



From the Head of School, Erin Hayes

How will you grow this year?

The beginning of school always feels like the true “Happy New Year” for educators. At Selkirk Montessori, our dedicated teachers work hard to create a safe, inclusive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive. We’ve already seen joyful faces and growing confidence as students visit the school for their meetings.

This year promises fresh opportunities, evolving friendships, and exciting discoveries. Growth often happens in small steps and quiet “a-ha!” moments. It requires resilience, adaptability, and the courage to face challenges—both academic and social – that are part of learning. Just as importantly, it grows through the practice of *grace and courtesy*. These skills that flourish with everyday acts of thoughtfulness, respect, and intentional communication are the foundation for meaningful friendships, supportive classrooms, and a strong community.

When challenges arise—as they always do—grace and courtesy help us listen carefully, respond with empathy, and work toward solutions together. They remind us that success is not just about reaching a goal, but also about how we approach the challenges and community members along the way. In moments of discovery, collaboration, and celebration, grace and courtesy shape the way we learn and grow together.

Our staff and students live these values every day, focusing on the skills and strengths that guide them toward success. I look forward to witnessing the amazing accomplishments and boundless possibilities this school year will bring. Here’s to another year of growth, joy, and community at Selkirk Montessori—because as we know, *Selkirk Rocks!*

Welcome back, dear students, to a place where you belong, a place where you can grow, a place where you can celebrate your strengths and individuality.

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“Autumn is a
second spring
when every leaf is
a flower.”
– Albert Camus

Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

Welcome back from the Selkirk Parent Group (SPG)

As parents and caregivers of children in the school, you are part of the Selkirk Parent Group (SPG). The group is an independent committee of the Pacific Montessori Society, led by a volunteer executive with two main goals:

- Raise funds to support our students, and
- Via caregiver involvement, foster an inclusive, effective school community.

[Check out our website](#) to learn more about what we do and how we support our students (spoiler alert: bus rides to and from swimming lessons!).

Getting Involved

Starting in September, the SPG meets roughly monthly throughout the school year. Our meetings involve laughter and yet we're focused and get a lot done. You're always welcome to come along just to listen and learn more about what we do. [Subscribe to our email list](#) to get full meeting details.

Meetings aside, there are so many ways to get involved. Watch for information in these monthly school newsletters, in Erin's weeklies, and through emails.

Already familiar with the SPG and some of our activities? We'd love help with:

- The Back-to-School BBQ happening Wednesday, September 3 at 11:30 on the green
- The Hot Lunch Program, starting up soon after school is in session

Volunteering with the SPG is a great way to meet other caregivers, support our kids, and build community. See you out there!



Safety Reminders

- DO NOT do a U-turn on the site
- DO NOT double park on Jutland Road or Jackladder Lane
- DO NOT park next to the fire hydrant in front of the school
- DO NOT back up in the crosswalk in front of the school
- DO NOT idle while waiting for your child/ren
- DO NOT use Kiss'n Go if your child is in Preschool/Kindergarten
- DO follow the staff instructions during Kiss'n Go pickup after school
- DO use your ROCKS and be respectful, communicative and kind when dropping off or picking up your child/ren



Staff Journeys with Songhees Tours



“I love this school so much. I love that this is how staff and teachers spent a Pro D day, learning and unlearning.

We’ll miss you all so very much, you are all so, so appreciated!”

Lisbet Rygnestad (former parent)



Whether you’re a curious traveler, an educator, a cruise guest, or a corporate group committed to reconciliation, Songhees Tours meets you where you are—and takes you where you didn’t expect to go.

Pacific Montessori Society Board Update

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 23rd at 7:00 pm at the school.

Prospective members Sameer Jinnah and Rene Gautier will be attending the September meeting as guests.

November's meeting will be director Chris Bechard's last AGM, as he will not be returning for another term. Thanks for your many years of service, Chris!



If you are interested in attending the meeting, please email our Board Chair, Penny Barner (pjbarner@shaw.ca).

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 since January is \$1,976.62!

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.



You have made a difference!

If you have any questions, please email
Sara McCormick at
accounting@selkirkmontessori.ca.

MUSEUM TOTS

744 DOUGLAS ST | FREE WITH ADMISSION
EVERY SATURDAY 10:30-11:15 AM | AGES 3-5

LEARN ABOUT THE OCEAN
WITH GAMES, BOOKS, AND
CRAFTS.
EXPLORE A DIFFERENT
TOPIC EVERY WEEK!

The
MARITIME MUSEUM
of BRITISH COLUMBIA

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



All the teachers are ready for the new school year! Here are the Chickadee teachers ready to welcome you next week!

Dates to Remember

- Sep 1—Labour Day
- Sep 3—Welcome Back BBQ
- Sep 3-5—Kingfishers to Camp Thunderbird
- Sep 5—Grades 3/4 & 5-6 Team Building
- Sep 12—Grades 1-2 Team Building
- Sep 16—Parent Orientation
- Sep 22—Non Instructional Day
- Sep 23—Board Meeting
- Sep 25—Grade 6 Immunizations
- Sep 30—Truth & Reconciliation Day

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

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