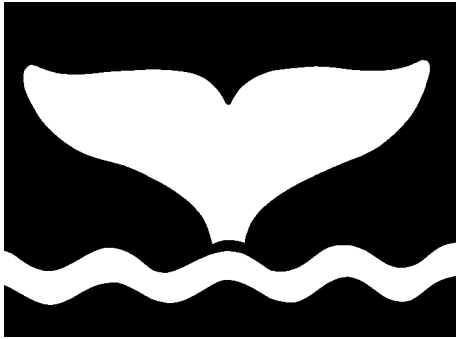


THE WHALE'S TALE



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

October 2, 2006 Vol. 12/No. 1

Peter Owen 1921-2006

By Roger Carr, Teacher

Sometime we may pass a wizened tree clinging to a rock face and pause to consider its history. So too it is with people. For many years Kelsey has been graced by the presence of a man who aged with dignity and whose frame had been changed by the winds of life. Yet his eyes never lost the wry twinkle that many of us first saw many years ago.

Peter Owen died recently. To Kelsey students he was the veteran, his chest full of medals, who spoke so eloquently at our Remembrance Day ceremonies. To many of the teachers in this school district he was the ex-principal or deputy superintendent. Some of us were hired by Peter, and to us his passing represents the loss of a unique man.

Peter was in the British Army during The Second World War. He fought on the beaches of Normandy. His schooling was at Cambridge University and his two of his passions were rugby and education. Logically, when he came to Canada he became an educator. As principal and superintendent, his hiring practices were frequently based on hunches;

many of those hunches are now administrators in this district.

Following his retirement from our school district, Peter maintained his involvement with young people through his work at the Legion. Peter worked tirelessly to provide bursaries to talented students who might not otherwise be able to afford to further their educations. Despite his administrative abilities, Peter never let paper work obscure his love of people. Up until the time of his death, Peter could be seen

scooting along the roads of the Cowichan Valley in his British racing green M.G., his college scarf flying behind him.

Peter was, above all, a gentleman. His wit and charm will be missed but not forgotten. Cherish the wizened trees among us, they have lived more than many of us can dream.



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



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. October 2, 2006

First monthly report card issued with newsletter

Mon. October 9, 2006

Thanksgiving Day (school not in session)

Tues. October 10, 2006

7:00 p.m. Dry Grad Parents Meeting

Thurs. October 12, 2006

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

Fri. October 20, 2006

Pro-D Day (school not in session)

Sun. October 22, 2006

Dry Grad Firewood Sale

Wed. October 25, 2006

1:05 p.m. dismissal. Professional Learning Community

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Sat. October 28, 2006

Dry Grad Firewood Sale

Mon. November 6, 2006

Monthly report card issued with newsletter

Thurs. November 9, 2006

1:05 p.m. dismissal. Parent/Teacher/Student Conferences 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. and 6:00-8:00 p.m.

Fri. November 10, 2006

Day in lieu (school not in session)

Mon. November 13, 2006

Remembrance Day (school not in session)

November 14 - 15, 2006

Grade 10 and 12 Provincial Exams

Our New Staff

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

Secretarial Staff: Ms. Sworder in the Career Centre

Education Assistants: Mrs. Ahola, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Gibson, Mrs. Ross and Ms. Turnquist

Teaching Staff: Ms. Brown – Math and P.E., Mr. Stevenson – Science, Mrs. Thompson - Foods

Scholarships and Bursaries

by Jeff Rowan, Vice-Principal

The year starts early for our graduating students as they must now start thinking about University, College or other post-secondary choices for next year. Costs are a very important consideration when making these future plans. I will be working with the Grade 12 students this year to help them understand and access all of the money that is available to them in the form of scholarships and bursaries.

The students should prepare an academic resumé and cover letter right away. I will be available during “Z” block in the library and during unscheduled time in which I have a moment to look over students’ drafts.

Scholarships are already being sent to school and these will be available at all times in the Scholarship/Bursary filing cabinet which is located at the rear of the library. We will be advertising these opportunities on the daily “NewsBreaker” announcements and TV monitors as well as posting notices on the scholarship board outside of the library. Another great source to search through is a fantastic website www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/. A link to this website will be found on the Kelsey homepage in the near future. Use the “Awards Listing” link or search by “Awards Deadline Date”. Start searching now because there are scholarships

listed that have application due dates as early as October.

I am very excited about the opportunities for our students and look forward to working with them this year!

