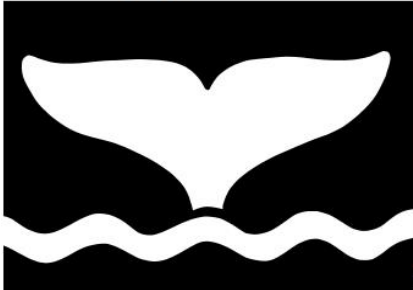


# THE WHALE'S TALE

Frances Kelsey Secondary's  
latest breaking news and views



## CONTACT US:

250.743.6916

fkss.sd79.bc.ca

School Facebook page:  
Frances Kelsey Secondary  
School – FKSS

PAC Facebook page:  
Frances Kelsey Secondary PAC



June 5, 2017 Vol. 22/No. 8

## Goodbyes and Hellos

By Jeff Rowan, Principal

The end of the 2016-17 school year is fast approaching. It is always a time of mixed emotion as we feel both the excitement for our Grade 12 students as they leave high school and enter the next phase of their lives, yet know we will also miss them. The same feeling goes out to all of the parents who have been with Frances Kelsey for a number of years, often with more than one child who has gone through the school. If this is your last child to be in the school system, you are also graduating from Frances Kelsey and we wish you the best!

Special thanks to all of the parents who have worked to make graduation memorable for the students, be that via the graduation banquet or the dry grad events. Our PAC has also been a wonderful, supportive group of people to discuss school plans and issues, so thanks to all of you who have been on our PAC.

We have also had a very active group of students who have worked hard to make Frances Kelsey a better place. Special thanks to our Student Parliament and Graduation Committee students. Your spirit and enthusiasm have been appreciated.

The dedicated, skilled staff at Frances Kelsey has also been a pleasure to work with. Our teachers are going the extra mile to make sure the students are successful both academically and personally. The Kelsey educational assistants, secretaries and custodians work hard to make the school a better place for our kids. Thank you to all staff for your work this year.

We optimistically prepare and look forward to meeting the students who will be with us as new grade 8's next year. From all of us at Kelsey, best wishes and we are sure the end of the year will go well... as will your summer!



### *Kelsey Calendar*

**Monday, June 5, 2017**

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

**Tuesday, June 6, 2017**

5:30 p.m. – Annual Sport Celebration in dome

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

**June 6 – 9, 2017**

*Murder at the Maltshop* drama production (times vary)

**Friday, June 9, 2017**

Grad Valedictorian speeches and vote

**Wednesday, June 14, 2017**

Annual School Awards Day

Families are welcome to attend

10:00 a.m. – School wide awards assembly

7:00 p.m. – Scholarship and Bursary Evening

**Thursday, June 15, 2017**

7:00 p.m. – Spring Music Concert in gym

**Friday, June 16, 2017**

Grad BBQ and T-shirt tie dye activity

Student Parliament BBQ

**Saturday, June 17, 2017**

3:30 p.m. – Grads assemble at FKSS

5:00 p.m. – Grads depart for formal graduation banquet

For further information please contact Katrina at 250.732.4350

**Wednesday, June 21, 2017**

7:00 p.m. - PAC meeting in library

**Friday, June 23, 2017**

Last day of classes

6:30 p.m. – Graduation Ceremony

**June 26 & 27, 2017**

Completion Day

**Wednesday, June 28, 2017**

Non-Instructional Day

**Thursday, June 29, 2017**

Final report cards issued by Advisors

1:15 p.m. – early dismissal

**Tuesday, September 5, 2017**

First day of classes for Gr 8 & new students

**Wednesday, September 6, 2017**

First day of classes for all students

For complete information about the school, visit our website at [fkss.sd79.bc.ca](http://fkss.sd79.bc.ca)

## What's Happening at Kelsey?

Have you seen our new school website? Do you have some ideas or thoughts on how to make it better? Please give us your feedback at [fklibrary@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:fklibrary@sd79.bc.ca)

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, students at Frances Kelsey participated in Student Vote BC. The object of the exercise was to get youth thinking about politics and government in preparation for their future as Canadian Citizens. Research indicates that this kind of exercise can have a significant impact on encouraging young people to vote in the future. Students were encouraged by the social studies department to visit a mock polling station set up in the back of the dome, complete with voting screens and ballot boxes. The station was staffed by students who volunteered to work as voting clerks and officers, and handed out ballots that looked very similar to real ballots, including all of the candidates running in the riding. The day generated a great deal of interest in the election and discussion in social studies classes. How our students voted: Anderson (Libertarian) = 17; Furstenau (Green) = 285; Haythornthwaite (Independent) = 10; Housser (Liberal) = 80; Iannidinardo (NDP) = 88; Lockhart (Independent) = 10; Morrison (Independent) = 11. Total accepted ballots = 501; total rejected = 17.

