new” year for your child at Selkirk. Please make time to meet with the teachers.

PLEASE NOTE SCHEDULE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS BELOW:

Schedule for the first week of school (grades 1-8):

- Tues, September 8th—8:45-11:00 am
- Wed, September 9th — 8:45-11:30 am
- Thurs, September 10th—8:45 am-3:15 pm
- Fri, September 11th—8:45-3:15 pm

Schedule for the first week of school (Kindergarten/Preschool):

Tuesday/Wednesday serves as an orientation for **new** students which allows them, in small groups of approximately six, to become familiar with the classroom and to receive some important presentations on how to use basic Montessori materials. This also gives the new children the opportunity to make friends and become comfortable with routines before the returning K/Ps join us on Thursday.

Tuesday, Sep 8th - NEW STUDENTS ONLY

- Group 1 of new morning children from 8:50-9:50 am (1 hr); Group 2 of new morning children from 10-11:00 am (1 hr)
- Group 1 of new afternoon children from 12:20-1:20 pm (1 hr); Group 2 of new afternoon children from 1:30-2:30 pm (1 hr)

Wednesday, Sep 9th—NEW STUDENTS ONLY

- 8:50 – 10:20 a.m. (1 ½ hrs.) for morning;
- 12:20 – 1:50 p.m. (1 ½ hrs.) for afternoon

ALL STUDENTS WELCOME AT THE SPG PICNIC ON THE GREEN

Thursday, Sep 10th—ALL STUDENTS

- 8:50 – 10:50 am (2 hrs) for morning children;
- 12:20 – 2:20 p.m. (2 hrs) for afternoon children

Friday, Sep 11th—ALL STUDENTS

- 8:50 – 11:30 am (2 hrs and 40 minutes)
- 12:20-3:00 pm (2 hrs and 40 minutes)

IMPORTANT NOTE: CASA AND BEFORE/AFTER SCHOOL CARE PROGRAMS FOR KINDERGARTEN/PRESCHOOL AND ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL DO NOT START UNTIL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14TH; HOWEVER, CASA FAMILIES ARE ENCOURAGED TO STOP BY AND INTRODUCE THEMSELVES TO THE TEAM.



Kingfisher Trip to Camp Thunderbird in September!



Each new school year, our senior students embark on a “camping” trip designed to renew old friendships and make new ones. (This trip is funded in part by the SPG Hot Lunch program – thanks, parents!)

We are waiting for confirmation that the trip can take place this year. In the meantime, please read on. Medical and consent forms were sent in June; however, we traditionally provide information for parents of students in grades 7-8 to give you a head start in collecting the gear your child will need.

The following is a packing guideline from the Centre. They ask that you use your judgment and pack what the children will need, but try to keep baggage to a minimum.

- Rain gear – a cheap poncho works great. A hood helps a great deal.
- Daypack – this is to carry a towel, bathing suit, water bottle, etc.
- Sturdy shoes – lace up sneakers or light hikers are best. Don’t buy new hiking boots just for camp.
- Bathing suit and towel.
- Water bottle – one litre pop bottles are great.
- School items – exercise book, pens, pencils, etc.
- Sun hat and sunscreen.
- Sleeping bags – this should be a three-season bag, rated to 5 degrees C. Extra blankets work in a pinch.
- Pillow
- Flashlight

- Complete change of clothes (dependent on length of stay) – underwear, socks, shorts, pants, t-shirts, sweater, and warm jacket.
- Pyjamas and hat.
- Toiletries – toothbrush, toothpaste, face cloth, soap, deodorant and shampoo.
- Toque – for chilly evenings. Extra shoes or rubber boots.
- Slippers or sandals – for inside the dining hall.
- Garbage bags – for dirty laundry.
- Optional – camera, insect repellent.

Please label everything with the student’s name and school. Lost and found items will be shipped to the Victoria YM/YWCA and held for 30 days, after which they will be given to charity.

Please do not bring knives, money, food (or junk food), valuables, electronics, etc. Please note that Camp Thunderbird does not have any vending machines or a tuck shop.

Please don’t forget to complete and hand in your forms when you come for your visit with the teachers in late August. Campers cannot go without them!!





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Operated by the Pacific Montessori Society

We can make a difference.

www.selkirkmontessori.ca



Our new hands-free soap and paper towel dispensers have arrived and will be installed over the summer. One more safety precaution in place for September!

Dates to Remember

Our tentative calendar for school year 2020-2021 is now up on our website. The dates are subject to change, depending on the directions of the Provincial Health Officer, Dr. Bonnie Henry, and the Ministries of Education and Health:

- Gradual Entry Begins —Tuesday, September 8th
- SPG Welcome Back—Wednesday, September 9th
- Non-Instructional Day—Monday, September 28th



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

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