Last June, our graduates won \$100,000 in scholarships and bursaries. Many of our students received Entrance Scholarships from the following universities and colleges across Canada: **Malaspina University-College:** Stacey Pritchett (\$1,000); **McGill University:** Felicity Conrad (\$3,000 – 4 year renewable); **Simon Fraser University:** Melissa Yeaman (\$500); **University of Alberta:** Caitlin Anderson (\$1,500); Madelaine Gierc (\$11,500); **University of BC:** Lia Sampson (\$2,000); **University of Calgary:** Adam Hert (\$500); **University of Manitoba:** Kelsey Diab (2,000); **University of Victoria:** Eve Daniell (\$16,000); Nicole Toth (\$2,000); Leigh Wicki-Stordeur (\$4,000); **University of Washington:** Graham Oglend (\$22,000 US funds).

Of the 209 graduates this June, 160 received Honours graduation certificates - all B’s or better in all of their Grade 11 and 12 subjects.

Selena Goulding, in the Visual Arts Program, received a District Scholarship consisting of a \$500

cheque and a \$500 scholarship voucher from the Ministry of Education. Provincial Scholarship winners received \$1,000 each for their excellent results on the Grade 12 government examinations and each student had to excel on at least three of these examinations. They are Callah Boomhaur, Felicity Conrad, Eve Daniell, Kelsey Diab, Madelaine Gierc, Emily Lavender, Thomas McCabe, Lia Sampson, Nicole Toth, and Leigh Wicki-Stordeur. The 2006 Science Achievement Award presented by the Innovation and Science Council of BC was awarded to Madelaine Gierc.

Other notable Scholarship and Bursary recipients were: Cara Genier (\$4,000); Madelaine Gierc (\$3,500); Stephanie Bachman (\$3,300); Eve Daniell (\$2,950); Lauren Burkitt (\$2,500); Blair Doward (\$2,450); Madeline Walter (\$2,450); Melanie Desjarlais (\$2,000).

We at Frances Kelsey Secondary School wish to sincerely thank all of our local donors for their generosity and hard work. Without your contributions many students would not have the opportunity to pursue their careers at this time.

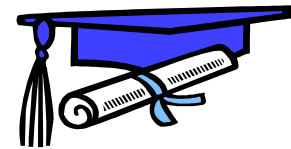
Available applications for non-local scholarships with October deadlines:

- 2007 University of Toronto

National Book Award and Scholarship Program.

Websites of Interest:

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



S
PAC
C



**by Jane Morris, Past President
FKPAC**

Welcome and Welcome Back!!! Another wonderful year at Frances Kelsey begins and it is my happy job to fill you in on the PAC news. As you read this we will have already had our first meeting and the new executive for 2006/07 will have been elected and is listed below.

We started off the year with our usual welcoming orientation lunch for all the students. They really do appreciate it - and not just for the free lunch (yes there is such a thing as a free lunch!) The orientation lunch gives all the students an opportunity to be welcomed by parents, staff and older students (in the case of the Grade 9's). This really starts the year on a positive note and builds our sense of community at Frances Kelsey.

I would really like to emphasize the continued need for parent involvement at Kelsey. Even though your child has reached secondary school and you may think your days of parent help are over; but studies continue to show that kids whose parents are involved in their schooling do much better - and that includes high school.

Parent involvement can take many forms. Of course there is PAC where we meet once a month to discuss the goings on at the school and distribute funds.

We are in the very fortunate position of having a steady income from two gaming sources. This enables us to support a wide variety of student activities at FKSS. Is your student(s) involved in an activity that they would like to apply for a contribution towards? If so there are forms in a brown envelope on the PAC bulletin board outside of the Career Centre and the criteria are on the form. We also have two bursaries that we award each year.

We are currently looking into having a sport court installed and are discussing plans for an art piece which would be installed in the foyer of the school. Interested in any of these items? Come on out to a meeting!

Of course parent involvement is not just PAC. There is Dry Grad, many sports teams, band, theatre, and so on. The school is very welcoming and open. Meet your child's advisor and get to know them - they want to get to know you! Mostly, I would like to encourage you to continue to be involved in your student's school life. It is a rewarding experience not to be missed.

Come to a PAC meeting. Participate in your child's school. You are more than welcome!