Youth Action Day was a "for youth, by youth" event on April 28<sup>th</sup> at the Island Savings Centre celebrating the amazing community service by the Cowichan region's youth. Approximately 600 students from the District's secondary schools attended the event. Students experienced inspirational speakers as well as great music by Carmanah, Deep Sea Gypsies and SirReal. MC Jon Williams from *The Zone* kept the day rolling smoothly with good humour and wit. Thank you to the students from our local schools who planned and organized this event.

Congratulations to the Girls Rugby Team and Coach Clarkson, which together with our community partners, raised \$5,100 for new jerseys and training equipment that we hope will help us continue to grow the program next year. Tryouts begin again in September and all girls in Grade 8 to 12 are encouraged to come out and join our squad. This is the second year we have had a girls' team which was made up of 20 to 25 players.

We are starting a lunch time games cafe and we are looking for games in good condition that your family may want to donate to this activity. Games can be donated at the main office or directly to Mrs. Lewthwaite or Mrs. Robinson. Watch for future announcements about our first games day!

Did you know we currently have 44 students enrolled in Work Experience 12 at Frances Kelsey? These students are working to attain four high school credits while employed at their part-time jobs. Students in WEX 12 gain valuable hands-on experience, learn about worker rights and responsibilities and develop many transferable skills such as communication, teamwork, customer service, conflict resolution, time management and responsibility. Students entering Grades 10, 11, and 12 can enroll now to include their summer work hours. See Mrs. Zimmer in the Career Centre to get started now!

The Track and Field team, coached by Mrs. Gillis, had a great season. Many athletes (40+) went to the Duncan Meet on May 9/10 and had a fun day competing in running and field events. 25 athletes qualified for Islands which took place at UVic on May 17/18. Qualifiers for BCs: Daniel De Vries (shot put; discus); MacKenna Posey (shot put; discus); Salim Seif (shot put); Liam Hill (400m dash); Tahara Brown (long jump); Mowat de Valk Zaiss (100m dash); Aisha Werner (100/200m dash); Katie Farley (3000m run); Marissa Morris (100m dash) and the Junior Girls 4x100 Relay Team (Olivia Young, Robin de Valk Zaiss, Paige Hurford, Marissa Morris). Salim, Tahara, Mowat, Aisha, Marissa and Katie are able to attend, so good luck to you all, especially since you have to leave Mill Bay for Langley at 3:15 a.m.! Many athletes also applied in the Open Category, so our best wishes to all athletes who are able to participate in the Provis.

With instruction from Mrs. Van Hell and Ms. Roueche, all competitors in the Hector McIntosh Public Speaking Contest semi-finals at Queen of Angels School showed courage, creativity, humour and skill. Contestants from our school included Kyla Van Ryk, Maya Weckesser, Taylor Walters, Aidan Grounds, Jizelle Balae, Allison Gelling, Aleah Grymaloski, Mandy Scott, Maria Grandell and Quinn Evans. Maya, Taylor, Allison and Aleah advanced to the finals, each winning prizes between \$165 and \$500.

May 4<sup>th</sup> was Jeans Day for BC Children's Hospital and our CAN Club (Cancer Awareness Network) under the sponsorship of Mrs. Robinson raised \$70 from students and staff wearing their favourite pair of jeans. A further \$173 was raised from sales of Italian sodas. Great work, CAN Club!

Mrs. Lewthwaite and Mrs. Robinson co-ordinated a Slam Poetry workshop which was held last month for any students, including first timers, who wanted to know what slamming is all about. Slam Poetry is a spoken word art form of personal expression. The poet uses the rhythm of language to create imagery and shares this passion with the audience.

