

THE WHALE'S TALE



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

November 6, 2006 Vol. 12/No. 2

Welcome

By Marilyn Sandford, Principal

This article is normally published in our first issue, but due to the tribute to Mr. Peter Owen, it now appears this month instead.

Each Fall presents a new beginning: an opportunity for students to make a renewed commitment to do as much as they can, as well as they can, as quickly as they can, each and every day.

In addition to those from Bonner, students have come to us from other schools both in the district and province. We also have students from other provinces in Canada and other parts of the world including England, the United States, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Brazil, Turkey, and Switzerland. Welcome to all!

Our present population includes 1220 students, 60 teachers and 20 support staff.

We continue to be proud of the accomplishments of last year's grads. As a result of their marks on provincial exams, ten students have received provincial scholarships. 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. We are proud of all our graduates.

To those parents whose students are new to the school, we urge you to read the student handbook section at the beginning of their agenda books and check their daily planning. A handbook for parents is also available from the counselling department. Please encourage your sons and daughters to take the responsibility necessary for success and work with their advisors to make this happen.

Finally, we want you to know that we will work hard to make this the best school year possible. If at any time you have questions, comments or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the main office at 743-6916 or the counselling office at 743-6980. All parents are invited to meet with PAC Executive and the Administrators to a "Coffee and Chat" on Thursday, November 23 at 1:00 pm. Bring your questions or concerns - we look forward to meeting you!

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



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. November 6, 2006

First formal 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)

Tues. November 14, 2006

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

November 14 - 15, 2006

Grade 10 and 12 Provincial Exams

Tues. November 21, 2006

7:00 p.m. Grade 12 Parent meeting in library

Wed. November 22, 2006

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Thurs. November 23, 2006

1:00 p.m. Coffee & Chat with PAC and Administration for all parents in library

Wed. November 29, 2006

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

Mon. December 4, 2006

Monthly report card issued with newsletter

Wed. December 20, 2006

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Fri. December 22, 2006

Last day of classes before Christmas

Our New Staff

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

Secretarial Staff: Ms. Quayle

Teaching Staff: Mrs. Trustham – Drama and Planning

Scholarships and Bursaries

by Jeff Rowan, Vice-Principal

Grade 12's should be reviewing academic resumes, cover letters and applications for scholarships and bursaries. Students presenting high quality packages are often very successful in acquiring post secondary funding; therefore, students requiring assistance should meet with Mr. Rowan and Mrs. Munday as soon as possible if they have any questions.

By now all Grade 12's have met with their counsellor to review their Ministry transcripts.

We are starting to receive scholarship application forms. Please be aware that many of

these are very specific and the competition for them is very intense. Usually for large scholarships a student is in competition with the rest of Canada and sometimes all of North America. See www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca for more details.

What should Grade 12's be doing now?

By using the Career Centre, college and university calendars, internet sites, and visiting the college personnel, students should be:

- deciding on which programme of studies they wish to take next year;

- deciding on which college/university they wish to attend next year;

- finding out about application deadlines, residence deadlines, and scholarship deadlines;

- finding out about any unions, groups or affiliates to organizations that their parents and grandparents have belonged to.

Applications now due

Malaspina University-College, BCIT, and most Vancouver College applications are due soon, some in November. Camosun College applications are due in January. University applications in BC are due in February.

Key websites for graduates

- Graduation program: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/graduation
- Career planning and post-secondary options in BC: www.openingdoorsbc.com
- Your guide to post-secondary education programs and institutions in BC: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/careers Offers students and parents information on post-secondary education, careers and the work force.
- Student financial aid: www.aved.gov.bc.ca/studentsservices/ Your online guide to information about financial assistance programs including grants, loans and interest relief.
- Provincial examinations Frequently Asked Questions: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/examfaqs.htm
- Exams, transcripts and scholarships: data management and student certification: www.bced.gov.bc.ca/departments/rdda/
- BC colleges/universities scholarships: www.scholarships.canada.com, www.studentsawards.com, www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca
- Online applications in BC: www.pas.bc.ca
- Canadian universities and colleges: www.schoolfinder.com

For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. Rowan. Further websites can be found through the Library Homepage.