This year's PAC executive:

President	CJ Kubica
Vice-President	Wendy Thomas
Secretary	Joan Hartley
Treasurer	Annie Cossey
DPAC Rep	unfilled
Student Planning Council	
Jane Morris, Wendy Thomas, and Annie Cossey	

FKPAC
Please come and join us at our next meeting on:
Wednesday
October 25, 2006
at 7:00 p.m.
in the school library

Family Capacity Program

Do you feel that sometimes you are able to parent more effectively than others? Are there times when, no matter what you do, someone in the family is unhappy, upset, or angry? These are normal occurrences and part of life, but sometimes the

situation doesn't settle down and goes on for months or even years.

The Family Capacity Program is designed to assist parents and families to develop workable solutions. Our intent is to support families help reach their capacity,

be healthy, and be vibrant.

You can access this free program by calling Joyce at 746-5521. This program is funded by the Canadian Mental Health Association - Child & Youth Team.



Dry Grad 2005-2006

Thanks to the support of Frances Kelsey staff, help from countless volunteers, terrific contributions from local businesses, and great cooperation from the grads, the 2005-2006 Dry Grad Committee was able to host a fabulous jungle-theme Dry Grad party for graduating students on Friday June 30, 2006! Bongo drums, jungle plants, monkeys, parrots, and tarot card readers formed a backdrop for a very enjoyable all-night party.

Dry Grad is a drug and alcohol free chaperoned event, at which students can savour their graduation in a safe and enjoyable atmosphere. Since the inception of Dry Grad in 1989, there have been no fatalities on Grad night in the Cowichan Valley.

Fundraising for the Frances Kelsey Dry Grad party consisted of a firewood sale in the fall, a year-long grocery rebate program, and a garage sale/silent auction in the spring.

The successful Dry Grad would not have been possible without

the generous support of numerous local businesses. Graham Frueh won the Tracker, courtesy of Bow-Mel Chrysler Ltd. Generous contributions from Thrifty Foods and other grocery businesses ensured that the grads were well fed on Dry Grad night.

Hearty thanks to Frank Minchin for chairing the 2005-2006 Dry Grad Committee. We encourage all parents of graduating students to get involved in Dry Grad 2006-2007! Good Luck!

Your help is appreciated!

Dry Grad 2006-2007 Planning Committee

Dry Grad is a safe, all-night party organized by parents for our graduating students. The students love their big night, which includes fun activities and entertainment, good food and great prizes.

Is your child graduating this year? You can help celebrate their achievement! This event requires a group effort by parents, so please join the committee to make Dry Grad 2007 a wonderful memory for our Grade 12s.

be our firewood sale on October 22nd and 28th. In past years, this has been a very successful fundraiser. See the notice at the back of the *Whale's Tale* – be sure to get your firewood order in early to avoid missing out, and help support a great cause at the same time.

We also will need parents and Grade 12s to help cut, split and deliver wood. If you're able to help on one or both days, please call Kelly at 743-4747.

Tuesday, October 10th at 7:00 pm in the Kelsey library. All parents of Grads are welcome, so bring a friend and your ideas! Meetings end by 8:00 p.m.

<p>2006-2007 DRY GRAD MEETING</p> <p>Tuesday, October 10 7:00 pm in the Kelsey library Everyone welcome For more information please call 743-4747</p>
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Our first fundraising activity will Our next meeting will be on

Attention all Grads and Grad Parents!!

By Skye Augustine, student

With the beginning of another school year also begins another Grad year! And this Grad is going to be a memorable one! This year's Grad Committee is up and running, generously sponsored by Mr. Archer. Grad Council members have been selected and

have begun planning activities to mark this important year. All we need now is your support. So keep your eyes open for notices on the Grad Board and information in the *Whale's Tale*. You will have many opportunities to participate!

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.

Duke of Edinburgh's Award Programme



By Phil Archer, teacher

Once again this year, an opportunity for students to participate in the Duke of Edinburgh's Award programme is available through Frances Kelsey Secondary School. The programme is coordinated by Mr. Archer through Gifted Education / Catalyst Programme but is open to any student in Grades 9 through 12.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Young Canadian's Challenge is the most prestigious achievement award for young Canadians. It is a challenge to all young people between the ages of 14 and 25. It

offers an opportunity to broaden interests and experience under adult guidance and assessment. This is achieved through participation in a balanced programme of practical, cultural, and adventurous activities chosen to suit individual aptitudes and related to local needs and conditions. Participation in the Award programme represents a personal commitment to constructive endeavor, promoting qualities of self-discipline, self-help, and self-reliance.

