



Selkirk Elementary

5 Selkirk St., Whitehorse, YT., Y1A 3J5 Tel: 667-3688 Fax: 667-3693

February 2025

Message from your Admin

Welcome to February, the month of kindness! As you can see from the dates below, we have an exciting month ahead, filled with special events. Be sure to ask your child about the activities they'll be participating in.

We're also looking forward to welcoming you to our student-led conferences this month. During these conferences, your child will have the opportunity to share their work, including updates on their reading, writing, and numeracy progress. Since this is a student-led conference, if you'd like to speak privately or discuss anything in more detail with staff, please reach out to your teacher's email to schedule a separate time.

In honor of Black History Month, we're excited to welcome TELIYA for a special presentation on February 11th. We also have incredible opportunities for our students in their STEAM instruction. As in years past, WWEST will be here for a week, leading activities in the classroom. On the 19th, Science World will present two exciting shows for our students, offering a hands-on learning experience. To conclude the month, be sure to have your pink shirts ready for the 26th as we show our support for all initiatives of inclusion!

Important Dates

Feb. 4- [Kindergarten Registration](#)

Feb. 4- Shining Start Assembly 1:00pm

Feb.10-14 French Immersion Week

Feb.11 @ 1:40- TELYIA Presentation

Feb. 17-20- WWEST STEM lessons

Wednesday, February 19th (am): [Science World](#)

Feb.21 Heritage Day (no school)

Feb.21- SES RendezVous Fundraiser

Feb.26 Pink Shirt Day

Feb.27-28 Student-Led Conferences

No School for Students Feb 28

Mar.3-7- *Health Week*

First Nation Education Advocates Yukon First Nation Education Directorate YFNED

Selkirk is incredibly fortunate to have the support of Sydney Cairns and Darcey Carlick, who serve as Education Advocates for Indigenous students at Selkirk. Rayne Johnston is an additional support teaching sewing and beading to our students. If you would like more information on accessing these supports, please click on the links below.

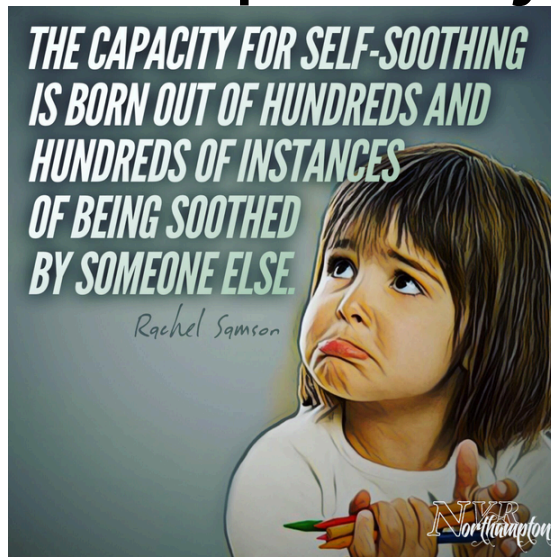
<https://www.yfned.ca/advocates>

[Intake Form](#)

Darcey leads our Coyotes in Hand Games every Wednesday in the Emerald Room. If you have a child who is interested and would like more information, please contact Darcey at:

Darcey Carlick <Darcey.Carlick@yfned.ca>

Selkirk is Developmentally Responsive



The days are getting brighter, but we know darkness still outstretches the light. February can be hard for us all as our anticipation for spring fights against the snow and cold. At Selkirk, we know February is a month for remembering that each moment of co-regulation counts. Every moment an adult pauses to meet a child in their big emotions, the child both feels seen and implicitly learns how to move through those emotions. As adults, we recognize these moments as important repetitions for a child's nervous system, and we know with each repetition the child will become better able to manage big emotions in the future. As children, they recognize these moments as an offering of connection and community: their emotions are not too big and too unmanageable, and they are not alone.

Donations

It's that time of year when people start clearing out extra items from their homes! If you happen to have any of the following gently used items that you no longer need, we'd be grateful for your donation:

- Games like UNO, Cribbage, Chess, or Checkers
- Outdoor gear such as neck warmers, buffs, or wool socks

Your donations help make our school a great place for students to learn and grow. Thank you for thinking of us!

Welcome to our new staff

Please join us in welcoming our new staff, Luna Lopez joins us as an EA, bringing her valuable experience. We said farewell to Vero Lachance as they are stepping back from their position. Their position has been posted so the hiring process may begin.