Available applications for non-local scholarships with November and December deadlines:

- Elder & Leemaur Publishers
- Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation's Millennium Excellence Award Program
- University of Alberta Academic Excellence Scholarship Competition
- Structured Work Experience and Training 2007 (S.W.E.A.T.)
- Burger King Scholars
- House of Commons Page Program for students attending a National Capital Region university in September, 2007

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by **CJ Kubica, President
FKPAC**

The Frances Kelsey Parent Advisory Council (FKPAC) is dedicated to promoting quality education for all students attending Frances Kelsey Secondary School. The objectives of PAC are (1) to enhance communication between parents, students, school staff and administration, and the local community; (2) to review, discuss and make recommendations on policy and procedures, programs and services, facilities and equipment, parent/community education and learning resources; (3) to promote cooperation

between the home and the school in providing for the education of children and (4) to contribute to the effectiveness of the school by promoting positive involvement of parents and other community members.

Parent involvement is an integral part of student education and can take many forms. We are currently trying to better update the flow of information to parents through the Kelsey Website and welcome any suggestions as to what information you would like to see included. Information such as meeting agenda and minutes, upcoming meeting dates, etc. are several suggestions.

PAC meetings have historically been held on the fourth Wednesday of each month. However, in order to better communicate information with the District Parent Advisory Council (DPAC), we have decided to move the meetings to the second Wednesday beginning in January. Please mark your calendars with dates for November 22 and December 20 until this change

takes effect.

We have a full year planned with much to do for our students. Current agenda items include having a sport court installed, artwork for the foyer of the school, granting funding requests to promote sports teams, Fine Art programs, leadership conferences, clubs and educational programs, discussion of Grade 12 portfolios, school fees, etc. Join us at our meetings and participate in your child's school! We welcome you and your ideas!

FKPAC

**Please come and
join us at our next
meeting on:
Wednesday
November 22, 2006
at 7:00 p.m.
in the school
library**

Public Forums Dates Announced

Two public forums on the dangers of crystal meth are being held in the Cowichan Valley on November 8th at Chemainus Secondary School and on November 14th at Quamichan Middle School, both at 7:00 p.m. "These two forums are intended to educate the public about what crystal meth is, why it is such a horrible drug, how it affects people's lives and bodies, as well as answer any questions parents or the public may have," says Pierre Morais, the project coordinator for the "Breaking the Cycle" project. Morais was given the job after he helped the City of Duncan and the Municipality of North Cowichan obtain almost \$20,000 from the provincial government to address the

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harmful effects of crystal meth in the Cowichan Valley. "The project is just now kicking into high gear," says Morais, "In the coming weeks we will not only be holding these two public forums, but we will also be going into all the schools in Duncan and North Cowichan to do a presentation to the students 13 years old and older."

Planned presenters at both forums will include Morais, who is an addictions counsellor and consultant who specializes in crystal meth, as well as the co-chair for the BC Association of Social Worker's Provincial Addiction Committee, an RCMP officer who will speak to the criminal element and impact that comes along with crystal meth use, a recovering

crystal meth addict who will share how his life was affected by his addiction, as well as a counsellor from Harbour Lights Treatment and Detox Center located in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside, where crystal meth addicts are treated on a daily basis.

For more information about the forums or the "Breaking the Cycle" project, visit the official website at www.crystalmethproject.com

Did you know. . .

Netmarks, a way for parents to track student progress on-line, has now been activated. Parent passwords are available through your student's Advisor.



Dry Grad

Party plans are underway! At the end of next June, parents of graduating students will host this year's Dry Grad – a safe, all-night party for our kids, with great events, food and prizes.