A very entertaining Benefit Concert and Talent Show, organized by the Interact Club and Mr. van der Linden, raised \$567.35 to help provide infrastructure such as clean water and schools in Zimbabwe. The concert featured *Mbira Spirit*, *The Green Lights*, *The Straight Razors* and many other amazing student performers who entertained the audience with a variety of performance styles including music and speech arts.

Approximately 20 students and 8 staff participated in Bike to Work Week, co-ordinated by Mr. Bell. Thanks to the Student Government for providing daily draw prizes and to the student volunteers who manned the registration desk every morning. Ms. Welwood, Mr. Bell and Mr. Niessen rode the farthest, a very impressive 60k round trip from Victoria and back!

Please join us in congratulating FKSS's very own staff member, Brian Johnston, as he has been named the Youth Coach of the Year for B.C. Soccer. This is a province wide award for coaching community and school soccer. Well done, Brian!



Finally, a heart-felt **Thank You** to Constable Clarkson, our RCMP Liaison Officer who has played a special role at Kelsey this year. His regular presence at the school and his direct involvement with our student body has been a positive experience for our students and staff.



# Scholarships and Bursaries

By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal

Frances Kelsey is having our Scholarship and Bursary Presentation night on Wednesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. The local scholarships and bursaries will be presented that evening in a formal ceremony followed by a reception in the dome with the award donors, students, parents and staff. We again want to congratulate all those graduating students who applied for scholarships this year.



Although most of the scholarships and bursaries will be announced on the evening of the Presentation night, at the time of the writing of this article, the awards listed below have already been made public knowledge:

Luke Bennett	York University Entrance Award	\$2,000
	York University Engineering Scholarship	\$2,000
Caitlyn Bruce	University of Victoria Entrance Award	\$1,500
	Duncan Rotary Club - Student of the Month	\$500
Hannah Craig	University of Victoria	\$12,000
Halle de Valk Zaiss	University of Guelph Entrance Award	\$3,000
	University of Guelph Accessibility Bursary	\$14,000
Paisley Fritz	VIU President's Entrance Full Tuition Scholarship	\$23,000
Alyssa Hay	University of Victoria Entrance Award	\$1,500
Emma Knock	University of Victoria Entrance Award	\$1,500
Kyjuana Marshall	McGill University	\$3,000
Nathan Pywell	University of Victoria Entrance Award	\$20,000
Stephanie Saunders	Queen's University Entrance Award	\$36,000
Marijke Van Hell	Vancouver Island University Incoming Outstanding Student Award	\$200
Savanah van Nieuwkerk	University of Victoria Varsity Dues	\$300
Samantha Walker	University of Guelph Entrance Award	\$2,000
Noah Wickham	VIU Chancellor's Entrance Full Tuition Scholarship	\$23,000

If your son or daughter receives notification that he/she has won an Entrance Scholarship or bursary, please advise Mrs. Bonner so that these winners may be recognized at the Graduation Walk-up.

A reminder that some other scholarships are still being offered through [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)

For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. van der Linden. **All dates** should be checked at each source's site.

Application forms for the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in June, July, August and September are available in the library filing cabinet:

- Monsanto Fund Opportunity Scholarship Program
- BC Institute of Technology Entrance Awards and President's Entrance Awards



## Dry Grad

**Red Carpet and Banquet:**  
Saturday, June 17

**Dry Grad Event:**  
Friday, June 23

**DRY GRAD**  
Please join us at our meeting on  
**Tuesday, June 6 at 7:00 p.m. in  
the library. For more  
information contact Melanie at  
250.748.3351 or at  
melaniebrancato@hotmail.com**

The Dry Grad Committee has been working hard. Fundraising is finished and now is the time for the final organizational details to be sorted out. If your Grad has not volunteered at a fundraising event, the cost to attend the Dry Grad event is \$10. Madelaine will be collecting money at the student information meeting at Kelsey on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

If you would like to help out at the Red Carpet or the Dry Grad event, please email Melanie - [melaniebrancato@hotmail.com](mailto:melaniebrancato@hotmail.com) **Final meeting – Tuesday, June 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

## Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council



The last PAC meeting of the year will be on Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Everybody likes to spend money, especially when it's not theirs, so why not try a meeting and help us spend some! Have an up-close and personal chat with the principal too and find out all the great things that have happened at Kelsey this year. Hope to see you there.