Shãw níthän | Másin cho | Gunatchîsh

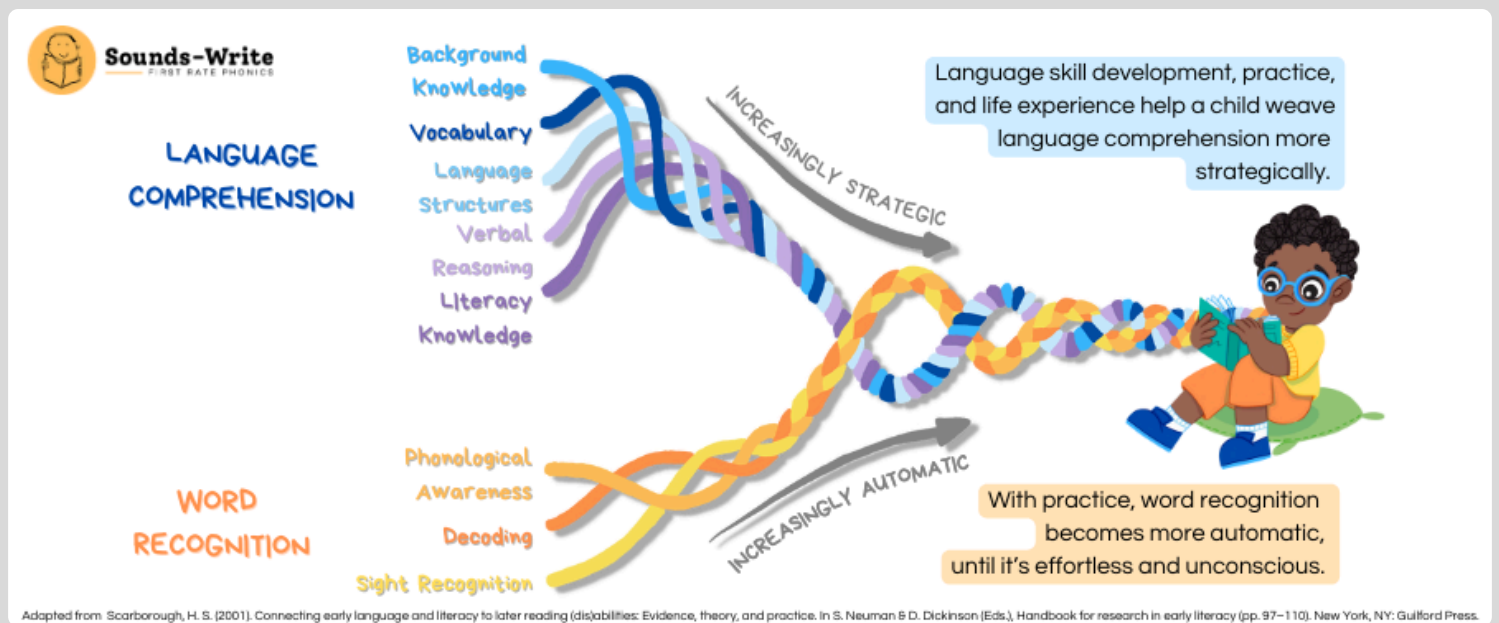


Shining Stars

This month we continue to work on **Independence**, catching the students:

- able to stay on task when given instructions
- able to access strategies when facing challenges
- able to take responsibility for words, actions, and relationships
- able to make goals and create steps to achieve them

Literacy at Selkirk



Reading is a skill that develops in several important areas. At Selkirk, we focus on five key components of reading to ensure a well-rounded approach to literacy. These components—phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension—are all essential for building strong reading skills. We also know that oral language is the foundation of all literacy learning.

This year, while teaching to all pillars, we've focused on phonological and phonemic awareness, as well as decoding, which are key skills for early readers. To support this, our School-Based Team (SBT) and teachers are working together to provide extra help. Many students are benefiting from small group sessions through the UFLI program in English or CBE in French.

If you'd like to learn more about these reading programs at Selkirk, please feel free to contact your classroom teacher or ask about them during the conferences on the 27th and 28th! We are dedicated to helping every student become a confident and skilled reader.

Outdoor Supervision

Our morning supervisors are present from 8:15 a.m. – 8:30am, wearing yellow sashes and overseeing our SES students. Please ensure that your child is not dropped off before this time, as there will be no supervisors on duty prior to 8:15 a.m.

In the afternoon, we provide after school supervision from 3:02– 3:15 p.m. Any students remaining without an adult after this time will be brought inside, and caregivers will be notified. At 3:02 pm, we ask that all students who take the bus make their way directly to their bus lines.

Thank you for your cooperation and support.

Field Trips– SUNSHINE FUND

Field trips provide wonderful learning opportunities for all students. Thanks to Selkirk's Sunshine Fund "top-up" program, families can round up their field trip payments and contribute to a fund that helps make these experiences accessible to everyone. Your donations go directly to supporting Selkirk children, ensuring every student can join in. If you need any financial assistance, please feel free to reach out to the teacher or administration—we're here to help and understand the financial challenges, especially after the holidays. Our goal is to make field trips as stress-free as possible for all families. A heartfelt thank you to the Selkirk School Council for launching this initiative with their generous contribution!

From your classroom teachers, and all other Selkirk staff

Handle With Care



If your family is experiencing difficulties at home, I would like to provide additional support at school. I understand that you are not always able to share details and that's okay. If your child is coming to school after a difficult night, morning, or weekend, please email me "handle with care." Nothing else will need to be said or asked unless you are willing. This will let me know that your child may need extra time, patience, or love during the day.

Friday
February 21

5 Selkirk Street
11:00am - 4:00pm

Selkirk Elementary School



RENDEZVOUS

**CARNIVAL
AND MARKET**

Questions? alysa.kufeldt@yesnet.yk.ca

Draw Prizes
Carnival tickets for purchase
Concession

100% of proceeds
benefit Selkirk Elementary
School



A Yukon Rendezvous Affiliated Event

If you have read to here, please email: leslie.doran@yukon.ca to put your name in a draw for a free Selkirk cap or toque! Subject: February Newsletter