

**FEBRUARY
2026**



Selkirk Montessori School E-Newsletter

From the Head of School, Erin Hayes

Did you know that, as a parent, two of the most powerful activities you can model for your children are reading and learning? When children see their parents read, they develop the understanding that reading is something we do throughout our lives—both with purpose and for pleasure. They learn that any interest can be deepened through research, and that emotions can be explored, understood, and processed through literature..

When children observe the adults in their lives learning, they become comfortable being novices. They see that it is okay to take risks, that trying something new can feel both exciting and nerve-wracking, and that meaningful skills and understanding take time to develop. They notice that interests evolve, that curiosity makes people interesting, and that excellence is built through practice and perseverance—not simply through innate talent. Through these observations, children come to understand that mastery is the result of sustained effort and resilience..

Inside this issue:

Counsellor's Corner	2
Selkirk Parent Group (SPG)	34
Events & Activities	5-6
Human Powered Racing	7
Dates to Remember	8

**February:
A new
chance to
grow, try,
and shine.**

Counsellor's Corner



HUMAN
EARLY LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP



THE MIDDLE YEARS DEVELOPMENT INSTRUMENT (MDI) IS COMING TO SELKIRK MONTESSORI!

Selkirk Montessori has partnered with the Human Early Learning Partnership (HELP) at the University of British Columbia to measure and promote children's social and emotional development, health, well-being, and assets through the Middle Year Development Instrument (MDI). The Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) is a self-report questionnaire that asks children in middle childhood about their thoughts, feelings and experiences. The MDI is the first survey of its kind to gather information about the lives of children both in school, in the home and in the community, from their own perspective. The survey questions align with the BC Ministry of Education's K-12 curriculum, which includes a focus on promoting children's personal and social competencies.

Grade 7 students are invited to complete the MDI during class time between:
February 23rd and March 13th, 2026.

For more information and to view the questionnaires:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/mdi-overview/>

Parent FAQs:

<https://earlylearning.ubc.ca/monitoring-system/mdi/parent-caregiver-info/>

If you don't want your child to participate, please contact your child's teacher, fill out the withdrawal form at the end of the parent/guardian informed passive consent letter, or contact the MDI project staff at mdi@help.ubc.ca.

Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

The days are slowly lengthening. Snowdrops, daffodils and crocuses are popping up everywhere. The SPG has a fun event and some fundraisers popping up, too, this month. Have a look!

Love Like a Rock

The 5th Annual “Selkirk Rocks The Heart” rock hunt is happening **February 9th through 12th!** Help us **spread love and good vibes** around our community. Taking part is easy ...

1. Paint rocks at home or join us at a rock painting station after school, 3:00 to 3:30 pm: Monday & Wednesday (Feb. 9 & 11) at the front of the school, Tuesday & Thursday (Feb. 10 & 12) on the green.
2. **Hide** your creations around the school or **give** them to a special teacher, specialist, administration staffer, friend, local shopkeeper—you get the idea!

To help out, please email pennynightingale@gmail.com. Put your paint pens to work and help us spread the love!

Fundraisers Happening Now

- **West Coast Seeds:** [Get your orders in](#) by **February 3**. Thank you to all who took part - 40% of sales go to the school! Keep your eyes peeled for information with the exact delivery date—it'll be before spring break.
- **McTavish Art Kits:** If you missed your chance in December, don't miss it this time around! These beautiful high quality art kits come in a variety of sizes and themes. [Ordering runs January 31 to February 8](#), and they'll be ready for pickup from Selkirk on **February 10** - in time for Family Day. Remember to add "SELKIRK MONTESSORI FUNDRAISER" in the note box.

Watch the Weeklies ...

Ordering details for the Pizza Day on February 20th and March 13th (the last day of school before Spring Break), and for term 3 hot lunches will be coming soon. Also coming up: our spring Purdys chocolates fundraiser, timed for Easter gifts, but great for spring chocolatey treats in general.

Key dates this month ...

- February 3: Last day to order [West Coast Seeds](#)
- February 6 to 12: Ordering for Pizza Day on February 20
- February 8: Last day to order [McTavish Art Kits](#)

Selkirk Parent Group (SPG) Update

- February 9 -12: Selkirk Rocks the Heart
- February 10: McTavish art kits delivered
- February 20: Pizza Day
- February 20 to 26: Ordering for Pizza Day on March 13
- February 26: SPG meeting at 6:00 pm - all are welcome!
- February 27 to March 13: Ordering for term 3 hot lunches



GET GROWING!

scan to order

SELKIRK PARENT GROUP SEED FUNDRAISER!

West Coast Seeds will give the school 40% back on each seed packet you purchase! Choose from 100 best-selling varieties. Order between January 13 - February 3, 2026.

An SPG Fundraiser

 West Coast Seeds

Events & Activities

Open House Success

Our recent Open House was a wonderful success! It was heartwarming to welcome families into our school and share the vibrant learning environment we create each day. A special thank you to Charlotte and all our dedicated staff members for their hard work, organization, and enthusiasm in making this event such a hit. Your teamwork truly made the evening memorable!



Events & Activities



Debate Team Success

Our debaters did Selkirk proud at their recent competition, with Aashoka and Ameer earning spots at Provincials! Penny and Gigi were thrilled to cheer them on, and we are incredibly proud of all our students for their hard work, confidence, and outstanding performance.

Congratulations to everyone involved!



Human Powered Racing

Calling all young athletes ages 8–16!

Join the Human Powered Racing Youth Team to learn swimming, biking, and running while making new friends and staying active.



**HUMAN
POWERED
RACING**

**Join the youth team today at
www.humanpoweredracing.ca**



**When and Where?
Saturdays, 2 PM - 5 PM
February through June 2026
Esquimalt Recreation Centre**

Are you between the ages of 8 and 16? Ready to swim, bike, and run your way to new skills, friendships, and fitness?

The Human Powered Racing Youth Team is the perfect place to:

- Learn the fundamentals of triathlon.
- Train in a fun, safe, and supportive environment.
- Challenge yourself and celebrate your progress.

All experience levels are welcome, from beginners to seasoned racers. Our dedicated coaches ensure every athlete thrives while having a blast!

**[Still not sure? Come tri out one session on us,](#)
[or contact us at rob@humanpoweredracing.ca](mailto:rob@humanpoweredracing.ca)**

2970 Jutland Road
Victoria, BC V8T 5K2
250-384-3414 (tel)
250-384-3420 (fax)
office@selkirkmontessori.ca

We can make a difference!

www.selkirkmontessori.ca



Don't forget to bring in your donations for the Community Fridge!

Dates to Remember

- * February 03 – Earthquake Drill
- * February 05 – Junior Musical 2026
- * February 13 – Non-Instructional Day 2026
- * February 16 – Family Day 2026
- * February 20 – Pizza Day
- * February 24 – Board Meeting

Selkirk Montessori School is located on the traditional territories of the Lək'wəḡən people, today known as the Esquimalt and Songhees Nations. We extend our appreciation for the opportunity to live and learn on this territory.