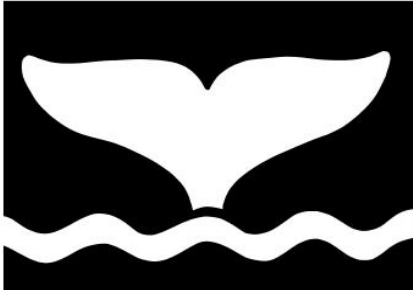


THE WHALE'S TALE

Frances Kelsey Secondary's
latest breaking news and views



CONTACT US:

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School Facebook page:

Frances Kelsey Secondary
School – FKSS

PAC Facebook page:

Frances Kelsey Secondary PAC



March 6, 2017 Vol. 22/No. 6

What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

“Her importance in medical history can’t be overstated.” This quote is in the March, 2017 issue of *Discover* magazine from an article written about our namesake, Dr. Frances Oldham Kelsey. Called *The Heroine of the FDA*, the story details Dr. Kelsey’s life and accomplishments. For further information about Dr. Kelsey, read her biography in our archive cabinet outside the library doors.

Mrs. Thompson and the Red Cross Club raised \$77.75 at a two day Valentine’s Day themed bake sale which also sold hot chocolate with whip cream. Proceeds benefit the Grade 12 bursary fund.

Kelsey students solved complicated math problems in singular, paired and group rounds where the team had to physically build an item in response to a challenging scenario! In the end when all points were collated, the Kelsey team came out on top with the best overall scores, all categories combined. Chemainus hosted the event which included a wonderful lunch made by Chemainus students. The teacher who organized the District Math Challenge was Ms. Sue Baker, a math teacher at Chemainus Secondary. Well done, team!

Do you remember reading Susan E. Hinton’s *The Outsiders*? Remember Ponyboy Curtis, Johnny, Greasers and Socs? *The Outsiders* is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2017 and our Grade 8’s are reading and studying this high school classic. My how time flies....

Our Compassion Week during February 20 – 23 was a very busy event which started with Peer Counsellors decorating the dome. Monday was Random Acts of Kindness Day which began with muffins, cookies, granola bars, juice and yogurt tubes provided by the Interact Club, followed by an Assembly organized by the Senior Peer Counsellors to announce the Human Knot in the dome at lunch. Tuesday was Multicultural Day and was marked by displays from our International students as well as a pancake sale by the Senior Peer Counsellors and the



Kelsey Calendar

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. – FKSS Choir performs at Cowichan Music Festival Highlights Concert

Friday, March 10, 2017

All scholarship application packages due to counselling office

March 13 – 24, 2017

District Closure & Spring Break

Monday, March 27, 2017

Grade 8 Exploratory 5 begins

Wednesday, March 29, 2017

Level 1 Foodsafe Course

6:00 p.m. – Grad Coffeehouse in dome

Friday, March 31, 2017

Last day to pre-order yearbooks

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

Tuesday, April 11, 2017

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

Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Concert Band to Annual Port Alberni Music Festival

2:15 p.m. dismissal – Professional Learning Community

7:30 p.m. – PAC meeting in library (note change of time)

Friday, April 14, 2017

Good Friday

Monday, April 17, 2017

Easter Monday

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

"Green Lights" band playing in the dome at lunch. Pink Shirt Day was celebrated on Wednesday with the Junior Peer Counsellors Bake Sale, a Senior Peer Counsellors Self Care Booth and a Cupcake/Lollipop Pay It Forward Campaign, as well as Mr. Vopnfjord and the guitar class playing music at lunch. Thursday was Rainbow/Acceptance Day which featured the Senior Peer Counsellors offering Rainbow Face Paint and Tie Dye T-shirts at lunch. Junior Peer Counsellors sold TADA baseball t-shirts all week.

Grade 12 art students are getting geared up to paint more murals around the school. Students are working on putting pieces together for a spring show, reminding all of us that creation happens all the time. Date and location to be announced.

We had another successful Winter Activity Day this year with over 200 students and staff participating. The different trips offered a variety of experiences and options for students to choose from, including skiing, snowboarding, snowshoeing, tubing, Science World, Vancouver Aquarium, bowling, swimming and a movie. The day was filled with sunshine, smiles and students and staff looking forward to next year's activities. Thank you to all the parents for supporting these trips by having their children participate. It was a great pleasure to spend the day with such wonderful representatives of Frances Kelsey Secondary School.

Did you know that a Grade 12 student with a part-time job can get four high school credits? This is a wonderful opportunity to boost grade point averages on Transcripts. Students should see Mrs. Zimmer in the Career Centre for more information about the Work Experience 12 course.

Check out room 122 for medieval coat of arms displays from Mr. Grbavec's Social Studies 8 classes. Students created their own personal coat of arms using authentic medieval colours, symbols and individual mottos.

In Ms. Doman's Psychology 12 class, students have been working on understanding the unconscious, personality theories, stress and health. They have been introduced to Rorschach inkblots, a test used to analyze a person's perception of an ink blot through psychological interpretation. By making their own ink blots and asking different people what they saw, students were able to understand what subconscious elements may affect conscious reactions. Watch for a follow-up article written by a student in the May Whale's Tale.

