

THE WHALE'S TALE



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

April 3, 2006 Vol. 11/No. 6

The Importance of Choosing Courses Wisely for Students Entering Grades 10 and 12

By Janice Rose, Counsellor

Well, here we go again! It's almost time for course selection for the 2006/2007 school year and there are many important decisions to be made. With so many options to choose from, just where does one begin?

We try to encourage our students to talk to teachers to find out just what the various courses have to offer, what they entail, and how they may be of help in the future.

The first consideration, of course, is choosing the courses that are required for graduation. Students entering grade 10, 11, and 12 are on the "New Grad Program" which is well-explained in our course selection booklet.

It is usually at this time that students ask, "Do I have to take a second language as one of my electives?" A second language to the grade 11 level is a requirement if a student intends to go directly from secondary school to certain faculties at some universities. It is

not required if a student attends a university/college (i.e. Malaspina) before going to a university. However, there are many other jobs or training facilities which require *specific* languages. The Canadian Coast Guard, for example, requires that their trainees have French 12. Counsellors are able to provide students with up to date information regarding language requirements.

The program a student takes should be considered as a package of courses designed to meet the requirements of the student's post-secondary choice. This requires a good deal of research and all students are asked to meet with their counsellors to ensure that they are "covering their bases", so to speak.

It should also be mentioned that grade 10 students are well informed as to the variety

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



Monday, April 3, 2006
Monthly report card issued with newsletter

Thursday, April 13, 2006
7:00 p.m. Dry Grad Parents' Meeting in library

Friday, April 14, 2006
Good Friday (school not in session)

Monday, April 17, 2006
Easter Monday (school not in session)

April 20-21, 2006
Provincial Exams

Friday, April 21, 2006
"Earn Your Wings" Assessment

Wednesday, April 26, 2006
7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Saturday, April 29, 2006
Dry Grad Silent Auction/Garage Sale

Monday, May 1, 2006
Monthly report issued with newsletter

Tuesday, May 2, 2006
6:30-9:00 p.m. 'Conversations' Forum for Parents of Young Drivers and Passengers

Friday, May 5, 2006
Pro-D Day (school not in session)

Thursday, May 11, 2006
7:00 p.m. Dry Grad Parents' meeting in library

Monday, May 22, 2006
Victoria Day (school not in session)

Wednesday, May 24, 2006
7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Saturday, May 27, 2006
Grade 12 Formal Graduation Banquet

of options available through a course called Planning 10. Specifically, this course is designed to assist students in choosing their pathway through secondary school.

It is crucial that students make informed choices when selecting courses. A good rule of thumb is to choose those in the student's area of interest. Researching and finding out as much as possible about the various programs available avoids wasting time and having to change timetables mid-way through the year.

As we all know, students often change their minds about their priorities and so it is essential that they take responsibility for finding out the particular requirements of any post-secondary programs that may be of interest. These requirements vary from institution to institution and often change frequently with little lead

time. It is essential that students keep up with post-secondary information and we expect to see our senior students in our career centre on a regular basis, using the internet and post-secondary calendars for information. Grade 10 students should also introduce themselves to the Career Centre and parents are always welcome as well.

In order to be accepted at some universities or to be considered for certain scholarships, applicants often need specific courses. Once again the students must be proactive and diligent in seeking the information necessary to ensure that they are not disappointed upon graduation. High marks are extremely important in considering university entrance and students must also take this fact into account.

For Bonner students coming to

Kelsey we provide an excellent transition program during which they have the opportunity to attend a presentation on **Tuesday, April 11**. Included is a general introduction followed by tours of the school led by peer counsellors. Teachers are present in the various areas to answer questions regarding course offerings. We often hear parents on those nights express the sentiment, "Gosh, I wish I were able to go to school now because there are so many wonderful courses to choose from!" That is, however, one factor that makes the process of choosing courses so difficult.

It is important to know that the counsellors are always available for help with course selections. Both students and parents are encouraged to take advantage of this service.

