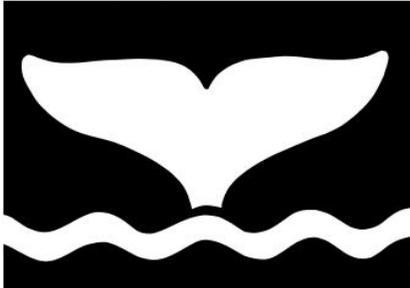


THE WHALE'S TALE

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



February 5, 2018 Vol. 23/No5

What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

As we begin semester two, we welcome 27 international students from Turkey, Chile, China, Thailand, Germany, Austria, Italy and Belgium. Families who are interested in accepting an international student into their home are invited to contact School District 79's Homestay Program at isp@sd79.bc.ca. Families are paid \$850 per month and will enjoy the experience of learning about someone from another culture. Both short-term and long-term placements are available.

We have enjoyed a number of guest speakers recently. Sarah Burdett of Soap Works and Robin Round of Botanical Bliss both visited the school as part of our Round the Table workshops which are open to all students. Sarah and Robin are local entrepreneurs who operate their own companies. They kindly demonstrated their wares and shared information about their businesses. We also welcomed Mary Dougherty, a GIS technician from the CVRD, who gave an interesting presentation about satellite mapping. Lastly, we were visited by Mike Marshall of Kinsol Timber Systems who is supporting our school with designing and building our garden projects. The involvement of community members provides another level of learning for Kelsey students and we appreciate that these business people have shared their time and expertise.

Students in Ms. Welwood's Personal Fitness 11/12 class recently visited the amazing CARSA facility at UVic where they took a TRX class. The CARSA facility is less than two years old and includes a rock climbing wall, an extensive weight room, the Vikes basketball gym, squash and racket ball courts, a yoga studio and a dance space. TRX is the use of straps for body weight resistance training. It was great to expose the students to the facility. The class also enjoyed having a guest Zoomba instructor and a boxing class recently.

December's successful March for Meals with Bench Elementary School raised an amazing \$3,090 to support Nourish Cowichan. Nourish Cowichan is a local organization that provides breakfast for impoverished



Kelsey Calendar

Monday, February 5, 2018

Whale's Tale newsletter issued
4:00 pm – Staff vs Junior Students hockey game at Kerry Park

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

9:00 am – Club Leaders meeting
Winter Activity Day Permission forms due

February 6 & 7, 2018

Grad Portrait retakes

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

7:00 pm – Hockey Academy Parent Information Night in room 120

Thursday, February 8, 2018

10:00 am – Malahat Chief and Council visit
FKSS

Friday, February 9, 2018

10:30 am – Grade 11 Course Selection Information Session

4:00 pm – Band trip to UVic

Monday, February 12, 2018

Family Day

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Student Parliament Spirit Day

7:00 pm – Dry Grad Parent meeting in library

February 13 – 15, 2018

Red Cross Bake Sale at lunch

Friday, February 16, 2018

2:30-Staff & Parents vs Sr Hockey Team

Monday, February 19, 2018

9:00 am – Grade 9 Course Selection Information Session

Tuesday, February 20, 2018

9:00 am – Grade 10 Course Selection Information Session

Wednesday, February 21, 2018

7:00 pm – PAC meeting in library

Thursday, February 22, 2018

9:00 am – Concert Band to Cowichan Music Festival

Grade 8/9 Winter Activity Day

Grade 10 – 12 Mt. Washington Trip

Friday, February 23, 2018

Pro D Day

Tuesday, February 27, 2018

Course Selection make-up session all grades

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

students in Cowichan Valley schools. With the help of Louise Thomson's Grade 6 and 7 classes, who donated their Junior Achievement proceeds and raised money through milkshake sales, we were able to supply Nourish Cowichan with 3,090 meals. This is our first year doing the March for Meals campaign and it involved having representatives from every Kelsey Club walking five laps around the Marilyn Sandford Community Trail in exchange for pledges.

Every Wednesday at lunch at the back of the dome, our noses are hit with that irresistible whiff of fresh popcorn! Our Student Development Program sells 60 bags of popcorn every week with the support of our Education Assistants. Some students do prep work while others are involved in sales. Proceeds are put toward field trips for the program.

Coached by Joe Duffe and Mike Fox, and sponsored by Ms. C. Webb, our Grade 10 - 12 Senior Whaler's hockey team started its season in November. There are 21 players who are also part of Cowichan Valley Rep and House teams. Watch for results of the fun staff and parents vs senior team game on February 16. The season will end with the annual Ross Cup Tournament February 22 – 24 at Kerry Park.

