

THE WHALE'S TALE

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



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What's Been Happening at Kelsey?

Due to Public Health regulations, Ms. Roberts' musical theatre production of "The Little Mermaid" was unable to open last week in the Kelsey theatre. But the show must go on, so during school hours, any teacher who wishes to bring their class to the theatre may do so. Refunds are available through the office (for cash purchases) or online (for online purchases) upon receipt of returned tickets. This production cost us over \$10,000 (the rights alone were more than \$5,000 US), so if you are willing to donate your ticket price to offset our costs, it would be greatly appreciated. Streaming arrangements of this family-friendly production are being made. Further information to come. If anything changes, the class is ready, willing and able to perform for the public.

The Kelsey community showed its generosity by supporting many groups, such as the 2022 Grads and staff who donated to a school toy drive, organized with our local Salvation Army. Student Parliament sold Candy Grams, with proceeds donated to the Interact Club's Cambodian Bikes Initiative. Our newly resurrected Red Cross Club raised \$255 for local food banks while the Interact Club collected bundles of jackets, hats, sweaters and gloves for their coat drive which benefitted Warmland Shelter in Duncan. Lastly, "Well Done" to the members of the Hangout Club for holding a very successful bake sale in December which raised \$243 for BC Children's Hospital. Now that's a lot of shortbread!

There has been an incredible interest in playing for the Whalers ice hockey team this year - so much interest that for the first time ever, three full teams are playing in the school hockey league! Led by Coach G. and Coach Gray, the teams have had a great start to their season, having already participated in 13 games in 2021. There are at least 12 more in the New Year before the culmination of the Ross Cup Hockey Tournament at the end of February (if tournaments are allowed again). School spirit has been awesome at all of the games. Thank you to all school staff as you have supported us while we participate. Thanks also to Ryley, Harry and Rory for your continued help with coaching the Junior Whalers Team.



Kelsey Calendar

Monday, January 10

Whale's Tale newsletter issued

Tuesday, January 11

6:30 pm – Zoom Dry Grad meeting
(see details page 3)

Tuesday, January 18

12:00 pm – Grad Council meeting

Friday, January 21

9:00 am – Grade 11 University
Presentations

January 24 – 28

Literacy 10, Numeracy 10, Literacy
12 Assessment Window

Wednesday, January 26

1:15 pm early dismissal –
Professional Learning Community

Thursday, January 27

Last day of regular classes in Term 2

Friday, January 28

"I" Day; End of Term 2/Semester 1
(Grades 9 – 12)

Monday, January 31

Start of Term 3/Semester 2 (Gr 9–12)

January 31, February 1 & 2

Grad photo retakes (details on Grad
2022 Team)

Tuesday, February 1

12:00 pm – Grad Council meeting

Thursday, February 3

7:00 pm - Grade 12 Online Parent
Post-Secondary Information meeting

Monday, February 7

Report cards issued

Saturday, February 12

Dry Grad bottle drive

Monday, February 14

7:00 pm – Hockey Academy Parent
Zoom meeting

Please see our website and Instagram page: <https://fksshockey.onuniverse.com/> and <https://www.instagram.com/fksshockey/> which are updated regularly. Go, Whalers! Please note: games that were scheduled on January 5 and 7 will be rescheduled. Also, spectators are no longer allowed to watch team sports due to the Provincial Health Order.

The bands are back! After two years without performing at the school, the Grade 8 Band and Kelsey Concert Band, directed by Mr. Evans, played a very well received concert on December 15 for family and friends. COVID restrictions and school protocols have limited participation significantly since March 2020. The event was encouraging for musicians and family alike.

With the spacious room 126 as its headquarters, the Resource Department has been able to expand its reach to our students, providing one-on-one and shared help for all. For those who may not have known, the room is a collaborative space where students can come – with the permission of their classroom teacher – to work in a quiet atmosphere and seek out additional assistance with their studies. Ms. Prior, Mr. Dhami, Mr. Groicher, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Knippelberg all have desks set up in the room, so at all times of the day, you will find at least one of them present. If your child or student needs an alternate space to work, encourage them to visit and staff will do our best to assist. Our spaced-out desks allow for safe, COVID-friendly, socially distanced studying.

Ms. Steele and Ms. Hoffman's English 9 classes have been reading "The Hunger Games". It has been fun being able to combine classes when possible! Ms. Steele's English 10 class has been studying superheroes, their role in the entertainment industry, and their impact beyond.

Students in Mrs. Brinkman's Marketing 11/E-Commerce 12 class have been learning about the evolution and various types of e-commerce businesses that exist today. With the onset of the pandemic over the last two years, many businesses have had to pivot and add an online component to stay afloat. This term, students have been researching online business ideas and creating a business plan for one of their ideas. They have also had access to Shopify's Open Learning Program, to create an authentic online store. Learning real-life skills has been the goal and some students may choose to follow their entrepreneurial dreams in the future!

Partially because of our lengthy blocks, time in the Kelsey foods program must be filled with activities besides cooking for the entire class. Exploring First Peoples' Traditional food and Canadian regional foods is mandated by the Ministry of Education. These two opportunities blend together beautifully, giving students in Ms. Woodruff's Foods 9 classes the opportunity to research the use of local ingredients, and find and make recipes that fit the criteria. Students have made foods such as poutine, butter tarts, and bannock, after studying their background. In the new year, the class will be learning about Three Sisters Soup, an Indigenous meal traditionally made in eastern Canada from three basic foods which were grown there: corn, beans and squash. Ginger ale and ketchup flavoured potato chips have also been enjoyed!

