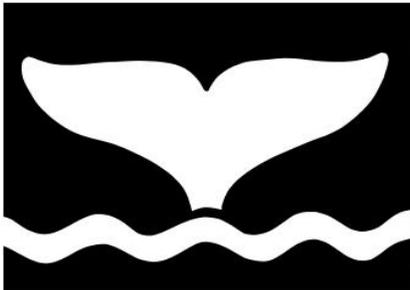


# THE WHALE'S TALE

Frances Kelsey Secondary's  
latest breaking news and views



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December 6, 2016 Vol. 22/No3

## What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

Coached by Mrs. Gillis, the Junior Girls A Volleyball team had a great season, playing games all over the mid-island. Some of the highlights of the season included our trip to Salt Spring and our two day Bumpin' Pumpkin Tourney at Mt. Doug School. The team also went to the Escape Room in Victoria, which enabled them to work as a team in order to get themselves out of there! Thanks to Kyla Toljander for helping the team at practices and home games and to Mrs. van Hell and Kaiden Coughlan for refereeing games.

We were so proud of our students who performed at last month's Remembrance Day Assembly. The event featured dramatic readings, a bagpiper, choir and concert band performances, as well as special individual solos and duets. Thanks to those who contributed to this important annual event, including representatives of the Cadets, the RCMP, the Armed Forces and local Legion members. We also appreciate the behind-the-scenes work by those who prepared and served the lunch to our guests.

*Book Buzz*, the Kelsey book club, picks a different book from the same genre then meets once a month to talk and share enthusiasm for reading. October's theme was 'thriller' because of Halloween and November's theme was 'historical' because of Remembrance Day. We are already on social media so students can follow us on Instagram at fkssbookclub. New members welcome. See Ms. Baker or Mrs. Bonner for more information.

Grade 12 dome passes have been handed out to those students who have shown academic progress and general responsibility. Students who met the criteria were awarded a special pass by their advisor. Another batch of dome passes will be available to deserving students in the new year.

Mr. Heath's Grade 9 Power Technology class recently spent time designing parachutes from a variety of materials such as garbage bags, balloons and tissue paper. Each parachute was attached to an egg which



### *Kelsey Calendar*

**Tuesday, December 6, 2016**

Whale's Tale newsletter issued  
P.A.R.T.Y. Program

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016**

7:00 p.m. – Fall Band Concert

**Friday, December 9, 2016**

Careers Presentation to Grade 12's

**Monday, December 12, 2016**

Gifted Catalyst trip to Victoria  
Sexting presentation to Grade 9's

**Tuesday, December 13, 2016**

7:00 p.m. – Dry Grad parents meeting  
in library

**Wednesday, December 14, 2016**

Resource Program trip to Victoria  
6:00 p.m. – school dance

**Thursday, December 15, 2016**

Last day of Red Cross Club food drive

**Friday, December 16, 2016**

11:00 a.m. – Grad skate at Kerry Park  
Last day of classes before Winter  
Vacation

**Tuesday, January 3, 2017**

First day of classes 2017

**Monday, January 9, 2017**

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

**Tuesday, January 10, 2017**

7:00 p.m. – Dry Grad parents meeting  
in library

**Wednesday, January 11, 2017**

2:15 p.m. dismissal – PLC

7:00 p.m. – PAC meeting in library

**January 11 – 13, 2017**

Grade 8 – 10 Whistler trip

**Tuesday, January 24, 2017**

English 12 Provincial Exam

**Wednesday, January 25, 2017**

Last day of classes Semester 1

**Thursday, January 26, 2017**

Completion "I" Day

was dropped from a second storey platform to see whose parachute stayed in the air the longest, was most accurate to hit a target and would protect their egg the best. A creative way to learn that makes a lesson fun!

Congratulations to the Sr. Boys Soccer team which finished 5<sup>th</sup> at the Island Championship hosted by Courtenay and Campbell River. They played three games, winning 1-0 over Royal Bay then losing to Carihi Secondary, the eventual winner. Their third game against Isfeld Senior Secondary went to penalties and after the 9<sup>th</sup> shooter, the game was finally determined. Well done, team!