**FKPAC**  
Please join us at our meeting on  
**Wednesday, June 21 at 7:00 p.m.  
in the library. For more  
information contact Tanya at  
250.999.6417 or at  
tanyarick@shaw.ca**

## Aboriginal Education Reflections

Greetings respected relations! (Mother earth relations). The year has passed so quickly after the long cool winter stretch. I am Amanda Henry, a Coast Salish descendant from Wsanec, Songhees, Westholme, Koksilah and the Fraser Valley. My given name is "Tiaa qwhelu maat". To you I say, "Tansi, hiy hiy, huy tseep qa si:em nu'siyeya". Hello and greetings, respected ones.

It is an honour to be here and witness the next generation of leadership on their way. I will echo that the next generation is full of wisdom, wit, and when they keep plugging away on the path of excellence, I have seen them in kindness, with consideration of peers, teachers, and staff, get to places of belonging with one another. And I must mention the awesome Kelsey band "The Greenlights" – wow!

In the beginning of the year, students were welcomed to Aboriginal Education support service with Barb Jimmy. And last year "Tousilum" retired from his role as Kelsey's Aboriginal Support Worker. Thank you to those who were here before me.

All students were participants in the Terry Fox Run, and whether we walked, ran, or stood at the support

lines (clapping crew), it was a great way to commemorate Canada's heroic late Terry Fox and also to include the Orange Shirt Campaign (every child matters).

Parents, as you know, many things in life become milestones and valued memories. Our goal is to build upon strengths and focus on positives. Keep the strength and keep investing in our youth, our future leadership. Thank you for allowing me to be here.

The Frances Kelsey logo of the Killer Whale, "*Qwhul'whunha matzun*", is very fitting for this honourable place of learning.

Some thanks = big *Huychqa!* to Mrs. Thompson and Denis for leading the Kelsey Café in their sharing cakes for Canada's 150<sup>th</sup>, and a salmon platter special, complimentary of **Aboriginal Heritage Day**. Thanks to all students and presenters. Remember we can only improve events and engagements if we get involved. Thanks as well to those students who allowed me to support the lunch time club for **Basketball Drop-In**, the student rotations in **Exploratory 8 Coast Salish**, who shared in some great listening of Cultural presenters, and the meaning of helper for some Native traditional insight. This is what it means to be "scaa bay", a person of service.

Let's connect this September. Have a joyous and safe summer, and congrats to your grads. To those returning, don't be discouraged. Focus on what needs to be the next step for completion.

Respects,

Amanda E. Henry @FKSS~ASW, ahenry@sd79.bc.ca

## From the Red Cross Club



Sponsored by Mrs. Thompson, Mrs. Niziol, Mr. Grbavec and Ms. Dayton, the Red Cross Club has been very busy this year with various projects. We started the year with the Thanksgiving food drive where we collected lots of food to donate to the Mill Bay Food Bank. Our next project was Operation Christmas Child where we packed up 53 shoeboxes full of toys and sent them to kids in third world countries. As an extra fundraiser that went towards grad scholarships and bursaries, we organized hot chocolate sales.

One of our main activities this year was to help promote blood drives in our area. The Red Cross Club received a seminar from Kate Zealand on how a blood drive works and how to best promote one at school. We organized the Red Cross Red Tent week to spread the word about donating blood and to show people how they could sign up. Another activity we became involved with was partnering with the Daily Dose Society. We helped Daily Dose fundraise for items such as clothes, socks, towels etc. for homeless people in Victoria and it was a huge success!

To close out the year, the club is promoting the One Match Stem Cell Campaign through the Canadian Blood Services for those who are over 17, as well as one final summer food drive.

Overall, it has been a successful year for the Red Cross Club. We would like to thank all of the staff and students, especially the graduates, for supporting the projects we have accomplished this year. We hope to see everyone back next year and we welcome all new members!

*The Whale's Tale* is distributed on the first Monday of each month, excluding holidays. Layout by Nancy Bonner, Library Assistant. Edited by staff and Administration.

# Music High Notes – Kelsey Large Ensembles



By John Evans, Music Director

Kelsey music students in the bands and choir are approaching the end of a very full and successful year. Choir continued this year as a Grade 8 to 12 club under the direction of Michelle Weckesser. Band 8 students have made a very good start on their instruments and are now playing as an ensemble. The Jazz Band and Concert Band have tackled a wide variety of music and have enjoyed many performance opportunities.