The last chance to pre-order a yearbook is March 31. Orders are accepted at school until Friday, March 10. After that date, orders must be placed by Friday, March 31 directly through Friesen's website, which is linked on our school website. Pre-ordering is the only way to be guaranteed a copy because only a limited number of extras are sold in June and those have sold out for the last two years. The cost is \$50 plus an optional \$5 to have the cover personalized. This year's theme is travel and your yearbook is an exclusive, personal passport to your memories.

New Staff

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Kyla Young (English) to our teaching staff for the second term.

Scholarships and Bursaries – Time Sensitive!

By Kevin van der Linden, Vice-Principal

Are you planning to attend UBC, UVIC, Simon Fraser University, Camosun College or Vancouver Island University? Please see your counsellor as soon as possible. Don't wait! **Applications are being accepted**

now. VIU and Camosun College may sponsor the tuition for four of your academic courses as long as you begin these courses in September. Students who enter trades programs can also have their first year sponsored as long as they begin their programs no later than February, 2018. For more information, please come to the Career Centre.

On January 20, all Grade 12's attended a workshop explaining the Scholarship and Bursary application process and teaching students how to prepare an academic resume. Students at Frances Kelsey have access to \$120,000 in scholarships offered from our community. One of the messages delivered to these students is that all Grade 12's should apply for as many of the bursaries as they are eligible because they are not based on grades but on other factors. For more information, please refer to fkss.sd79.bc.ca. Students can see Mr. van der Linden if they have any questions or queries. All scholarship application packages are due to the counselling office by **March 10** (the day before Spring Break). Packages will not be accepted after this date.

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

- 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



Dry Grad



DRY GRAD 2017 is Friday, June 23rd. A report on our fundraising activities to date:

Firewood Sale - thank you to everyone who came out and helped make this a very successful fundraiser. The weather co-operated and

DRY GRAD

Please join us at our meeting on Tuesday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cobblestone Pub (school is unavailable due to Spring Break). For more information contact Melanie at 250.748.3351 or at melaniebrancato@hotmail.com

although there was a lot of mud to contend with, all went smoothly. Well done, Krista E. and Walter V. for organizing. **GoFundMe** Kelsey Dry Grad 2017 is up and running. Please consider donating. **Dry Grad Facebook Page** - make sure you check the Facebook page for information on upcoming events. **Kelsey website** - click on the parent link to get updates on activities. **Thrifty's Smile Card** program is ongoing. Pick up a card from Madelaine or Sonia Van Hell, if you don't already have one. **Country Grocer Receipts** - keep sending them in. This credit will help cover food costs for the Dry Grad event. **Parent Social/Pub Night** - May 13th at the Cobblestone Pub. Please consider donating to the silent auction. Tickets will be available soon. **Cruise Raffle** - tickets available now. Draw is May 13th at the pub night. Contact Katrina McCormack for information: katrina_mcneil@hotmail.com **Garage Sale** - April 29, 2017. If you have items to donate they can be dropped off at Mill Bay Storage (who generously allows us the use of a storage locker) or contact Michaela Witt: michaela_witt@hotmail.com **Epicure** - there will be another Epicure fundraiser coming up just in time for Mother's Day. More information will be coming soon. **Volunteers:** As we get closer to the event, we need to start organizing volunteers for a variety of areas: Decorating, Set-up, Food, Chaperones, Clean up. Please consider where you can help out. **Next meeting:** March 14 at the Cobblestone Pub (during spring break so school is unavailable) at 7:00 p.m.

For more information on Dry Grad Committee activities and to be added to the contact list, please contact Melanie: melaniebrancato@hotmail.com

Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council



By Tanya Friese, President FKPAC

There will be no PAC meeting in March. The next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, April 12th at 7:30 p.m. in the library. **(Note change of time)** For more information contact Tanya at 250.999.6417 or at tanyarick@shaw.ca



TASK Program



The Trades and Apprenticeship Foundational Skills and Knowledge

(TASK) Program is in full swing here at Frances Kelsey. This popular one-term course was designed in cooperation with the Camosun College South Island Partnership and is taught by a College instructor as well as a Frances Kelsey teacher. The eighteen Grade 11 and 12 students are experiencing a variety of trades including carpentry, drywall, electrical, sheet metal, welding, plumbing, machining, general maintenance, installation, inspection, demolition, testing and troubleshooting. The course is taught on-site at Frances Kelsey, two full days per week (Tuesdays and Thursdays) plus eleven days at Camosun College's Interurban Campus for plumbing/pipefitting, sheet metal fabrication and welding. The students are currently building a permanent out building at Frances Kelsey and at Discovery Elementary. The experience gained in this program will give students:

- Dual Credit (Secondary and Post-Secondary)
- An introduction to SD79 ACE-IT Programs
- Certification in WHMIS, Fall Protection and Confined Space Entry
- Skills to gain employment and/or enter an apprenticeship

Many of our former TASK students have gone on to participate in trades programs at Camosun and VIU, some during their Grade 12 year. We are very pleased to announce that we will be able to offer the TASK program here again during the 2017-18 school year. There is room for only eighteen students, so an interview process is held to fill the seats. If you are interested in participating, please see Mrs. Macdonald in the Career Centre.



This year's TASK students – photo by Mrs. Macdonald

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.