Our Career Centre hosted representatives from University of Calgary and University of Alberta last month. Presentations were given to interested students about all aspects of post-secondary life at these institutions.

Competitiveness, fun and sportsmanship were present last month during a student vs staff volleyball game played at lunchtime. The staff won the first match 25-21 while the students were victorious in the second match with a score of 25-19.

Speaking of competitiveness, have you heard about the Staff vs Grads Toy Drive Challenge? A daily tally is published in the *NewsBreaker* and at the date of publication, the staff is clearly in the lead. The winners of the challenge will have their cars washed by the losers in the spring.

Students: want to improve yourself? There is research to prove that reading for pleasure "has the capacity to develop empathy, well-being, creativity and cultural understanding" (McKearney). There is also research to prove that contrary to popular opinion, there is no decline in reading interest as children get older but instead, other interests and time pressures increase (Krashen). So boost your brain power and keep on reading! Of course this applies to other family members too.

The Frances Kelsey Whalers Senior Hockey Team is starting up this month. The team is comprised of many talented players who are ready to play the game and have some fun. Spectators are encouraged to come watch the action at Kerry Park and Shawnigan Lake School. Home games will be on Mondays at 4:00. Coached by Mr. Joe Duffe and Mrs. Gillis, we are anticipating a fun season on the ice.

Congratulations to our Kelsey Swim Team. We had a hard working group of swimmers this year, many of whom participated in the early morning practices each week. Four of our swimmers also enjoyed success in the water at the Vancouver Island Zone Swim Meet on November 6 at the Commonwealth Aquatic Centre in Saanich. Swimming for FKSS swim team this year were Gabrielle Pask, Kenzie Pask, Tyler LeBlanc and Savannah van Nieuwkerk.

Well done to all the Grade 8 students in planning and creating great Autonomy Day projects such as an audio mash-up, homemade sushi, animal treats that were safe to feed to any animal, positive message posters for each class and a medieval shield. Thank you to our Grade 12 students, Tyler Lindsay, Noah Bonin, Lucas Nagel and Riley Ferguson, for helping in the shop.

Positive feedback has been received after our University/College Liaison Day, such as "It took the mystery out of universities and made me feel more comfortable with the whole process", "I am going to consider applying to Quest as it seems to be a system that may work well for the way I learn", "It made my thoughts on post-secondary a little less scary" and "I feel better prepared".

Take time to view the samples of projects by Mrs. Smith's Leatherworks class on display in the glass cabinet in the library, demonstrating impressive examples of fancy braided handles, snap closures, decorative stitching and more.

Please encourage your aspiring authors or poets to enter a piece of their work for a chance to have their writing featured in the yearbook. Deadline is January 31, 2017.

Talented youth from around the world performed beautifully at a very entertaining International Coffee House recently. Many Kelsey students in the District International Student Program joined others, singing and playing a variety of music, with proceeds donated to the Cowichan Valley Starfish Backpack Project.

Lastly, it was a great year for our Girls Field Hockey team who came 6<sup>th</sup> at the AAA Provincials in Surrey. Over the course of the season, they beat Cowichan Secondary (the tournament champions) twice, while during the tournament, they were victorious over Oak Bay and Penticton as well as number one ranked Handsworth Secondary of North Vancouver, finally losing to Carson Graham by only a single point.

## Scholarships and Bursaries

By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal

All Grade 12 students should be checking the [www.bcscholarships.ca](http://www.bcscholarships.ca) and [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com) websites regularly for updated scholarship and bursary information. Information sessions for local scholarships and bursaries, which are available only to Kelsey students, will be offered beginning in February. For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. van der Linden. Further websites can be found through the school website. Application forms for the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in December and January, are available in the library filing cabinet:

- Burger King Scholars Program
- BCIT Entrance Awards
- University of Guelph National Scholarship Program
- Schulich Leader Scholarship
- Chinese University of Hong Kong