Our first fundraising activity was the Firewood Sale on October 22nd and 28th. Due to the hard work of many parents and students who wielded chainsaws and axes, ran splitters and loaded trucks, it was a tremendous success. We filled about 65 orders and raised approximately \$5000.

We want to thank: Timberwest

for donating the wood; Rich Bennett for delivering it to our site; Rich and Barb Sager for the use of their property and for spreading the logs; Mill Bay Power Products and Ken Slade for loaning log splitters, Cowichan Rentals and Robinson Rentals for loaning chainsaws, Island Water Store for water and Tim Horton's for donuts that helped fuel the workers. And a big thank you to Dave Aris for all the chopping help he gave.

We've begun planning for our Silent Auction next spring. If you or your business would like to

support Dry Grad by donating an item to the auction, or with a cash donation, please call Kelly Slade at 743-4747. Thank you!

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 14th at 7 p.m. in the Kelsey library. All parents of Grads are most welcome. Meetings end by 8 p.m.

2006-2007 DRY GRAD MEETING

Tuesday, November 14
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library
Everyone welcome
For more information
please call 743-4747

Notes from the Dance Room

By Judy MacLeod, Teacher

Lifts and Partnering classes have had an interesting start. We've had a broken toe, wisdom teeth removed and 'paralysis' from the Great Lake Walk and the start up of fall sports and external dance. The Block X gales of laughter stem from a new lift that has the girls putting a scissor lock around the boys' heads.

The Choreography 12 class has chosen "After Katrina" as their term project to take into the feeder schools. They are researching the music, dance and culture of old New Orleans and plan a multi media production that will include ballet, jazz, and hip-hop. They hope to raise a few dollars and support a community after school program in the Arts in Jefferson County.

Families of the Choreography and Performance 12 classes of 2005-

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2006, please pass on this announcement. It is with great sadness that I announce that one of our friends from CVACL has passed away after complications from surgery. David Hamilton was the Down's Syndrome man with red hair, a huge smile, terrific rhythm, and great hugs who always made us feel so appreciated when we visited Clements Street. When you are in town, the rest of our friends would be pleased to see "the More Ladies" and "the More More Ladies."

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

Clubs and Activities

Besides the 17 Clubs and Activities listed in the October Whale's Tale, the following are also being offered:

YOUTH IN PHILANTHROPY CLUB

Monday: 11:15 in room 208
Sponsor: Mr. Bellis

BALANCE CLUB

(Health & Wellness)
Block Z: in Boardroom
Sponsor: Mrs. Rose

SR BOYS BASKETBALL

Dates/times TBA in Gym
Sponsors: Mr. Kelly and Mrs. Doman

JR BOYS BASKETBALL

Dates/times TBA in Gym
Sponsor: Mr. Leslie

SR GIRLS BASKETBALL

Dates/times TBA in Gym
Sponsor: Mr. Kelly

FISHING FOR TRUTH CLUB

Thursday: 11:15 in room 223
Sponsor: Mr. Gillespie

GENDER EMPOWERMENT CLUB

Wednesday: 11:15 in room 208
Sponsor: Ms. Patterson

S.A.D.D.

STUDENTS AGAINST DRINKING & DRIVING

Thursday: 11:15 in room 118
Sponsor: Mr. Rowan

JAPANESE ANIMATION CLUB

Thursday: 11:15 in room 123
Sponsor: Mr. Foster

DISTRICT STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

1st Wednesday of each month at
School Board Office
Sponsor: Mr. Rowan

SR BOYS SOCCER

Practices/games as per schedule
Sponsor: Mr. B. Johnson

KUNG FU CLUB

Wednesday and first Thursday of each
month in Mezzanine: 2:30
Sponsor: Mr. Foster

JR BOYS RUGBY

Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 in upper field
Sponsor: Mr. Loutet

SR BOYS RUGBY

Tuesday and Thursday: 2:30 in upper field
Sponsor: Mr. Loutet

INTERACT CLUB

(International Action), a service club for
youth sponsored by the Rotary Club
Meetings: TBA
Sponsor: Mrs. Munday

KELSEY BROADCASTING CLUB

Tuesday and Wednesday: 11:15 in room 137
Sponsor: Mr. Geoghegan

Interact Club Recently Established at Kelsey!

