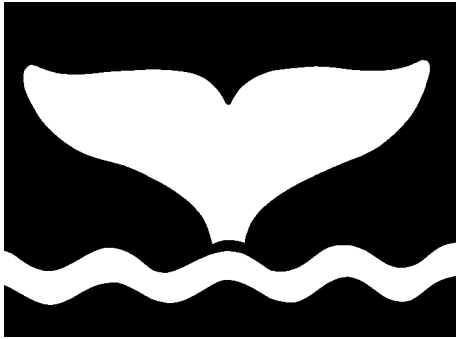


THE WHALE'S TALE



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

February 6, 2006 Vol. 11/No. 4

The Transition to Term Two Questions and Answers

By Marilyn Sandford, Principal

February 13th marks the mid-point of the school year and the beginning of the second term at FKSS. It is not uncommon for questions or concerns to arise from students and parents about what will happen to a student's timetable while making the transition to second term.

This article is designed to address some of the more frequently asked questions about this transition period. If your particular question or concern is not addressed in the "question and answer" format that follows, you are encouraged to contact your son or daughter's advisor, a counsellor or an administrator by phoning the school at 743-6916 or the counselling department at 743-6980.

Q. My son or daughter has worked hard but he/she has not finished an academic subject (e.g. Math, English, Socials, Science) that was started in September. What will happen if he/she does not complete this subject by the beginning of the second term (February 13th)?

A. With very few exceptions, the student will simply carry on with the course until it has been successfully completed. In some cases, the student will continue with the same teacher. If there is a change of teacher or classroom after February 13th, the student will be notified.

(continued next page)

For complete information about the school, visit our web site at fkss.ca.

Q. My son or daughter has not completed an elective subject (e.g. Home Economics, Business Education, Fine Arts, Technical Education, Modern Languages) that was started in September. What will happen?

A. In most elective courses, students who have not completed a course by the end of the term may have to complete it by arranging to meet with their teacher in a flex block time. Students should check with their teacher to determine which flex block time is most suitable. This arrangement will allow the student to receive continuous support while completing the required course work.



PARENTS: PLEASE NOTE THESE IMPORTANT NEW DATES: (marked by *)

February 6 - 10, 2006

Provincial exams

Mon. February 6, 2006

Monthly report issued with newsletter

***Wed. February 8, 2006**

Last day of Term 1

***Thurs. February 9, 2006**

Turnaround Day (school not in session)

7:00 p.m. Dry Grad Parents' Meeting in library

Fri. February 10, 2006

Pro-D Day (school not in session)

***Mon. February 13, 2006**

Term 2 begins (Day 2) with Advisor Time extended by 15 minutes

Thurs. February 16, 2006

1:05 p.m. District-wide early dismissal

Tues. February 21, 2006

"Earn Your Wings" Assessment

Wed. February 22, 2006

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Mon. March 6, 2006

Second formal report issued with newsletter

Thurs. March 9, 2006

1:05 p.m. District-wide early dismissal

1:30-4:30 and 6:00-8:00 p.m. Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences

8:00 p.m. Dry Grad Parents' Meeting in library

Fri. March 10, 2006

Day in lieu (school not in session)

March 13-17, 2006

Spring Break

Wed. March 22, 2006

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Q. My son/daughter has not completed a course but is anxious to pick up another course at the beginning of the second term. Is this possible?

Students in grades 9-11 who have not completed an academic subject that was started in September, may not pick up a second term academic subject until the first term subject has been completed. Our experience shows that students who take on additional courses tend to get "bogged down" with this additional work. Personal timetables become too difficult to manage and all course work tends to suffer.

Generally, the same rule applies to elective courses – complete one subject before picking up another elective subject; however, there are some elective courses where group work is important and all students should start together. Advisors have told their advisees which courses these are and students must see a counsellor to ensure they begin these courses at the start of the second term.

Grade 12 students who are scheduled to begin a Ministry examinable course in the second term MUST see their counsellor to ensure that the course is

activated (registered with the Ministry to write the exam).

Q. My son or daughter has been recently withdrawn from his/her course. What action is necessary?

A. If students fail to attend classes regularly and/or fail to produce a reasonable amount of work, they may be withdrawn from a course. The "vacancy" created by the withdrawal is usually filled by another student who is ready to start the course.

Under normal circumstances, the withdrawal of a student is usually preceded by a minimum of two written "Action Alerts" to the advisor over a period of several weeks. A third alert usually results in a withdrawal from the course.

