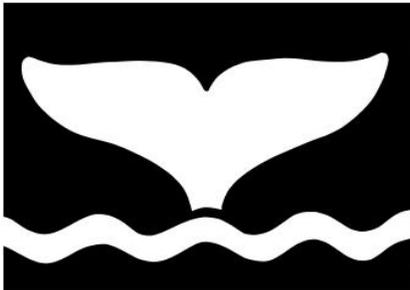


THE WHALE'S TALE

Frances Kelsey Secondary's
latest breaking news and views



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February 3, 2020 Vol. 25/No. 5

What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

In December, Mr. Achurch's English 12 class wrote and illustrated a number of children's books appropriate for five year olds. Working in small groups, the students studied examples of published story books from the Kelsey library before creating their own. This activity taught students how to write to a specific audience, while creating colourful, interesting projects that were entertaining and educational. Once finished, the books were hand delivered to Ms. Boechler's kindergarten class at Bench Elementary School. One of our students, Megan Moyles, sat down at the carpet and read some of them aloud. The books were well received and our senior students enjoyed interacting with the little ones.

During Q blocks, all students in Grade 11 participate in Leadership 11. Students self-select one workshop from nine different choices each semester. One of the nine choices is Ms. Woodruff's Cooking to Care class. Students who selected this option help with the Kelsey lunch program, supplying lunches to students who would otherwise go without one. Working in the cafeteria, approximately 20 students have learned to make healthy food such as biscuits, muffins, soup, salad, stir-fry and pasta, completely from 'scratch'. Many of these leadership students have an interest in food or have experience from home-ec courses. At the end of Q block, the leadership students share in these lunches. The international students were invited to share a favourite recipe, and one of the most memorable was brigadeiro, the traditional Brazilian truffle dessert.

Students in Ms. Welwood's and Mr. D. Hart's Introduction to Wilderness Survival course completed a number of in-class exercises to learn about the natural environment, introductory survival skills and basic navigation. They put these skills into practise when they went on a number of local hikes. They also learned how parks are planned and their uses. To see examples first hand, the classes went to Goldstream Nature House at the end of salmon spawning season. Each group went on a walk with a naturalist who pointed out different plants, animals and their uses. They



Kelsey Calendar

Monday, February 3

Whale's Tale newsletter issued
Report Cards issued

February 4 & 5

Grad Portrait Retakes

Tuesday, February 4

12:15 pm – District Scholarship Meeting
in library for Grade 12's

Friday, February 7

Grade 9 Course Selection Assembly

Tuesday, February 11

Red Cross Cocoa & Bake Sale at lunch
7:00 pm – Dry Grad parent meeting in
library

Wednesday, February 12

Red Cross Cocoa & Bake Sale at lunch
7:00 pm – PAC meeting in library

Thursday, February 13

Red Cross Cocoa & Bake Sale at lunch

Friday, February 14

Pro-D Day

Monday, February 17

Family Day

Tuesday, February 18

Grade 8 Exploratory 5 begins

Wednesday, February 19

Winter Activity Day

February 24 – 28

Compassion Week

Thursday, February 27

Skills Canada Competition at VIU
Nanaimo

7:00 pm – School Dance

Friday, February 28

Last day to pre-order yearbooks

Monday, March 2

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

Tuesday, March 3

P.A.R.T.Y. Program

Wednesday, March 4

Level 1 FoodSafe Course

Friday, March 6

Grade 12 Scholarship Applications due

even saw a bear! A few weeks later, a Cowichan elder visited the classes and reiterated the naturalists' teachings and shared traditional medicinal uses of native plants.

This year, the boys' basketball program at Kelsey has continued to grow. The Grade 8 team, coached by Mr. Launder, has been very successful and we look forward to seeing the players develop over the years to come. The junior boys team, coached by Mr. Reed, was a strong group which played in tournaments in Victoria and Courtenay, placing second in both. The senior boys' basketball team is a great group who have played together for five years and for the first time in many years, participated in tournaments in Sooke, Victoria and Campbell River. Under volunteer parent coach Vince Hammer, the seniors have competed very well. We are still developing the girls' basketball program and look forward to the future. If there are any prospective players who are interested in playing next year, please identify yourself to Mr. Reed, Mr. A. Johnston or the PE department as we would like to see girls' teams form next season.

