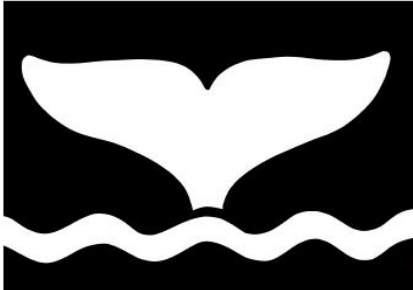


THE WHALE'S TALE

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



November 6, 2017 Vol. 23/No2

What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

So many wonderful things have been happening at Kelsey. We are an exciting, busy school!

Last month, the entire school attended our annual Club Fair where student representatives promoted our many clubs and activities. For a complete listing, please see the October Whale's Tale which is available from our office or can be found through our school website. Please note two more clubs have been added, being:

SADD CLUB

Students Against Drunk and
Distracted Driving
Sponsor: Ms. Young

HANDFUL OF HEARTS

Mental Health Awareness
Support Group
Sponsor: Ms. M. Kirchner

Ms. Kirchner's PE class collaborated with the Red Cross Club to collect donations for the Mill Bay Food Bank. The Red Cross Club put together a wonderful pamphlet and provided donation bags; the PE class delivered the pamphlets in the Deer Park and Mill Springs neighbourhood. The PE class then collected the donations. We would like to thank these neighbourhoods for their generous donations!

FKSS participated in the District's 20 minute DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) Challenge. The purpose was to reinforce the importance of reading. Students and staff were encouraged to read quietly during this time, without phones or tablets.

Yearbooks usually sell out every June but there are still a few left over from last year which we are selling at a reduced price. Please see Ms. Baker or Mrs. Bonner in the library.

Our Career Centre hosted an engaging presentation from Latitude Global Volunteering which offers an international volunteer gap year program



Kelsey Calendar

Monday, November 6, 2017

Whale's Tale newsletter issued
English 12 Provincial Exam

Wednesday, November 8, 2017

7:00 p.m. – PAC meeting in library

Friday, November 10, 2017

10:30 a.m. – Remembrance Day
Assembly in gym - everyone welcome
End of Term 1

Monday, November 13, 2017

Day in Lieu for Remembrance Day

Tuesday, November 14, 2017

Student Parliament Spirit Day
7:00 p.m. – Dry Grad parents meeting
in library

Wednesday, November 15, 2017

1:15 p.m. dismissal – Professional
Learning Community

Friday, November 17, 2017

Grade 9 TOKTWD consent forms due
(see related article on page 2 & 3)

University Information Presentations

9:30 a.m. – University of Calgary

11:45 a.m. – Gustavson School of
Business

2:30 p.m. – University of Alberta

3:15 p.m. – Report Cards issued

Saturday, November 18, 2017

4:00 p.m. – International Student
Showcase in dome

Monday, November 20, 2017

8:00 a.m. – Grad Pyjama Day and
Pancake Breakfast in dome

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

University/College Liaison Day for all
grades

November 22 – 30, 2017

Grad Portraits

Monday, November 27, 2017

Non-instructional Day

For complete information about the school, visit our website at fkss.sd79.bc.ca

for students. Several Kelsey students have participated in the past. Volunteers can travel to countries such as Great Britain, Ecuador, New Zealand, Vietnam or Ghana.

Athletics are in full swing this fall. Congratulations to our senior girls field hockey and volleyball teams on their successful tournaments. Well done to our junior boys soccer team who displayed excellent sportsmanship and great effort in all their games this season. Our senior boys soccer team is presently playing at the North Islands tournament in Courtney and our swim team attended a meet in Victoria where one swimmer qualified for the Provincials in Richmond and three others achieved personal bests. The junior girls volleyball team are coming together well and will shortly be playing in the Mid-Island tournament in Victoria to conclude their season. The senior girls rugby team is now busy with its pre-season training.

Our hard-working Cafeteria Program is well underway where our students may purchase healthy lunch options at very reasonable prices, such as Corn Chowder Soup - \$2.00; Taco Salad - \$4.00; Chicken Clubhouse Sandwich - \$5.00, Fruit Smoothie - \$2.00 and Cheese Scone - 50¢ Our menu is posted in advance on the Kelsey website. Has your son or daughter tried one of our yummy lunches yet?

Kelsey participated in the province-wide earthquake drill last month which gave students and staff the opportunity to review safety procedures in the event of an earthquake.

Our Halloween spirit was displayed last Monday with a lively costume parade in the dome at lunch while our Interact Club sold Scare-O-Grams, the chance to send a positive message and a treat to a friend for 50¢.