Kelsey music students distinguished themselves at festival performances this spring. The FKSS Choir and Band 8 performed at the Cowichan Music Festival. The Choir won the Gwilym Morris and Edwin J. Schuckel Memorial Awards. The choir was again chosen to submit a recording to the provincial choral festival. The Junior Concert Band received compliments and encouragement from the adjudicator, winning the Rotary Club of Duncan Award. Maya Weckesser was recognized with the Ross Wristen Memorial Award for her contribution to the Band 8 performance. The festival season finished with the Concert Band competing at the Vancouver Island Concert Band Festival in Port Alberni. The band earned a score of 'Excellent Plus' and received an invitation to the 2018 national festival - *MusicFest Canada*. These vocal and instrumental students have grown musically in the past few months and will continue to build on this musical success.

During the first week of May, 56 band students enjoyed a week-long trip to Alberta. These students visited Edmonton, Drumheller, Banff and Lake Louise. They made music in a variety of venues and brought home great memories. The five chaperones added to the trip from start to finish.

In conclusion, the Choir, Band 8, Concert Band and Jazz Band will present a Spring Concert in the FKSS gymnasium at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Admission is by donation and all are welcome. Also, the Band 8-11 students will perform at the walk-up ceremony of the Graduating Class of 2017. At that time, we bid farewell to a number of our graduating music students, wishing them success in their future endeavors. Our talented students look forward to building on the successes of this year. Each of the groups appreciates the support of school staff, many parents and the school PAC in making participation at all of the musical large ensembles possible.



## Governor General's Award

We are proud to announce that the recipient of the 2015-2016 Governor General's Academic Medal is Alyssa Lorenz. Alyssa has just completed her first year in the Co-Ordinated Science Program at UBC. Congratulations, Alyssa!



Staff and students celebrate Jeans Day

Are you living with a family member struggling with mental illness? You are not alone. ***Strengthening Families Together First Nations Edition Program*** will help. This 10 session group provides information, coping skills and support. Sessions are every Thursday from June 15 to August 10, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Participation is free. Registration is required at 778.422.312 or 250.709.2985.

**Family Support Night**, presented by the BC Schizophrenia Society for family and friends of people living with schizophrenia and other major mental health concerns, on the second Monday of each month from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, 531 Herbert Street, Duncan. Info at 250.327.4416, 250.709.2985, [cowichan@bcss.org](mailto:cowichan@bcss.org) or [vimanager@bcss.org](mailto:vimanager@bcss.org)

**The Farm Table**, a culinary partnership between Providence Farm and Vancouver Island University, is the teaching restaurant for the VIU Culinary program. All menu items are served as a three course chef tasting for \$19 - \$26. The restaurant is located at Providence Farm, 1843 Tzouhalem Road in Duncan. For reservations call 250.597.0599.

**Salon 79** is the teaching salon at the Vancouver Island University Hairstylist Program in partnership with School District 79. Free haircuts, blow dry and style at Cowichan Trades Center, 5265 Boal Road, Duncan (the former Koksilah Elementary School). For appointments call 250.746.3520.

**The Teen Summer Reading Challenge** runs from July 4 to August 22 at the Vancouver Island Regional Library. Do cool stuff and you could win a GoPro Hero Session or a \$50 Chapters gift card! Stop in at your local branch or visit [www.virltsc.ca](http://www.virltsc.ca)

**BC Transit and the CVRD** are providing *GradPASSES* (two free days of transit in June) to the 2017 Grad Class and are promoting their *School's Out Transit Special* which offers a week of free transit from June 30 - July 7 to all students. Info at 250.746.2637, <https://www.cvr.bc.ca/2094/Transit> or <https://bctransit.com/cowichan-valley>

**The Cowichan Intercultural Society** is seeking energetic, enthusiastic and culturally sensitive youth volunteer mentors and adult volunteer play leaders to host school aged children. Camp runs July 4 – 27, Mondays – Thursdays 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Contact Jennifer at 250.748.3112

**Community Options Society** presents *Parents of Teens Information Nights*, where various topics around communication, cooperation and conflict will be presented. All caregivers of teens are welcome. Wednesday evenings in June at 6:30 p.m. Call 250.748.0232 to register. This is a free series.