La class de français onze/douze - Madame G's senior French class has been improving French language skills as well as taking in various aspects of French culture, including pâtisseries, songs, art, and films.

Students in Mrs. Webb's Math 9 class have been busy creating foldable study booklets to help reinforce their understanding of polynomials and their properties. Many students were able to showcase their drawing and design skills to create an effective study tool. Regardless of artistic ability, all students were able to classify and organize new ideas and concepts with this hands-on project.

Photo by Mrs. Webb



New Staff

We are pleased to announce that Sue Livingston and Tanja York, Education Assistants, recently joined our staff. Welcome to you both.

Scholarships and Bursaries

By Mr. Darren Hart, Acting Vice-Principal

Our local scholarships are available on our website. Local scholarships are only open to FKSS Grade 12 graduates (June, 2022). **We have over \$120,000 available and most of the awards are bursaries accessible to ALL students.** All local scholarships can be found by going to fkss.sd79.bc.ca. Students are encouraged to peruse the local scholarships soon to see which ones they wish to apply for. Also of note, we have been working with the Grade 12's on non-local scholarships that are open to all students in British Columbia. Strong academic resumes are an important part of an applicant's package; therefore students who would like help with writing their academic resumes, or who would like them reviewed, should see me as soon as possible. As well, Mrs. Brinkman is available to help students with academic resumes and cover letters.



While student information sessions occurred prior to the Winter Break, further reminders about scholarships and bursaries will be sent out to students during their Q block classes, through the online Grad 2022 Team, and on daily announcements. There will be a parent information evening hosted by Mr. Hart and Mr. Rowan on Thursday, February 3 covering:

- How to apply for local and district scholarships
- Usage of the Student Transcript Service

Zoom meeting details:

Topic: FKSS Parent Info - Scholarships and Post-Secondary

Time: Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://sd79.zoom.us/j/62329549915>

Students and parents are also reminded to monitor post-secondary institution websites for details of their specific scholarship requirements and application deadlines. If you have any questions or inquiries, please reach out to Mr. D. Hart.

Information regarding the following scholarship, which has a January application deadline, is available on the Grad 2022 Team under the Non-Local Scholarship & Bursary channel:

- Beedie Luminaries Scholarship

Dry Grad

Our next Dry Grad parent meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on **Tuesday, January 11** via Zoom. Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Topic: FKSS Dry Grad Parent Zoom

Time: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 6:30 pm

Join Zoom meeting: <https://sd79.zoom.us/j/63212388719>



(continued next page)

BOTTLE DRIVES - Thank you to everyone who supported our second bottle drive last month. Mark your calendars:

- February 12, March 26 & April 30 - bottle drives will be happening
- Tell your family: donations can also be taken to the Fisher Road Island Return It bottle depot anytime and ask for the funds to be deposited to our FKSS Dry Grad account
- Drop off anytime: 3578 Garland Avenue, Cobble Hill (leave by the garage) – easy!

PANAGO PIZZA VOUCHERS - Make dinner options easy - stock up for the year so the kids can easily take care of dinner themselves. Email franceskelseydrygrad@gmail.com with your student(s) name, advisor name and # of vouchers. We will deliver to the school for pickup by the student.

Cost: # tickets x \$12 (\$4 from every \$12 goes to dry grad)

Benefits: vouchers do not expire - unlimited toppings – redeemable for ANY medium pizza from ANY Panago location – order anytime as this is a year long fundraiser

DRY GRAD

Please join us at our next meeting on **Tuesday, January 11** at 6:30 pm, via Zoom:

<https://sd79.zoom.us/j/63212388719>

For more information, please contact franceskelseydrygrad@gmail.com

PUB NIGHT - Thank you to everyone who participated in our pub night. It was a huge success! As a major fundraiser for Dry Grad, many parents, family and friends participated in a night out for a great cause.

PURDYS ORDERS - Thank you to everyone who purchased Purdys for the holiday season. This was a great addition to our fundraising success!

Career Corner

WorkBC connects job seekers and employers, helping people find jobs; explore career options; and improve skills. Whether you're a parent, youth, teacher, or decision-maker, WorkBC's tools, resources, and services can benefit you. Confused over which career path to take after graduation? WorkBC has a new series, 'WorkBC Career Trek', that profiles exciting careers across BC. <https://www.careertrekbc.ca/>

Career Education Cowichan Valley Sd79 - Dual Credit: <https://www.careersandtransitions.ca/>

Skills Canada: <https://www.careersandtransitions.ca/videos/>

POST SECONDARY

U of Alberta Gateway – Open to all Grade 11 students in Canada. Win a trip to the U of Alberta for May 27 – 29. Application deadline is Jan. 28, 2022. [Apply](#) here.

UVic – A reminder that students and parents can book virtual and in-person appointments with our UVic rep to get all of their questions answered. Virtual appointments can be booked using our online booking system, and in-person appointments can be booked by contacting recruitment@uvic.ca.

VIU – Sessions for high school students considering VIU: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm. Sessions for parents of future students to support your child on their post-secondary journey: Thursday, January 20, 2022 from 6:00 – 7:00 pm



Homestays Needed for High School International Students

If you are an active family interested in hosting an international student from Europe and around the world, contact us! Short term (3 months) and longer term stays (5 months or 10 months) are needed. Remuneration of \$900 per month. Call Brenda at 250 510-1436 or email blanglois@sd79.bc.ca

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