Music Trivia has returned! Every W block, Mr. Rowan plays snippets of three songs over the P.A. with a different theme each week. The first advisor group on each floor to identify the artist and the name of the song wins a prize of Skittles and suckers.

Career Day

Our Career Day will be held on Tuesday, November 21st for all students. Grade 8 students will be doing an Autonomy Day where they are tasked to cooperatively plan, design and build a project of their choice. Grade 9 students will participate in the national *Take Our Kids to Work Day*. If you have a child in Grade 9, your support is needed – please see the article below. Grade 10 students will tour the VIU trades and academic campuses. This tour gives students the opportunity to see what a college campus is like and to learn what programs are available. Grade 11 and 12 students will remain at the school and will attend three workshops of their choice. Representatives from BC universities, colleges and art colleges will give presentations and will be able to answer questions. This day will have regular classes in the afternoon for Grade 10, 11 and 12. Grade 9's will be out for the full day at their chosen job sites.

Parents of Grade 9 Students:

Take Our Kids to Work Day is a nation-wide project in Canada Career Week, aimed at Grade 9 students. Over the past years, Frances Kelsey has offered the opportunity to our Grade 9 students to participate in this one-day job shadowing experience to open their eyes to the world of work. It also gives them an opportunity to gain invaluable work experience, which we also credit towards their Careers 9 program. Employers increasingly value workers with good problem-solving and communication skills. They want team players comfortable with technology and information systems. Most importantly, they want lifelong learners eager to acquire new skills.

Take Our Kids to Work Day is a chance for students to connect what they are learning in school with what

happens in the workplace. Students also have an opportunity to see how a parent or another adult spends his or her day. *Take Our Kids to Work Day* starts young people thinking about the many choices available to them after high school. This program is not only open to parents of the students, but to others such as relatives, friends of the family, or community members.

Your child will be bringing home a consent form which needs to be completed and returned to the school by Friday, November 17th.

New Staff

We are pleased to announce that Ms. Lisa Huck has joined our staff as an E.A. in our Testing Centre.

Scholarships and Bursaries

By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal

Grade 12's should now be preparing academic resumes, cover letters and applications for scholarships and bursaries which are open to students throughout BC and Canada. Examples of applications are available in the scholarship filing cabinet found in the library as well as on our website. Students should be aware that academic resumes are different from employment resumes. Graduates presenting high quality packages are often successful in obtaining post-secondary funding; therefore, students requiring help should seek assistance as soon as possible. Grade 12's are encouraged to peruse all local scholarships that can be found at fkss.sd79.bc.ca



We are starting to receive scholarship application forms. Please be aware that many of these are specific and the competition for them is intense. For large scholarships, a student is often in competition with students across Canada. Sometimes the competition runs throughout North America. See www.scholarshipscanada.com and www.studentawards.com for more details.

What should Grade 12's be doing now?

By using the Career Centre, college and university calendars, internet sites and visiting the college personnel, students should be:

- deciding on which program of study they wish to take next year
- deciding on which college/university they wish to attend next year
- finding out about application deadlines, residence deadlines and scholarship deadlines
- finding out about any unions, groups or affiliates to organizations that their parents and grandparents have belonged to
- requesting reference letters.

Admission applications now available

Admission applications for Vancouver Island University, BCIT, Camosun College, Vancouver Community College and many other universities and colleges in BC are now being accepted.

Key websites for graduates

- Graduation program: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation
- Career planning and post-secondary options in BC: www.educationplanner.bc.ca, myblueprint.ca
- Your guide to post-secondary education programs and institutions in BC - offers students and parents information on post-secondary education, careers and the workforce: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/careers

- Student financial aid - your online guide to information about financial assistance programs including grants, loans and interest relief: www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentaidbc/
- Provincial examinations Frequently Asked Questions: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/
- BC colleges/universities scholarships: www.scholarshipscanada.com
- Canadian universities and colleges: www.schoolfinder.com

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 November and December, are available in the library filing cabinet:

- TD Scholarships for Community Leadership
- UBC Centennial Scholars Entrance Awards
- BCIT Entrance Awards

For information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. van der Linden.



The Magic Wand Project



Although 'Grad Banquet 2018' seems far off in the future, many secondary school students are already thinking about their gown or tuxedo. Every year there are young adults graduating who do not attend their banquet because of lack of financial means. Our school would like to try to identify these families in need of assistance to help their children enjoy this wonderful and deserving night.

Any parent, student, teacher, or friend may anonymously call our Principal, Mr. Rowan, or our Counsellors, Ms. Kirchner or Ms. Wright, at 250.743.6916 if they know of a student who is in need of our support.