Students who complete the bronze level of The Duke of Edinburgh's

Award are eligible to receive two Grade 11 credits (no matter what the "grade" of the student) in an Independent Directed Studies. Those completing the Silver and Gold Levels receive External Course Credit at the grade 11 and 12 levels. The programme will be conducted outside of school time, although many of the requirements may be fulfilled during a student's regular course of study at school.

The Duke of Edinburgh's Program - Challenge for Young Canadians can be started at any time. If you are interested in learning more about it, please feel free to contact Mr. Archer at 743-6916 (extension 264) or parcher@sd79.bc.ca for more information.

Abstract Thinking

A very important reminder to any parent who may be driving Kelsey students for sports events or any school function: The School Board requires we have a copy of your driver's licence, your current auto insurance showing \$1,000,000 third party liability, and a driver's abstract. New

abstracts must be obtained each year as we do not keep previous year's information on file. **It is appreciated by the office staff and the teacher sponsors if this information is in place well in advance of the event.**

When renewing your vehicle

insurance throughout the school year, please remember to bring your new documentation to us for photocopying.

We also want to clarify that students may not drive other student participants to any school-related event.

Geo What?

By Don Hall, teacher

Information about this popular outdoor recreation can be found on the web at <http://www.geocaching.com/faq/>

The PAC purchased 2 brand new

Garmin VentureC GPSr for the Geocaching Club at the end of last year. These units are available for members of the club for use both in and out of school.

The club meets occasionally during lunch times, and most club activity



takes place out of school time, but in the local area. Credit may be available for certain Social Studies or PE units, on an individual consultation basis.

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 for where to start their searching. This page has been developed with the students' needs in mind.

Red Cross Club

By Kirsten Gellein and Jenna Bright, students

The Red Cross club is up and running once again! We have already taken on a few projects, including this year's Thanksgiving food drive, supporting Ms. May in raising \$4000 to go towards the run for

leukemia, and we are assisting our newly sponsored foster child, Joseph, who lives in Kenya. We hope this year is a successful one with lots of projects, but we rely on the support of the school to make that possible. You can help

by staying aware of our projects and helping to support them. This week, until October 4th, drop off non-perishable items in front of the main office for our Thanksgiving food drive. Your help is appreciated.

Our Trip to Tanzania, Africa

By: Denise Slade, Alyx Clavora, Liza Watler, students

This summer during the month of July, we traveled with a Global Volunteer Team to a remote area in a country in Eastern Africa called Tanzania. The main purpose of this trip was to offer a helping hand to Mtera Secondary School. We did construction work, made bricks, painted houses, and taught English classes to the students. There are roughly 500 students aged 16 to 26, crammed into small rundown dormitories with rickety beds, dirty foam mattresses, no doors, and no mosquito nets or screens to protect against malaria. The shower is a large tin fenced enclosure where the students can go and wash with a bucket of water and the bathroom is just a hole in the floor.

A typical diet of the students at Mtera School consists of porridge for breakfast, porridge for lunch, and beans and ugali (corn meal) for dinner. Once every week or two, the students are treated to a vegetable with their dinner such

as cabbage or spinach. The luxury of meat is offered once a term. The students must collect firewood everyday for cooking their meals, and wash all their own laundry by hand in buckets.

Despite the low living standards, the students seem very proud of their school and feel lucky to be there. In fact, everyone at the school and throughout Tanzania seemed happier than most people living in the luxurious world of North America. The difference in the students' dedication to school work is amazing compared to most students here. Every student puts in their best effort and values their education as their only ticket out of poverty. Many of the students at the school have siblings that cannot attend a secondary school due to lack of funds. (In Tanzania, education is free only up to grade 7). If their schoolwork is not taken seriously they have little hope of getting a decent job to help

support their families.

Safe drinking water is another necessity that is unavailable to the residents at Mtera Secondary School. Water is being pumped two kilometers from a filthy nearby reservoir to equally unsanitary holding tanks. Bats, snakes and birds frequent these holding tanks. Monkeys often play and excrete in the water supply. Earlier this year there was an outbreak of typhoid fever and dysentery at the school due to the unsafe water.

Our Global Volunteer Team has set a goal to have a water well drilled at Mtera School which would provide the school with clean, safe water. We will be selling pizza at lunchtime in October and all proceeds will go towards Mtera School's water well. Watch the Newsbreaker for the specific dates. If anyone is interested in making a donation towards this worthwhile project, please contact Denise or Kelly Slade at 743-4747.