Contact the Counselling office at 743-6980 for further information.

Scholarships and Bursaries

by Jeff Rowan, Vice-Principal

By now, all grade 12's should have completed the process of applying for local scholarships and bursaries which were due to Ms. Wheeler in the Counselling

Office on Friday, March 24th. The monies will be awarded in June.

If parents and students have not yet viewed the BC Awards

website, they should do so now. Use bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca. For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. Rowan. All dates should be checked at each source's site.

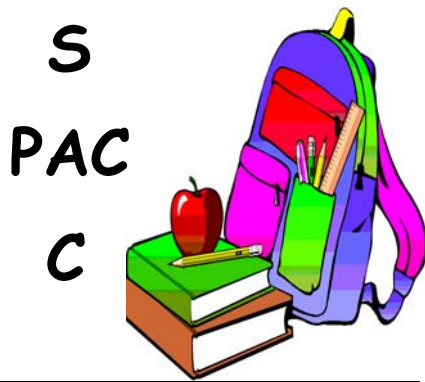
Application forms for the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in April and May, 2006, are available in the library filing cabinet:

- Saint Mary's University Entrance Scholarship
- BC Hydro Scholarship
- The Art Institute of Vancouver Scholarship
- University of British Columbia Waikiki Aekae Uniona Entrance Scholarship in Agricultural Sciences Scholarship
- Certified General Accountants Association of British Columbia Scholarship
- British Columbia Institute of Technology Entrance Awards
- British Columbia Cattlemen's Association (Gung Loy Jim Scholarship, Martin Riedemann Bursary, RBC Dominion Securities Criterion Capital Group Bursary, and BCCA Bursary)
- BC Press Council/Community Newspapers Association
- The United Croats of Canada
- Hayes Future of the Forest Scholarship
- Sprott-Shaw Community College
- Canadian Retail Institute/Retail Council of Canada



Websites of Interest:

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



**by Jane Morris, President
FKPAC**

FKPAC had a busy meeting on the 22nd of March!

Most exciting was the approval of funding to over 20 students who have attended or will be attending

various arts, sporting, or technology events. We are very proud to be able to support the excellence these students show in their varied interests. If you are looking for funding for this type of event please fill out a Funding Request Form (available in the brown envelope on the PAC board outside the Career Centre), have it signed by the sponsoring teacher and ask the secretary to put it in the PAC mailbox.

We also received the report from an ad-hoc committee of concerned parents regarding implementation of the capping of numbers at Kelsey. This group was scheduled to present their suggestions at the School Board meeting on March 29.

"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.

Any parent, student, teacher, or 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.

This year there is a terrific 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.

Thank you,
Linda O'Neil 743-7866

FKPAC

Please come and join us at our next meeting on:
Wednesday
April 26 at 7:00 p.m.
in the school library

We will continue to send out the Minutes via email to those whose addresses we have. If you have not received any emails and would like to, please send your email address, student's name and grade to fkpac@sd79.bc.ca.

Our next PAC meeting is April 26, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Gourmet A la Carte Luncheons

at Frances Kelsey
Dining Room
Tuesday - Friday
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a gourmet dining experience at a reasonable price while supporting students enrolled in Malaspina University-College's Culinary Arts Program. Under the supervision of professional cooking instructors, students prepare and serve gourmet cuisine made from many locally produced ingredients!

Reservations recommended
Call 250 743-0548

Our New Staff

We are pleased to announce the following people have joined the staff of Frances Kelsey Secondary.
Welcome to you all!