The project has a great selection of gowns available for loan, access to free tuxedo rentals, as well as price-reduced hair and makeup services and a variety of shoes available.

There is one further opportunity for Grad this year! **Any** young woman may rent her dress from the “Magic Wand Project” for a nominal fee instead of buying one. For an appointment, contact Elizabeth at esurerus@telus.net, or view the website at www.themagicwandproject.ca or check out their information on Facebook.

We want to make sure every child has the opportunity to attend Grad festivities with pride and the wonderful sense of accomplishment that he/she deserves.

Grad Portraits

Grads should sign up online now for their appointment with Lifetouch Canada at www.lifetouch.ca/victoria Appointments are scheduled between November 22 – November 30.

From the Library

We have bought many new books for our library, including Haikyu and FairyTail graphic novels, Empire of Storms, Hiking Trails of Vancouver Island, 2018 Guinness Book of World Records, plus so much more! New books arrive all year long and we welcome student suggestions.

2017-2018 Dry Grad

DRY GRAD

Please join us at our meeting on Tuesday, November 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. For more information contact Loretta at 250.710.4614 or at taylortrucking@live.ca

Please come to our next meeting on **Tuesday, November 14th at 7:00 p.m.** in the library. We've accomplished a great deal in our first two meetings and had a fantastic turn out, but many hands make light work!



FIRST FUNDRAISER - Bottle Drive on Sunday, November 12th at FKSS!! 10:00 a.m. start, more details coming. SPREAD THE WORD!

ONGOING FUNDRAISERS - Bring in your Country Grocer receipts, drop off bottles at the Return It Depot on Fisher Road and get a Thrifty's Smile card! **Save Sunday, December 3rd** for our first **Beer and Burger Night** at the Cobblestone! Silent Auction too! Details to come.

If you'd like to be kept in the loop of what is happening, please email Krista Derksen at klderksen@shaw.ca to be added to the Grad 2018 email list. You can also learn about upcoming fundraisers by 'liking' our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/fkssdrygrad2018/> or on [instagram.com/fkssdrygrad2018/](https://www.instagram.com/fkssdrygrad2018/)

Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council

By Tanya Friese, President FKPAC



A bit of PAC trivia for you all: Each year our PAC applies for and receives grant money in the amount of \$20 per student from BC Gaming. This money can be used to enhance our students' extracurricular and educational experiences while at Kelsey - it cannot be used for curricular activities of any kind. At PAC meetings we get funding requests from the various sports teams, programs and other activities occurring throughout the year and we discuss how best to spend this money. We do NO fundraising at all and coming to PAC meetings is a great way to stay informed of all that is going on at the school. Also, we try to keep our meetings to an hour so why not come out **THIS**

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8th at 7:00 p.m. and meet the rest of us. We hope to see you there.

FKPAC

Please join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, November 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. For more information call Tanya at 250.999.6417 or email tanyarick@shaw.ca

Career Centre News

By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal and Sarah Macdonald, Career Centre Clerk

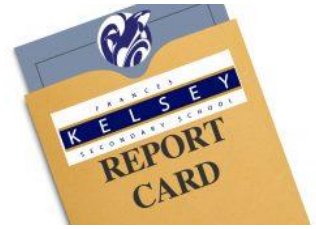
Did you know that under the new graduation program students can earn credits towards graduation for workplace certificates in a new course called Workforce Training Certificates 12? Some of these certificates include:

- WHMIS
- Life Guarding
- First Aid
- Confined Space Entry
- Foodsafe
- Fall Protection

Students should go to the Career Centre in order for these certificates to be included towards graduation.

Our Netmarks Program

Our Netmarks program allows parents to stay updated on their child's progress. If you have not received a username & password you will need to activate your child(ren) in Netmarks. To do this go to our website at fkss.sd79.bc.ca, find the "Parent" tab and click on Netmarks, then click on the link to get to the Netmarks login screen.



Under the Parents box click the "click here" link and fill in the required information (you will need your child's student number). Once that is complete you will be emailed your password and username. Make sure you enter your information correctly to ensure a password/username is correctly sent.

Yearbook Pre-Sale Until December 22, 2017

Yearbooks are on sale now for \$48 until winter break. They will be on sale again in 2018 but the price increases. We sold out two years in a row so don't delay! 200 pages of photos, stories and memories that you will cherish for years to come. When you are 30 and trying to remember who always wore the cat ears to math class, you will be able to check it out! Order forms in the library and pay at the front office by cash, cheque or debit.