Our first Dance Show was a raging success! Under the direction of Ms. Welwood, students from Grade 9 to 12 performed dances they had created and our Dance Captain choreographed the Class Dance for the whole class. Many students challenged themselves by trying different dance forms or by taking on choreography of small groups. Watch for our next show, scheduled in June.

A *Women in Trades and Technology Exploration Day* will take place at Camosun College on Wednesday, February 21. The program provides an opportunity for Grade 9 – 12 girls to participate in career exploration in a variety of trades and technology fields. ***Soldier For A Day*** will be on Saturday, February 24 and is for students interested in the Canadian Forces Army Reserve. ***SFAD*** will show students how a soldier is trained and will display equipment and vehicles used. Students may also experience a portion of an annual fitness test or receive basic instruction in marching and drill. Further information is available in the Career Centre.

Students in Ms. Chester's Grade 9 Programming Class had lots of fun learning different types of robotics programming using iPads and Ollies. Ollies, by Sphero, are little cylindrical boxes that roll, spin and flash different colours and can even be programmed to talk. The class learned to maneuver the Ollies by practicing in the hallway, attracting many curious onlookers! Eventually the students took the next step of moving outside, where they had created racetracks and mazes from wood, and successfully programmed the Ollies through the challenge and even raced each other.



An "Ollie"

Photo by Vanessa Wheaton

New Staff and a Farewell

We are pleased to welcome Mr. Mike Rea to our staff for second semester who will be teaching English, Gardening and giving academic support.

We also wish to acknowledge our Education Assistant, Mrs. Susan Gnyp, who joined the Kelsey staff several years ago and retired in December. Susan was very quiet, hardworking and extremely dedicated to her job. Congratulations on your retirement, Susan. We will miss you.

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.

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 12, all Grade 12 students attended a scholarship and bursary information session. 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 9 (the day before Spring Break).

There was also a make-up session on January 17 at lunch for those students who missed the first session. To view the local scholarships, visit 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 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:

- BC School Superintendents Association
- Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship
- Coastal Community Credit Union Scholarship

2017-2018 Dry Grad



Grad Parents! Want to know what's happening with Dry Grad? ‘Like’ our Facebook page "FKSS DRY GRAD 2018" for all the latest news. For more detailed information and stuff we don't want the grads to know about 😊 please email Krista at klderksen@shaw.ca to get on our email list! Or come out to the next meeting on Tuesday, February 13th at 7:00 pm in the library.

Important Stuff:

Feb 8 - Moo's Pizza orders and payments are due! Contact Gina at drygradpizza2018@gmail.com

Feb 11 - Pub Night and Silent Auction at The Bay Pub. Contact Roanna at roanna@shaw.ca for tickets and to donate!

Feb 13 - next Dry Grad meeting at 7:00 pm in the library. Please come out!

Feb 18 - Bottle drive at FKSS. Contact Teri to volunteer at Twurzer3@hotmail.com

Feb 21 - pick up your customers’ pizza orders at FKSS 5:00-7:00 pm
Wood Sales - SOON!

Emergency Kit Sales - VERY SOON!

Chicken Sales - coming in APRIL - more info to come

DRY GRAD

Please join us at our meeting on Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 pm in the library. For more information contact Loretta at 250.710.4614 or at taylortrucking@live.ca

Course Selections 2018 – 2019

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.

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, **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21** at 7:00 pm in the library. It's not nearly as boring as it sounds, HONESTLY!

FKPAC
Please join us at our next meeting on **Wednesday, February 21** at 7:00 pm in the library. For more information call Tanya at 250.732.6492 or email tanyarick@shaw.ca

Winter Activity Day - February 22, 2018

By Heather Roach and Brad Niessen, Teachers

This year's Winter Activity Day is Thursday, February 22. Permission forms were provided to students on January 22 and are due February 6. Grade 8 and 9 students have the opportunity to participate in trips to Vancouver, Mt. Washington, or Duncan. This year, Grade 10-12 students will have the opportunity to participate in the Mt. Washington activities.

Please contact the school if you require further information regarding any of the trips. Please note that the school is open for any students who do not participate in Winter Activity Day. Thank you for your support in encouraging your children to participate in one of the activities.

A Reminder from Mr. Johnston - Hockey Academy Parent Information Night at FKSS on Wednesday, February 7 at 7:00 pm in room 120.