

# THE WHALE'S TALE

*Frances Kelsey Secondary's  
latest breaking news and views*



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## Course Selections 2021 - 2022

By Jeff Rowan, Principal

It is again the time when students need to choose courses for the next school year. At this point, we do not know the health and safety requirements for next September, so we will be choosing courses using the current cohorting requirements and will adjust later if possible. 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 unscheduled 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 course selection time!

## New Staff

We send our best wishes to Ms. Alison Kepple in her new role as Principal of International Education. Congratulations to Mr. Darren Hart who is our acting Vice-Principal until the end of June. We are pleased to announce that Ms. Kathryn McCormick has been hired to teach English 12; Mr. Gregory Owen will be substituting for Mrs. Sonia Van Hell; Ms. Soleil Switzer will be substituting for Mr. Wilkinson; and Mr. Bill Watt will be



## Kelsey Calendar

### Monday, February 1

Quarter 3 begins (Grade 9 – 12)

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

### February 3 – 4

Grad Portrait Retakes

### Tuesday, February 9

Report Cards issued

### Friday, February 12

Non-Instructional/Pro-D Day – school will be completely closed due to a BC Hydro power outage for scheduled maintenance

### Monday, February 15

Family Day

### Wednesday, February 17

6:30 pm – Dry Grad Zoom meeting

### Tuesday, February 23

P.A.R.T.Y. Program

7:00 pm – PAC Zoom meeting

### Monday, March 1

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

### Friday, March 12

Last day of classes

Scholarship/Bursary Packages Due

### March 15 – 26

Spring Break and District Closure

### Monday, March 29

Classes resume

### Friday, April 2

Good Friday

### Monday, April 5

Easter Monday

### April 12 – 16

Numeracy 10, Literacy 10

Assessment Window

### Friday, April 16

2:15 pm – early dismissal

substituting for Mr. Pascal Pimenta. A big welcome back to Ms. Christine Hoffman, Ms. Lindsay Janes, Mr. Brendan Varro and Mr. Tim Van Vliet, and to Mr. Heath who has been on paternity leave since June.

## Scholarships and Bursaries

**By Alison Keple, 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.



Administration visited Grade 12 classes in January and each graduating student was shown the scholarship and bursary website, as well as where to find the applications. Please note that all local scholarship and bursary packages are due in the counselling office by Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup> (the day before Spring Break). 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. As well, [www.educationplanner.ca/plan/finance/scholarship](http://www.educationplanner.ca/plan/finance/scholarship) is a good resource.

Information regarding the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in February and March, is available on the CLC12-Grads of 2021 Team in the Non-Local Scholarship & Bursary channel:

- Pathway to Teacher Education Scholarship
- Coastal Community Credit Union

## Dry Grad

**By Yvonne Van Ryk, Dry Grad Secretary**



We wanted to update you on the upcoming events that are happening in preparation for our Grade 12 Graduation Celebration June 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> at the Cowichan Exhibition Grounds.

We have Panago vouchers available for ONLY \$12 each. Please email Michelle Kennes if you wish to purchase some. [mkennes@shaw.ca](mailto:mkennes@shaw.ca) You can help donate, simply by using a Thrifty Smile Card when you shop at Thrifty Foods. Thrifty Foods will donate back 5% of every dollar loaded onto a Smile card. It’s super easy! Please contact Sheryl Raymond [theraymonds@shaw.ca](mailto:theraymonds@shaw.ca) if you would like a Smile Card that is set up to support our Grads. Country Grocer is also a great supporter of our community and will donate 1% of the total of all receipts we bring them, so save your tapes and deliver them to the box at the office. Support local farmers and the 2021 Grad class and fill your freezer with delicious Island Poultry farm fresh chicken. Order forms coming out this week. Upcoming fire wood sale as soon as Provincial Health Orders allow. February 20<sup>th</sup> will be our next bottle drive. Details to come as we work to be in compliance with Provincial Health Orders. Just in time for Easter, we’ve partnered with Purdys Chocolatier! To support us by purchasing some very sweet Easter gifts for friends, family and yourself, please click the link below: <https://fundraising.purdys.com/1310505-82472> Looking for some delicious dinner options? Let Epicure help you with that. Their awesome weeknight dinner collection is \$25.00 and is a great fundraiser for our grads. Please email Ben at [benshell@shaw.ca](mailto:benshell@shaw.ca) with completed order forms. The forms have been emailed out and I have put them in

the file section of this group. If you need one, let me know and thanks for your support! We do understand that for some people, finding time to volunteer is not possible and we would ask that if you are not able to help with fundraising for the year end celebration, please take the time to make a monetary donation by emailing [franceskelseydrygrad@gmail.com](mailto:franceskelseydrygrad@gmail.com) Please help us get the word out about our fundraisers through word of mouth and sharing your social media. Thank you so much!