## 2016-2017 Dry Grad



Summary of Dry Grad activities to date: **Thrifty's Smile Card program is going.** If you have a card from previous years, it is still good for the Dry Grad Program. If you would like a card, please contact Melanie or Madelaine and we will get one to you. This is how we get much of our food for the Dry Grad evening, so please consider shopping at Thrifty's. **Bottle Drive** hopefully in January (14<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup>?) Contact Sonia Van Hell at [svanhell@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:svanhell@sd79.bc.ca) Please start asking your family and friends to start saving. There are Dry Grad accounts open at both Fisher Road and Cowichan Return it. **Parent Social and Silent Auction** – January 28<sup>th</sup>, Black Swan Pub. Contact Michelle Gardiner at [gardiner.michelle@ymail.com](mailto:gardiner.michelle@ymail.com) **Garage Sale** – April 29, 2017 – Mill Bay Storage has generously donated a unit for us to store items for the garage sale. Contact Michaela Witt at [michaela\\_witt@hotmail.com](mailto:michaela_witt@hotmail.com) We are seeking donations of goods and services for our silent auction and raffles. Cash donations are always welcome.

**Mark Your Calendars! Our next meeting: December 13;** Red Carpet and Banquet: June 17, 2017; Graduation Ceremony and Dry Grad event: June 23, 2017

## Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council

There will be no PAC meeting this month. Please join us on Wednesday, January 11, 2017. Happy holidays!

## A Reminder Regarding ‘Snow Days’ . . .

According to Board Policy 3500, we have been asked to remind you that in the event of inclement weather, the Superintendent may decide that schools will be closed. Announcements will be made over radio stations CKKQ 100.3, CBC (90.5), JUICE-FM 89.7, CFX (1070) and CTV VI News channel. Information will also be posted on the district website: [www.sd79.bc.ca](http://www.sd79.bc.ca)

When buses are operating during inclement weather, drivers may opt not to go down some of the less travelled and more dangerous roads (i.e., winding, hilly). If families live down such roads, it would be a good idea to plan now with their driver for a location at a safer, more-travelled stop.

If buses are running more than fifteen minutes late, drivers will radio in to notify the Transportation Office. Parents can also sign up to get Transportation Department updates on Twitter @TransportSD79 (<https://twitter.com/#!/TransportSD79>). Route cancellations will be posted on Twitter as well. In all cases, the safety of students will be the first priority.

## Free College Tuition Opportunities

Students who attend VIU or Camosun College immediately after graduation have many opportunities for free tuition. They can be sponsored for up to four academic courses in their first year after high school. However, students must complete a dual credit course in their grade 12 year. As well, there are still opportunities for Grade 12's to attend hairdressing, carpentry and applied business technology programs at VIU in second semester. All tuition is paid and students receive credits towards graduation. Any current Grade 11's who are considering taking the trades program during their grade 12 year should see the Career Centre, prior to making next year's course selections, to ensure they meet course requirements. Please contact the Career Centre for more information about dual credit opportunities this school year.

## Looking for a Christmas Present?

Show your school pride! Get outfitted for cooler weather! The Business Education program sells clothing with our school name and logo. See Mr. Ellingson or Mrs. Brinkman in room 229 or call 250.743.6916, local 268.

Hoodies (navy or grey) - \$28

Long sleeve navy T shirts - \$18

Sweats (navy or grey) - \$22

Fabric gym bags - \$10

## Grade 8 and 9 Winter Activity Day - February 23, 2017

This year, students in grades 8 and 9 will be given an opportunity to participate in a variety of activities. Some possibilities we are considering are listed below. We also have other activities that we are currently developing. Please note that prices listed below are estimated costs at this point. Detailed information and prices for specific activities will be finalized in January and a letter will be sent home with students.

Activity	Approximate Cost
Downhill Skiing at Mt. Washington (helmets required)	\$35 - \$100
Snowboarding at Mt. Washington (helmets required)	\$35 - \$100
Rock Climbing (Romper Room)	\$25
Vancouver Trip to Vancouver Aquarium or Science World	\$55
Duncan – swimming and bowling	\$20

We encourage all students to participate in Winter Activity Day and thank you for your support.

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