The student who has been withdrawn from a course may only re-enter the course by making an appointment with a counsellor. If space is available in the class, the student may re-enter the course after undertaking a promise to attend regularly and to produce a reasonable amount of work. If the student is unable to re-enter a class immediately because classes are full, the student will

be expected to spend the time focusing on the courses that remain active in the timetable.

Q. Are some courses scheduled to run for the full year?

A. Yes, some courses started in September are scheduled to run for the full year. For example, PE 9-12, Band, Choir, Journalism 11, Acting 11-12 all run for the full year and therefore they will continue with the same teacher at the same time until June.

Q. Are there waiting lists for second term courses?

A. Most students will have little difficulty beginning a course they are scheduled to start second term. However, space in some courses may be limited as first term students attempt to complete their coursework while other students who have completed first term courses sign up through their counsellors to start a new second term course.

For students who find themselves on a waiting list, the time is usually short. Students on the waiting list will be notified by their counsellor as soon as the space opens up. In the meantime, waiting students can focus more time and energy to work ahead on the courses they have underway.

Scholarships and Bursaries

by Jeff Rowan, Vice-Principal

The time to apply for our Local Scholarships, those awards only open to FKSS Gr. 12's graduating in June 2006, is upon us. **We have over \$120,000 available, and most of the awards are bursaries which are open to ALL students, not just the highest academic achievers.**

Information sessions with the Gr. 12's were held on January 25th during W and X blocks. If your

son or daughter missed either of these sessions, I am available for help on Thursdays after school from 2:30 - 4 p.m. I encourage all Gr. 12's to apply for these awards! The awards are listed under the www.fkss.ca website, in the "Grads" tab and then "Scholarships".

Also of note, I have been working with the Gr.12's on Non-Local Scholarships (open to all

students in British Columbia). A complete listing of these awards can be found at www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/. I would encourage all Gr.12's to be looking at these awards 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, 2006, are

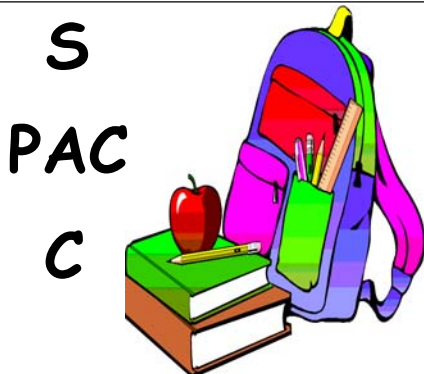
available in the library filing cabinet:

Minerva Foundation	University of Victoria
Bishop's University	University of British Columbia
University of Guelph	Coast Capital Savings
University of Alberta	RE/MAX Quest for Excellence
Malaspina University-College	Guide Outfitters Assn of BC
BC Sports Hall of Fame Jack Farley Youth Sports Achievement Award	



Websites of interest:

BC Colleges/Universities scholarships: www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca
www.scholarshipscanada.com
www.studentawards.com
 Online applications in BC: www.pas.bc.ca
 Canadian Universities and Colleges: www.schoolfinder.com



question and answer session following the speakers. This event is geared toward parents and students from grades 6 - 12.

This is a great opportunity to become educated about this drug.

"LET'S LEARN TOGETHER" Conference

This is an all day conference hosted by DPAC on Saturday, February 18 from 8:30 - 3:00 at Chemainus Secondary School, Chemainus.

A registration form is attached to this month's Whale's Tale, which you can fill in, and mail or you can register online at www.sd79.bc.ca/letslearn/.

This conference has some workshops that are of **particular interest to parents of secondary students:**

- **Graduation Portfolios - What**

FKPAC

Please come and join us at our next meeting on:
 Wednesday
 February 22 at 7:00 p.m.
 in the school library

are they and who has to do them. They need to be completed for students to graduate - no exceptions - so let's learn how to help them complete this task.

- **Financial planning for your student's careers (Including Scholarships!)**
- **Encouraging Assertive Relationships**

This conference is only \$10.00 per person and that includes lunch and snacks. There is also childcare for a nominal fee. Check out the form for all the information!!

by Jane Morris, President
FKPAC

SPECIAL FORUM ON CRYSTAL METH!

This drug is creeping into our valley more and more and there is a special forum being held February 21, 2006 from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Cowichan Theatre in Duncan to give us a chance to learn more.