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 Mrs. Brinkman in room 229 or call 250.743.6916, local 268. **Grad Gear order forms for hoodies, sweats and tees are also available in room 229.**

Hoodies (navy & grey) - \$28
Long sleeve navy T shirts - \$18
Mens (black) windbreakers - \$32
Ladies (navy) windbreakers - \$32

Sweats (navy, black & grey) - \$22
Quik-dry T shirts - \$16
Large metal water bottles - \$8

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), CFAK (1070) and CTV VI News channel. Information will also be posted on the district website: 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.



Doing Research? Come Visit the Library Learning Commons, Virtually or in Real Life!

We have laptops and iPads to lend out, desktops in the room to use, and over 13,000 books in our stacks! Our library webpage has links to many useful sites from free audiobooks for novel units to the newest research databases - WorldBook, GaleNelson, and Ebsco. If you need help with your bibliography, how to cite your research or where to find information on any topic, we can help.

Like mysteries but don't know a specific book to read? Come in and browse the section as our fiction is all organized into genre for easy perusing. At home and want to know if we have a specific book? Our catalogue is online on the library webpage. If we don't have it, leave a recommendation at the circulation desk and we can order it in!

Looking forward to seeing you!

The New Numeracy Assessment

Please know that students under the new graduation program (students in Grade 11 or younger) will be required to write a provincial numeracy assessment before they graduate. There will be a number of students across British Columbia who will write as a sample group in January with full implementation of this assessment in June, 2018. As a school, we would like to have all Grade 11 students write this exam at the end of this school year.

It is important to know that this is not a Math exam. It will measure numerical skills that cut across all subject areas (or rather, how numeracy is used in every day life). Students will be graded on a four point scale that will appear on their transcript. This mark will not be blended with any course mark.

More information including sample exams can be found at <https://curriculum.gov.bc.ca/curriculum-updates>

If you have any other questions regarding this new assessment or the new graduation program, please do not hesitate to contact me at the school at 250.743.6916, extension 228, or at kvanderl@sd79.bc.ca

FKSS Cross Country

By Karen Welwood, Coach

The FKSS Cross Country Team had a very successful season that consisted of practice runs, a meet at Queen of Angels (for Grade 8's and 9's), the Glenora Meet hosted by Cowichan Secondary, the Cobble Hill Meet hosted by FKSS and the Islands Meet at Beaver Lake. Congratulations to our runners who participated in the meets: Alaa Akil, Allison Vliet, Aubrey Crysler, Barbra Rikwerda-Child, Caitlin Burdet, Erin McNutt, Evan Russell, Frazer Willmott, Joshua Wong, Justin McCallum, Kaia Martin, Mowat de Valk

Zaiss, Nicklaus Badyal, Paige Hart, Robyn Zinkan, Sonja Rauber, Taya Brubacher, Tori Raymond and Zohra Verduin.

Congratulations to Caitlin Burdet for qualifying for the Provincials! Special *Thank You's* to Mr. Launder for helping with our practices and the Cobble Hill Meet and to Mr. Zinkan for driving our team to the Islands Meet.

From the Transportation Department

The Transportation Department is currently servicing nearly 3700 riders on 107 routes throughout the Cowichan Valley.

In an effort to provide the safest transportation system it is imperative that all riders register for busing and use their provided bus pass. When riders display a bus pass, the driver can easily identify a registered rider and by scanning a bus pass, the office staff can immediately locate a rider in the event of an emergency.

We continue to receive registrations and these bus passes are being distributed by bus drivers, however, if you have not yet received your student's bus pass and you registered before October 16, 2017, please email transportationreceivables@sd79.bc.ca to receive your child(ren)'s pass. If your child(ren)'s bus pass is lost or damaged please complete a replacement bus pass form provided by drivers.

It is imperative that all registered riders use their provided bus pass as per the School Bus Code of Conduct that was signed at the time of registration. Bus passes should be scanned when boarding and exiting the buses. These measures will ensure we can provide the safest transportation system possible. Thank you.



Governor General's Award

We are proud to announce that the recipient of the 2016-2017 Governor General's Academic Medal is Kyjuana Marshall. The Academic Medal recognizes outstanding academic achievement and is awarded annually to the student graduating with the highest average.



Kyjuana is in her first year of the Engineering program at McGill University in Montreal. Congratulations, Kyjuana.

Photo by Lifetouch Canada

Gender Journeys

Are you exploring your gender identity? Join a free 8 week session for those 18+ to explore physical, emotional and social impacts of gender transition. Topics will include exploring your sense of self and self acceptance, coming out, transphobia, issues important to physical health and emotional well-being, practical information and more. Mondays 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. until December 18.

For more information contact AJ Macleod, Facilitator at Nanaimo Family Life Association, at 250.754.3331 or at genderjourneys4@gmail.com

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