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

Clubs and Activities

SR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday:
2:30 on Lower Field
Sponsor: Ms. Kirchner

JR GIRLS FIELD HOCKEY

Wednesday: 2:30 on Lower Field
Sponsor: Ms. W. Erickson

SPANISH CLUB

Monday: 11:15 in room 127
Sponsor: Ms. Roueche

CREATIVE WRITING GROUP

Monday: 11:15 in room 212
Sponsors: Mrs. Smith and Ms. O'Brien

JR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Sponsor: Mr. Gergel. Details TBA

GUITAR CLUB

Thursday: 11:15 in band room
Guitar players only please
Sponsor: Mr. Duyf

JR GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 in small gym
Coach: Liam Schneider. Sponsor: Ms. Brown

JR GOLF/SR GOLF

Begins in Spring-Home course: Arbutus Ridge-

GEOCACHING CLUB

Occasional lunchtime meetings
Most club activity takes place out of school time
Sponsors: Mr. Archer, Mr. Tollefson and Mr. Hall

ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

Thursday: 11:20 in room 212
Sponsors: Mr. Hart and Mr. van der Linden

GRAD EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Wednesday: 11:20 in the boardroom
Sponsor: Mr. Archer

RED CROSS CLUB

Tuesday: 11:15 in room 123
Sponsor: Ms. Ciofani

CYCLING CLUB

Sponsor: Mr. Hart
Details TBA

DUKE OF EDINBURGH AWARD FOR YOUNG CANADIANS

Meets as required – ongoing
Sponsor: Mr. Archer

STUDENT COUNCIL

Wed: 11:15 in rm 118
Sponsors: Mr. Price
and Mr. Doyle

GLOBAL ISSUES CLUB

Friday: 11:15 in room 127
Sponsors: Ms. Patterson and Mrs. Smith

STUDENTS AGAINST VIOLENCE EVERYWHERE S.A.V.E.

Monday: 2:15 in room 118
Sponsor: Mrs. Rose
Sponsors: Mrs. Higbie and Mr. Bellis

Career Centre News

Career Planning:

- **GAP Exchange - Information Meeting – Oct 4**
Students may sign up in the Career Centre. This program is for graduating students and Grade 11's who are making their plans for after graduation.
- **P.A.R.T.Y Program** - All Grade 10's will be participating this year. First session will be Oct 10.
- **"Take Our Kids to Work Day" – Nov 1 – Grade 9's**
- **Grade 12 day at Malaspina – Nov 28** – sign up for this interactive and informative day.
- **Vancouver Island Career Fair - Dec 7 - Grade 11's** may sign up in the Career Centre Details of the event are posted at www.educationcareerfaairs.com
- **Portfolio Presentations** – Dec 14, Apr 24 - all Grade 12's are encouraged to participate

Carpentry & Framer Technician Program – SD79 & Malaspina College:

Congratulations to four Frances Kelsey students who recently graduated from this Entry-level College program towards their trade. In addition to this qualification, students were able to get credit towards graduation, and now all are employed.

Jesse Keene, Cody Snyder, Joel Collard, Kevin Morgen – Awarded top student in course

Work Experience 12 – 4 credits:

Placements are currently being sought for Grade 11 and 12 students wanting experience in their Focus Area.

"Take Our Kids to Work Day":

All Grade 9's are encouraged to participate in this Nation-wide initiative. Parents, relatives, or friends can take a student to work. Details and brochures will be sent home with students. Permissions forms will need to be returned before Oct 27. Credit is given in Health & Career Education 9 for LG 10.

Student Work Experience & Job Opportunities:

- **Student Tutors:** Students must be really good in some subjects. Students may sign in the Career Centre to be a tutor for any grade level.
- **Employment: Hot Spot Pizza** - signing bonus offered!
- **Employment: Tim Horton's:** applications in Career Centre. Scholarship program available.
- **Employment: Reggie's Veggie's – Duncan**
- **Employment: p/t work at Senior lady's home**
- **Employment: O.U.R. Ecovillage Shawnigan Lake**

Frances Kelsey Dry Grad

FIREWOOD SALE

October 22 & 28 only

Place your order early to avoid disappointment.

Cost per Load:

If you pick up:

\$70 for a North American pickup truckload

\$60 for an import-sized truckload

If we deliver:

\$20 additional per load

All proceeds help fund Frances Kelsey's Dry Grad project for a fun, safe night for our grads.

Warm your home doubly this winter, knowing that you've also supported a great cause!

**To place your order or for more info,
call Kelly Slade at 743-4747**