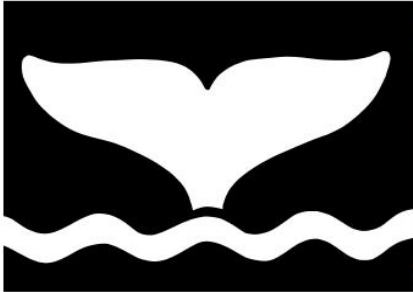


# THE WHALE'S TALE

Frances Kelsey Secondary's  
latest breaking news and views



## CONTACT US:

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[fkss.sd79.bc.ca](http://fkss.sd79.bc.ca)

School Facebook page:  
Frances Kelsey Secondary  
School – FKSS

PAC Facebook page:  
Frances Kelsey Secondary PAC



February 14, 2017 Vol. 22/No5

## What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

How often can students ask the Lieutenant Governor questions about her job? Or participate in her entry procession as a Cadet, greet her as part of the Malahat First Nations welcome, play guitar for her, perform dance solos, or play God Save the Queen as part of the Concert Band? All of these exciting things happened when Lieutenant Governor Judith Guichon visited Frances Kelsey Secondary recently as part of her plan to mark Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> birthday by visiting 150 schools in 2017. We were proud to welcome her at a formal assembly held in the gym.

Congratulations to the Senior Girls Basketball team for their 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish at the Esquimalt tournament. Well done, girls!

Students enrolled in Dance for first semester put on the FKSS Winter 2017 Dance Show which included girls and boys in Grades 11 through 12. With varying degrees of experience in an array of dance styles, the dancers showcased a variety that included hip hop, lyrical and contemporary. This year's dance captains, Daria Seeliger and Emma Dodd, choreographed the larger dances while smaller group dances were choreographed by the dancers themselves.

WorkSafeBC's annual student safety video contest is back! If your student has a flair for videography and is interested in spreading the message of speaking up for the rights of youth at work, he/she should speak to Mr. Grbavec about this great project. The most important aspect of this contest is the health and safety knowledge that students portray in their videos, but there's also a significant cash incentive.

Since September, Ms. Parker's Leadership 11 class has been matched up with Miss Cowan's Kindergarten/Grade 1 class at George Bonner Elementary School to form a Reading Buddies program. Research shows that the relationship between a reader and a child can make a huge difference in a child's life and the exercise became a lovely experience for our senior students. Before meeting the elementary children, our



### *Kelsey Calendar*

**Tuesday, February 14, 2017**

Whale's Tale newsletter issued  
7:00 p.m. – Dry Grad parents meeting  
in library

**Monday, February 20, 2017**

Start of Compassion Week  
Interact Club Random Acts of  
Kindness Day

**Tuesday, February 21, 2017**

Multicultural Day

**Wednesday, February 22, 2017**

Pink Shirt Day

**Thursday, February 23, 2017**

Rainbow/Acceptance Day  
Grade 8 and 9 Winter Activity Day

**Friday, February 24, 2017**

Pro D Day (school not in session)

**March 1 – 3, 2017**

Grade 8 – 10 Whistler Trip

**Friday, March 3, 2017**

Grade 9 students to Camosun College  
for Explore Trades and Skills Canada  
Reach Out Psychosis presentation to  
Grade 11 and 12 students

**Monday, March 6, 2017**

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017**

P.A.R.T.Y. Program

**Wednesday, March 8, 2017**

7:00 p.m. – PAC meeting in library

**March 13 – 24, 2017**

District Closure & Spring Break

**Monday, March 27, 2017**

Grade 8 Exploratory 5 begins

**Thursday, April 6, 2017**

2:15 p.m. early dismissal – Parent/  
Teacher Conferences

**Friday, April 7, 2017**

Regular school day - Staff

Development Day changed to April 24

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

students received instruction on reading strategies. The senior students then read books with the younger students and shared their literacy skills. It was very positive for both groups and our students were proud to provide leadership and inspiration to support reading. This is continuing for semester 2 with the addition of Mr. Zeeman's Leadership 11 class.

Good effort was shown by Mrs. Brinkman's Entrepreneurship 12 class which held a bake sale, earning \$60 for Grad 2017.

A representative from Camosun College met individually with Grade 12 students, answering questions, explaining details and helping them understand the world of post-secondary that they will experience next year.

A field trip was recently organized for our Culinary Arts class to visit Little Qualicum Cheeseworks and Vancouver Island University. It was a wonderful experience for the 33 students and staff. The PAC paid for all of the costs, which also included a delicious lunch at the VIU Nanaimo campus.

Encounters with Canada is a one-week youth citizenship and leadership program for teens held at the Terry Fox Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa, Ontario. It is a fully bilingual program and applications for 2017-18 are now being accepted. See the Career Centre for more information.

## **New Staff**

We are pleased to announce that Miss Brienne Melnyk (Foods, French, Learning Assistance), Ms. Joanna Roueche (Spanish, Social Justice) and Ms. Heidi Woernle (International Education) have joined our teaching staff for the second term. Welcome to you all.

## **Scholarships and Bursaries**

**By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal**

Through the generous donations of many groups and organizations, we have approximately \$120,000 available in the form of local scholarships and bursaries. These awards are available for high achievers as well as trades and practical arts students and individuals who show excellence in service to their community.

On Friday, January 20, all Grade 12 students attended a scholarship and bursary information session in the theatre. Each graduating student was shown the scholarship and bursary website as well as given an Application package. Please note that all local scholarship and bursary packages are due in the counselling office by Friday, March 10 (the day before Spring Break).