Teacher's Assistants: Jeannette Galavan and Tarina Lewis

Teaching Staff: Ms. Chadwick and Mr. Zeeman



Date of Dry Grad...Friday, June 30

Dry Grad is a safe and fun party; it's hosted by parents; it's for graduating students; and it's held after the walk-up ceremony at FKSS

How are funds raised?...local businesses and fundraisers

What is Dry Grad's major fundraiser?....Silent Auction and Garage Sale on Saturday, April 29, at Frances Kelsey Secondary School

Parents! This is your last notice before our Garage Sale and Silent Auction on Saturday, April 29, and your final reminder that we would appreciate contributions to the Silent Auction in the form of gift certificates, merchandise, or your pledge to provide a service. Why not pledge to do a half day of yard work, bake a birthday cake, do some sewing, mending, vehicle repair, babysitting, word processing, computer upgrading, or anything else for which you have a flare? Donate your talent! Donate your help on the 29th and/or help set-up on the 28th! Call Kathy at 743-8222 or Nancy at 743-4166.

Garage Sale items can be delivered to the school at Portable 8 on Saturday, April 8, 15 and 22 between 10:00 a.m. -

Dry Grad
An invitation to parents of all 2005-2006 graduating students: please come and join us at our next meeting on Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library

2:00 p.m., or Friday, April 28 after 6:00 p.m.

Remember, monies raised at this event, which is our major fundraiser, will help to make the Dry Grad party an especially memorable event for YOUR graduate.

For more information, call Frank Minchin, Dry Grad President, at 743-7490.



Art Show

The Loft Art Gallery in Mill Bay will feature student art work from April 1st to April 14th.

Come and support Kelsey Art students.

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.

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.



FKSS Career Centre News

April 2006

Employment Opportunity

- **Pacific Truss** is accepting applications for entry level production positions for full-time work from June to November. See the *Job Board*.

Malaspina University-College Info Sessions at Cowichan Campus for programs starting in Sept.

- Medical Office Assistant - April 4 @ 7:30 p.m.
- Public Safety (911 operator) - April 4 @ 6:00 p.m.
- Animal Care Aide - April 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

B.C.I.T. OPEN HOUSE April 7th & 8th

- 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. in Burnaby

Camosun College OPEN HOUSE April 27th

- 9:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. Lansdowne Campus, Victoria Games, contests, prizes!

P.A.R.T.Y (Prevent Alcohol and Risk-Related Trauma)

This field trip to the Cowichan District Hospital is a part of the Planning 10 course, and grade 10 students are required to participate. There are three more trips planned - April 11, May 9 and June 6.

Carpentry and Framing Technician Program The following students are now doing dual credits for graduation and their entry level training at Malaspina towards their apprenticeship: Joel Collard, Jesse Keene, Kevin Morgen, and Cody Snyder.

Police Camp 2006 Experience

Four of our students attended Police Camp this year - **Brandon Peltier, Jodi Shephard, Ren Ashcroft,** and a last minute entrant, **Jonathan Harnish**. The experience was amazing, tiring and exciting; possibly life-changing for some.

Art Institute's S.W.E.A.T. participants just returned from Vancouver - Regner Blok-Andersen, Joel Collard, Jesse Elliott, Caroline Henriksen, and Sara Yarwood attended a week-long interactive session at the school.

Encounters with Canada

We have several students who have gone or will be attending this year including Tamara Post, Erika Friese, Caitlin Archer, Foster Richardson, Brittany Morris, Nikki Beecroft, and Kendra Carfantan. These students travel to Ottawa and spend a week learning about their country and each other. Unfortunately, funding cuts may mean that this program is not offered next year.

Night of a Thousand Dinners

By Hannah Lishman and Kirsten Gellein, FKSS Global Issues Club

On behalf of the Frances Kelsey Global Issues Club, we are excited to announce the upcoming Landmine Awareness Week from April 24th to April 28th. During this week be sure to look out for landmine-related activities and be careful where you step! Our main event for this week is the Night

of a Thousand Dinners on Thursday, April 27th, an awareness and fundraising event which will include: a catered dinner and dessert, guest speakers, videos, a silent auction, entertainment, and much more! Tickets are \$20.00 for adults and \$15.00 for students and are being sold at the Frances Kelsey



office. It is sure to be an informative and exciting evening, and we hope it will be a huge success! Every 20 minutes someone is either maimed or killed by a landmine - that needs to change. We can be that change.