**DRY GRAD**  
Please join us at our next meeting on **Wednesday, February 17** at 6:30 pm via Zoom. For more information contact Shannon at 250 929-7271 or at [info@bearcovecottages.ca](mailto:info@bearcovecottages.ca)

Our meetings are held via Zoom, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 6:30 pm and the link is emailed out the day before. If you would like to be added to our email list, please contact me at [yvanryk@gmail.com](mailto:yvanryk@gmail.com) Please check out our Facebook page as well: Parents of 2021 Kelsey Grad Class as we update it regularly. We encourage you to participate in our meetings and fundraisers as many hands make light work! Next Zoom Meeting is January 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

## Important CLC 12 Information for Grade 12's

By Alana Baker, Teacher-Librarian

Career Life Connections 12 is a year long Ministry requirement for graduation being delivered via the on-line TEAMS platform and drop-in seminars. Assessment consists of a Capstone Project and tasks on the MyBlueprint website which were both assigned in September. The MyBlueprint work should be complete by now and closes at midnight on February 12. Capstone is intended to show continuous learning so hard deadlines have been set and students must journal regularly. The student-created Capstone Project consists of a proposal and five journal entries documenting learning progress with a final presentation in May. The proposal and first two journal entries have now closed, and the remaining ones are due February 26, March 31, and April 23, with the final presentation submitted by May 15. Due to the pandemic making the mandatory connection with mentors for this project challenging, we have allowed virtual methods and family members to serve as mentors. If students need assistance on any of the course work or expectations, they should see or message Ms. Baker, Mr. Rowan, or Mr. D. Hart.

## Frances Kelsey Parents Advisory Council



By Tanya Friese, FKSS PAC Chair

**Be one of those parents 'in the know'!** Join us for our next PAC meeting Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm via Zoom. Principal Jeff Rowan, and usually a Vice Principal as well, are always in attendance to give us an update on how things have been going at the school over the past few weeks. As always, we will also be deciding where to spend some more of our money and discussing current school issues. Meeting is always done within the hour!

**FKPAC**  
Please join us at our next meeting on **Tuesday, February 23** at 7:00 pm via Zoom. For more information contact Tanya at [tanyarick@shaw.ca](mailto:tanyarick@shaw.ca)

Zoom link will be sent out a few days before the meeting - hope to see you then.

# Career Corner

By Julie Faye Parker, Vice Principal and Careers Support Administrator

If your student is currently working, send them to touch base with Ms. Smart in our Careers Center because hours of work can be turned into Grade 12 level credit. Ms. Parker runs sessions to complete the required learning and paperwork for Work Experience 12, and once done, hours count towards school credit.

Spring dual credit courses have begun. Congratulations to all our Grade 12's who are adding a post-secondary course to their Grade 12 year. Whether on-line with Camosun or VIU, these courses are a stepping stone to the future. We are also proud of our apprenticeships in Trades which include automotive, welding, electrical and HVAC. Want more info on dual credit in the trades? Go to: <https://sd79.bc.ca/programs/careers-transitions/dual-credit-programs/>

As we begin Quarter 3, we welcome Mr. Kerrigan, a Camosun dual credit instructor. Mr. Kerrigan is working in our woodwork shop with a group of 18 students who have been accepted to the Trades Awareness, Skills, and Knowledge (TASK) Program. We are proud of the strong and positive relationships we have with our south island post-secondary institutions. This survey course will also include welding, electrical, and plumbing instruction. The goal is to increase awareness in the trades, and to explore options to learn further.



**TASK sheds are back!** Our students need every opportunity to design and build, and you can help! You can purchase a **fantastic 8' by 8' complete shed**, (including finished roof and door) for what amounts to material costs alone. These garden sheds are multi-purpose, sound and solid, as they are developed under the expert instruction of a Red Seal carpenter. We have a limited number available and they are **DELIVERED TO YOUR PROPERTY COMPLETE**. A 50% deposit will hold your shed. Total cost is \$1,400. Contact the school to purchase, or Ms. Julie Faye Parker ([jparker@sd79.bc.ca](mailto:jparker@sd79.bc.ca)) at FKSS for more information. Don't delay!

**Calling all students!** Get involved with the Youth Engagement Team and Youth 20/20 Can Cowichan, part of Volunteer Cowichan. Limitless opportunities such as a Vancouver Island Youth Film Festival and virtual awards show; Used Device Drive to refurbish tech and donate to those in need; virtual Open Mic Night where you can act, sing, dance, read poetry or tell jokes; virtual Soap Making Workshop; Screenwriting Workshop and more! For further info, contact [youth2020cowichan@gmail.com](mailto:youth2020cowichan@gmail.com)



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