The guest speakers are an Addiction Specialist and an expert from the RCMP Drug Awareness. There will be a

Library Resource Centre Update

Bookmark the Library home page. It has a large number of links with curricular connections and can be accessed from the school homepage: <http://www.fkss.ca>

All of the online encyclopedias we subscribe to have home access. Students can pick up the passwords at the library circulation desk. Also, the database eLibrary (BigChalk) is now accessible from home. These are all valuable research tools. Encourage your sons and daughters to start their research using the Library home page, especially if they are at a loss as to where to start their searching. This page has been developed with the students' needs in mind.



Important Dates:
Thursday, February 9 @ 7:00 p.m. - Monthly Dry Grad Meeting
Monday, February 20 - Fundraising Committee Meeting
Saturday, April 29 - Silent Auction, Garage Sale, Car Wash, Food Sale
Friday, June 30 - Dry Grad

Thank you! We had a great turnout at the January Dry Grad meeting, but more parents are needed (and welcomed)!

Please attend our next meeting at 7 p.m., Thursday, February 9th in the Kelsey Library. Our meetings are short and friendly.

Silent Auction and Garage Sale

This is our major fundraiser for Dry Grad. Would you or your employer be willing to donate an item or service for sale at the silent

auction? (e.g. a haircut, 2 hours gardening, etc.) Please call Kathy at 743-8222 or Nancy at 743-4166.

Please start saving quality used items for the garage sale. (No computers, major appliances or clothing, please). Drop off dates and location are to be announced.

During the sale, grade 12 students will be operating a carwash, receiving returnable bottles and selling hot dogs. (Proceeds will go to Grad

Council) On February 20, the fundraising committee will meet again. If you are interested in attending the meeting or helping on April 29, please call one of the above numbers.

Dry Grad
 An invitation to parents of all 2005-2006 graduating students: please come and join us at our next meeting on Thursday, February 9 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library

"The Prom Project" also known as "The Cinderella Project"

by Linda O'Neil, Parent

Every year at various schools there are young adults graduating who do not attend their banquet because of lack of financial means. Our school would like to try to identify these families in need of assistance to help their children enjoy this wonderful and deserving night.

friend may call Linda O'Neil at 743-7866 or Counsellor Janice Rose at 743-6980 anonymously if they know of a student in need of our support.

The project has available a great selection of gowns for loan, free tuxedo rentals, hair and makeup services, and shoes.

opportunity for any young woman wanting to rent her dress from the "Prom Project" for a nominal fee instead of buying one.

We want to make sure every child has the opportunity to attend these festivities with pride and the wonderful sense of accomplishment that they deserve.

Any parent, student, teacher, or

This year there is a terrific

Thank you,
 Linda O'Neil 743-7866

Grad Dress, Evening Gown and Accessory Exchange

On Tuesday, February 28, 2006, Frances Kelsey Secondary School is hosting the first annual GRAD DRESS AND EVENING GOWN EXCHANGE. Planning on attending the grad banquet? Are you going to a wedding this year? THIS IS ONE EVENT YOU

WON'T WANT TO MISS.

Grad dresses, gowns, shoes, and accessories are being accepted for resale. There is a \$2.00 user fee for purchases or sales. Items are coming from the whole school district as well as Victoria.

PLEASE help us by pre-registering dresses as soon as possible. Registration cards are available at the Kelsey Main Office. Bring a photograph of the dress to attach to the card. Pictures will be cut to ensure confidentiality. No faces. Decide on a price. Dresses should

be clean and on a hanger. Dresses, shoes and accessories can be brought to the sewing room at Frances Kelsey on Tuesday, February 28 between 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome starting at 4:30 p.m. for sales. Event runs until 8:00 p.m. Cheques and unsold dresses,

shoes and accessories are to be picked up by 8:30 p.m. Special arrangements for drop off or pick up can be made prior to the sale.

If you need help deciding on a price, getting a photo, or have questions please call Connie at 743-5090 or Andrea at 743-4202

More Clubs and Activities

Club Family Guy
Friday: 11:15, Room 210
Sponsors: Mrs. Carmichael
and Mrs. Smith
Watch your favourite
episodes at lunch!