There was also a make-up session on January 31 at lunch for those students who missed the first session. To view the local scholarships, visit [fkss.sd79.bc.ca](http://fkss.sd79.bc.ca) and toggle the "grad" link. Students should remember that a monthly listing of non-local scholarships (open to all students in British Columbia), is available at [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com) and I encourage all Grade 12's to look at this award information using the "Deadline Search" tool to see if any would apply to them.

Application forms for the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in February and March, are available in the library filing cabinet:



- Oswego Arts & Cultural Society
- BC Government and Service Employees' Union (BCGEU)
- Re/Max of Western Canada Quest for Excellence Bursary Program
- Vancouver Island University Entrance Scholarships
- Coastal Community Credit Union
- Coast Capital Savings Youth Get It Education Awards

**Websites of interest:**

BC Colleges/Universities scholarships: [www.scholarshipscanada.com](http://www.scholarshipscanada.com)

Canadian Universities and Colleges: [www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com)

## Dry Grad



Thank you to all who supported the Bottle Drive on January 28<sup>th</sup>. \$1700 raised! Well done Mrs. Van Hell. Thank you to all who supported the successful Parent Social on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Thank you Michelle Gardiner for organizing. We still have more fundraising to do. Next up are the Firewood Sale and Cruise Raffle.

Firewood Sale is Saturday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. We will need volunteers - both students and parents. We also need splitters, chainsaws and trucks for deliveries. Please contact Krista Erskine at [athleticabc@gmail.com](mailto:athleticabc@gmail.com) if you can help. Cruise Raffle tickets 1<sup>st</sup> prize - Caribbean, Mexican or Alaska

Cruise for two. \$20.00/ticket. Please contact Katrina at [katrina.mcneil@hotmail.com](mailto:katrina.mcneil@hotmail.com) or text at 250.732.4350. Thrifty's Smile Cards are available from Madelaine McLeod or have your student pick one up from Mrs. Van Hell. Please continue to send in your Country Grocer receipts. Our collection bin is in the office. Hope to see you at the next meeting on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the FKSS library. For more information regarding Dry Grad activities or to be added to the Dry Grad email list, please contact Melanie at [melaniebrancato@hotmail.com](mailto:melaniebrancato@hotmail.com)

**DRY GRAD**

Please join us at our meeting on Tuesday, February 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the library. For more information contact Melanie at 250.748.3351 or at [melaniebrancato@hotmail.com](mailto:melaniebrancato@hotmail.com)

## Course Selections 2017 – 2018

**By Jeff Rowan, Principal**

While it seems early, we are entering the time of year when students choose courses for the next school year. Hopefully, you will have a good discussion with your children about the courses they are choosing to take and the direction that leads them forward. In that vein, as a school, we also have a couple of important points to discuss.

**Student Course Load:** Students are expected to take a full course load of eight courses minimum per school year. In Grade 12, students may opt to take seven courses plus a spare. This is very important. There is often a counter-intuitive notion that kids should take a partial load to provide more time. Our experience has been that students who are on partial schedules actually accomplish less. It is like the saying, “give it to the busiest person”. When you are engaged and working, you accomplish more. This is also a funding issue as schools in BC are staffed per course for students in Grades 10 – 12. We support kids who take on-line courses but are not staffed for it.

Lastly, 80 credits are a minimum requirement to graduate. Our goal as a school is to provide a broad-based education where kids explore interests and experiment with subjects they have not previously taken. We are very happy to have students graduate with 100 or more credits as that means they are leaving Kelsey with a broad view of what areas they might want to pursue in the future.

## Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council



By Tanya Friese, President FKPAC

Our mission statement: “The Frances Kelsey Parent Advisory Council (FKSSPAC) is dedicated to promoting quality education for all students by working to enhance communication and by promoting the positive involvement of parents and other community members.” Come on out and help us to do just that at our next meeting on Wednesday, March 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Truly, it’s not nearly as boring as it sounds!

### FKPAC

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

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

By Heather Roach and Brad Niessen, Teachers

This year's Grade 8 and 9 Winter Activity Day is Thursday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Permission forms were provided to students on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Forms were due on February 6<sup>th</sup> but there may still be space so please contact the school for further information. Please note that school is open for any students not attending activities that day. Thank you for your support.

## FKSS Whalers Senior Hockey Team

By Corene Gillis, Teacher

The FKSS Whalers Senior Hockey Team has been having a great season so far. The team consists of players who play hockey in leagues within the Cowichan Valley. We don't practice as a team, but rather participate in games versus other local high schools. So far, we have only lost one game to Brentwood College School's Team 1, and have defeated the BCS2 as well as the Shawnigan Lake School team each time. Lake Cowichan has expressed interest in playing our team, so stay tuned for that match up. Please see the schedule and come to the next games to see the Whalers in action! Kerry Park has the food and drink concession open during our games. The season is not over until the end of February (after the Ross Cup), but I would like to thank Mr. Joe Duffe for coaching, as well as the referees (Mitchell T., Shain A., Jeff D., Rob W., Tyler D.) for all of their time. Thanks also for all of the help on the bench (Samson M., Tyler C., Tyler D.). Update for next year: there will also be a Junior Hockey Team (grade 8-10)!

February 20 – Scrimmage or away game vs Shawnigan Lake School at Kerry Park – puck drop at 4:00

February 23-25 – Ross Cup at Kerry Park

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