**By Georgina Lorimer and
Emily Ramsey, Students**

Interact stands for International Action. It is a Rotary sponsored service club for young people that allows members to participate in fun, meaningful service projects, both locally and internationally. With clubs in over 114 countries, there are plenty of opportunities to make connections worldwide.

From helping the SPCA to
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incorporating tacky flamingos into a fundraiser, our brainstorming has already led to many ideas that will be both fun and rewarding. Established members of the South Cowichan Rotary Club are there to mentor, support and guide us, however the projects are all thought of and run by students.

Meetings are held on Mondays at lunch in the board room.

Interested, prospective members are welcome to show up or, if you have more questions, contact kelseyinteract@hotmail.com. All grades are welcome, and Grades 9-11 are encouraged to insure the continuing success of this club!





F K S S Career Centre News

Career Planning:

- **VANCOUVER ISLAND CAREER FAIR - Dec 7 - Grade 11's** may sign up in the Career Centre Details of the event are posted at www.educationcareerfairs.com **Extra tickets are available for parents.**
- **PORTFOLIO PRESENTATIONS** – Dec 14 early presentation date. Sign up in the Career Centre. Next date is April 25, 2007.
- **P.A.R.T.Y PROGRAM;** All Grade 10's will be participating this year. Next session Nov 14; Mr. Hall & Mrs. Munday Y-block Planning 10
- **FORUM FOR YOUNG CANADIANS SESSIONS in Ottawa** – Info in CC or on their website www.forum.ca **Must apply by Nov 15.**
- **GRADE 12 DAY AT MALASPINA – Nov 28** –This is a special day for Grade 12's only. **See details on the sign up sheet for 14 different areas of Mock classes and program information.** Sign up in CC. One bus/55 students can go. This is a great day for students planning to apply to this school.

Job Opportunities: See the job board for more details

- **Country Grocer – Valleyview Centre**
- **Dog House Restaurant**
- **Catrina's Grill**
- **Library in Mill Bay**
- **Hot Spot Pizza** - signing bonus offered!
- **Tim Horton's:** applications in Career Centre. Scholarship program available.

Student Work Experience Opportunities

- **S.W.E.A.T. 2007** (Structured Work Experience and Training) – March 19 – 22, 2007. Mini courses in Entertainment Technology, Design, Media, Culinary Arts, and Fashion Design lead by Industry-Trained Professionals. Register before December 15th.
- **SHAD VALLEY ENRICHMENT PROGRAM** – Application deadlines December 11, 2006 & January 15, 2007. An opportunity to network and be creative in business, sciences, and computers at a post secondary level. www.shad.ca/
- **SHAWNIGAN LAKE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT:** is accepting applications for their Junior Firefighter Program. Program Details and application forms are available in the CC.
- **POLICE CAMP 2007**— Applications are due before November 29

Recent Work Experience Placements:

- **Station Street Gallery** – Art & Design
- **Prevost Veterinary Clinic** – Veterinarian
- **Cobble Hill Animal Hospital** - Vet
- **Pacific Forestry Centre** – Forester
- **Godfrey & Brownell Winery** – Vintner
- **Encounters with Canada** – Medicine & Health
- **Vancouver Island Trout Hatchery** – Fisheries
- **Secondary School Apprenticeship** - Carpenter – **Zachary Mearns**
- **Bamfield Marine Science Centre**- Biology – Kate Cuthbert & Vanessa Meier

A Reminder Regarding "Snow Days" ...

According to Board Policy 3500, we have been asked to remind you that in the event of inclement weather, the Superintendent may decide that schools should be closed. Announcements will be made over radio stations SUN-FM 89.7 Duncan, CKKQ 100.3 Victoria, and CKWV 102.3 Nanaimo.

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