Leadership 2005-2006

By Carlee Savory, student

Leadership is a growing, year-long course with a very diverse group of students and two very enthusiastic and supportive teachers, Ms. Peltier and Ms. Doman. The first half of the year was spent preparing for a two night, three day camping trip at Camp Pringle on Shawnigan

Lake.

The camping trip consisted of many challenges testing the students in groups and as individuals, in every way possible. The lack of sleep, mental and physical strength required really showed the participants what they were capable of and how they

reacted to different situations. Challenges included an all-day group orienteering challenge, and the individual physical challenges such as: the push-up challenge, the wall-sit, and the plank challenges. There were also challenges focusing on academics: the spelling-bee and word games, a speech challenge

and many, many more. On the last day of the trip, Cowichan Valley Search and Rescue came and set up a rope course, and everyone got the chance to participate.

The trip was a huge success. Thank you to our 32 sponsors for their donations and support:

Authentic Pizza 2 for 1
 Blue Line Sports
 Cobble Hill Firebase
 Columbia Ice and Fuels
 Country Grocer (Beverly Corners)
 Cowichan Community Centre (Pool)

Cowichan Search and Rescue
 Dodd's Lumber
 Duncan Lanes
 Eddy's Hockey Shop
 Experience Cycling
 Fit-Co
 Fun Pacific
 Just Jake's
 Kaleidoscope
 Matisse Spa
 Mt. Sicker Logging
 O'hair's Styling Group
 O.K. Tire
 Safeway
 Save-On Foods
 Serious Coffee

Sport Mart
 Sports Traders
 Staples
 Starbucks
 Sun FM
 Thrifty Foods
 Tim Horton's
 Valley Health and Fitness
 Van Isle Insurance
 Wall Forestry



Spring Break Opportunities

A number of opportunities were offered to Kelsey students over Spring Break last month. The following is one student's account of her experience.

My Spring Break Trip to the Terry Fox Centre with "Encounters With Canada"

By Tamara Post, student

Over spring break I had the great opportunity to attend a program called "Encounters With Canada", a program that is offered all year long. In EWC there are 10 sub-themes: Arts and Culture; Business and Entrepreneurship; Canada Remembers; International Affairs; Journalism and Communication; Law; Medicine and Health; Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Science and Technology; Social Science; and Sports and Fitness. Nikki Beecroft, Foster Richardson, and I had the great pleasure of being able to go to the Journalism and Communication week. When I got to the Terry Fox Centre in Ottawa, I was a little scared because I was only the second person to get there and the other person was French, and well, I can only speak English but that was okay because there would be people who could speak English coming the next day. (This

program is bilingual.) So, the first night was an adventure but it was a lot of fun. As the next day came, more and more people began to arrive at the centre and you could tell that everyone was a little afraid and a little in shock

"During my Spring Break I can truly say that I really got to learn more about my country, the people in it, and myself. If I could do this program again, I would do it in a heartbeat. Unfortunately the Government wants to cut the funding for this extraordinary program...."

to see how many people were arriving. Sunday night they got us all together in a room and we played some icebreakers, which was a really great idea because everyone got comfortable with each other quite fast, and from there on in it was like we had known each other for years. But enough about the people - you're probably wondering about what we did. During your

week at EWC you go to the Parliament buildings, meet with your MP's, go to museums, cultural activities (I went to the play "Grease" when I was there but they also go to the orchestra and stuff like that), go shopping, and they also take you to Hull, Quebec while you're there. During my Spring Break I can truly say that I really got to learn more about my country, the people in it, and myself. If I could do this program again, I would do it in a heartbeat. Unfortunately the Government wants to cut the funding for this extraordinary program and without the support of our community and all the communities around Canada they may succeed, so if you want to help, please contact the centre at info@ewc-rdc.ca to find out how to show your support for this program. To find out more about this program go to <http://www.encounters-rencontres.ca/English/MainEn.htm>.