Our Student Development Program Becomes the Integration Support Program

By Jinder Dhami, Resource Teacher

We are moving away from the Student Development Program towards an Integration Support Program. The Integration Support Program is committed to fostering success and independence for each student by providing a range of pathways, courses, opportunities and services. Students with special educational strengths and needs are supported in an inclusive environment that enables them to develop to their own full potential. We place a strong emphasis on the inclusion of our students with special needs, providing meaningful, individualized integration opportunities.

Benefits of inclusion for students **with** disabilities:

- Increased social initiations and relationships
- Peer role models for academic, social and behaviour skills
- Greater access to general curriculum
- Greater opportunities for interactions
- Higher expectations

Benefits of inclusion for students **without** disabilities:

- Increased appreciation and acceptance of individual differences
- Increased understanding and acceptance of diversity
- Respect for all people
- Prepares all students for adult life in an inclusive society

Your 2020 Yearbook Countdown!

Love where you live? This year our yearbook theme is environment and it is filled with photos of our beautiful area. Order yours before February 28th to guarantee delivery. After that, it is first come, first served for limited extras and we have sold out in the past! Order forms are available in the main office; please bring your completed form and payment (\$55) to the main office.



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.



Before Winter Break, 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 6 (the day before Spring Break). 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. As well, educationplanner.ca/plan/finance/scholarship is a good resource.

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

- Terry Fox Humanitarian Award
- Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship
- Trevor Linden Community Spirit Scholarship

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

Dry Grad



happening all year long. The metal bin remains near the outdoor basketball court for donations as well. We are currently unsure if we can have the big annual firewood sale, so if you have other ideas for fundraising, please let us know.

Hello folks! Not much to report since the last Whale’s Tale. On January 21st, we held our meeting that had been postponed due to the snow, to discuss plans going forward. Our next meeting in February will decide the transportation to the banquet for the students. There will be another bottle drive in April as well as another pub night. Remember that you can always use your SMILE card at Thrifty’s, purchase Panago pizza coupons, or hand in your collection of Country Grocer receipts as these events are

DRY GRAD

Please join us at our next meeting on **Tuesday, February 11** at 7:00 pm in the library. For more information contact Holly at holly.beauregard@gmail.com

Grad Portrait Retakes



Grad photo retakes will take place at Frances Kelsey in the Lifetouch trailer beside the portables on Tuesday, February 4 and Wednesday, February 5. Students are to go to www.lifetouch.ca/victoria to make an appointment or call 250-744-4100 for assistance.

Course Selections 2020 - 2021

By Jeff Rowan, Principal

It is again the time when students need to choose courses for the next school year. We strongly encourage parents to engage in discussion with their children regarding the courses being chosen. Students are *expected to take a full course load* of eight courses per school year; however, graduating students may opt to take seven courses and use the last block as an extra work block. Our experience in the past has strongly proven that students who are on partial schedules accomplish much less and are not as successful as those with a full load. Humans tend to be more efficient and productive when we are busy and have to use strategic time management.

Students' requests for courses determine what electives are offered as well as the number of classes run in each elective; so it is *very important to choose carefully*. Requests from students to change their choices later in the process are difficult, if not impossible, as some options may have been eliminated due to low enrollment numbers. We thank you for your close attention to this process and wish you all the best as we move into second semester.

Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council

Our FKSS PAC 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 12** at 7:00 pm in the library. Truly, it's not nearly as boring as it sounds! For more information contact Tanya at tanyarick@shaw.ca

Winter Activity Day – Wednesday, February 19

Planning is ongoing and it's not too late to sign up for a space for some of the events. Please see the office for permission forms. We encourage all students to participate in Winter Activity Day and thank you for your support.

Times Colonist 10K



Time to get out those old running shoes and get ready for another TC10K run! This year's run along the Victoria waterfront is on Sunday, April 26. The Frances Kelsey Breakers has a team ready to go. Registration is on now until March 31 at the TC10K website: <https://runsport.ca/tc10k/>

Registration is open to all members of the Kelsey community including parents, students, friends and other family members. Mr. Launder has started training sessions at lunch and afterschool for all interested students.

Thank You

Sincere thanks to the Malahat Legion for their thoughtful support in funding the purchase of the wonderful new uniforms for our senior boys' basketball team. Coach Reed says "The uniforms look fantastic and make us feel proud to be from Mill Bay." This isn't the first time the legion has stepped up to buy new sports uniforms for the school and we are very grateful for their on-going support.