Career Centre News

Work Experience Opportunities

- **Camp Pringle** volunteer work over spring break
- Apply by Feb. 15
- **Rotary Youth Leadership Conference** in Tacoma, WA. - March 2nd - 5th, 2006
- Apply by Feb. 6th in the Career Centre

Malaspina University-College Info Sessions at Cowichan Campus - 7:00 p.m. for all

- Health Programs - Feb. 7
- Culinary Arts - Feb. 15
- Heating ventilation - Feb. 15
- Human Services - Feb. 21
- Education programs - Feb. 22

Congratulations to Kendra Carfantan, Nikki Beecroft, Caitlin Archer, Foster Richardson, Tamara Post, and Brittany Morris who have been accepted to attend a one-week workshop with

Encounters with Canada at the Terry Fox Canadian

By Jarrett Tilley, Red Cross Club Vice-President

It is said that a picture is worth a thousand words, and the same could be said of an action. This past Christmas season, Frances Kelsey had the opportunity to host a food-drive to collect items for the Mill Bay Food Bank, and we had our most remarkable year yet - far over 2,000 items. The expressions of utmost elation, surprise, and most of all respect for the efforts of the everyday student in the eyes of the food bank representatives, and in the way they spoke, made every second of this operation worthwhile. Additionally, Mrs. Smith's advisor group who won first place for most donated items

Red Cross Club

chose instead to donate their pizza lunch money winnings to the Food Bank. These students may never hear of the positive effects their gesture has made, but, rest assured, their actions have been valued far greater than any donation could ever amount to. Society counts on us students to uphold the future, to provide, to progress; what a remarkable image they must have of us when they witness such actions of kindness, compassion, and self-sacrificial attitudes. I would not only like to extend a formal thank you to all students and staff involved in this year's food-drive events, but also to emphasize the importance of continuing humanitarian efforts within our

Canadian Youth Centre in Ottawa starting March 19. Nikki was also accepted to attend the *Ottawa Youth Forum Canada* workshop.

Camosun College Information Sessions
General information - Wed. Feb. 15, 2006
6:30 - 8:30 at the Lansdowne campus

Computer & Engineering Technologies - info sessions last Tuesday every month - 7:30 at Interurban campus. Tech bldg. rm. 181

Trades & Apprenticeships - 3rd Thurs. every month - 7:30 Interurban campus. Campus Centre rm. 124

More information in the Career Centre or visit www.camosun.ca

Grade 11 & 12 Students

University of Victoria Engineering tour - Feb 22nd
Sign up in the Career Centre by Feb. 13th.

local communities. Helping your fellow man is not a chore or a task to be performed - it is a gift to be upheld, cherished, and preserved. On behalf of the Red Cross Club and the community in general, thank you Frances Kelsey - you have no idea how much your actions have helped, nor the pride and respect you have invoked.

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.

“Let’s Learn Together” Conference

Saturday, February 18, 2006

8:30 am – 3:00 pm

Chemainus Secondary School, Chemainus

~ REGISTRATION ~

Name _____

Phone _____

Email _____

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Dr. Allison Rees, Parent Educator

MORNING WORKSHOPS:

1. Fun ways to help your child read _____
2. Graduation portfolios _____
3. Sidestepping the power struggle with your child _____
4. Spearmaking/Cedar roses _____

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS:

1. Finding your way around the Internet safely _____
2. Encouraging assertive relationships _____
3. Simple woodwork projects with your child _____
4. Halalt First Nation walk _____
5. Financial planning for your students’ careers (including scholarships) _____

Please indicate your first and second choice for the morning and first and second choice for the afternoon workshops listed above by writing “1” and “2” beside your selection for both morning and afternoon workshops.

CHILDCARE: I will require childcare for _____ children. I will be attending the conference:
_____ full day _____ half day

Please send a lunch with your child. Snacks will be provided. If your child has any allergies or specific dietary requirements, please indicate below and provide a phone number that you may be reached at to further discuss these issues. If you will be leaving your child in our care, please arrive 15 minutes early as we have forms that must be completed. Sorry, we will not be able to accommodate children under the age of three.

Please make cheques payable to Cowichan Valley District Parent Advisory Council (CVD PAC). The registration fee is \$10 for ‘in district’ delegates and \$15 for ‘out of district’ delegates (includes lunch and snacks). Mail to: “Let’s Learn Together” Conference, DPAC, 2557 Beverly Street, Duncan, BC, V9L 2X3 or register online at: www.sd79.bc.ca/letslearn/

HAND IN HAND DPAC



Whale's Tale V11/N4

