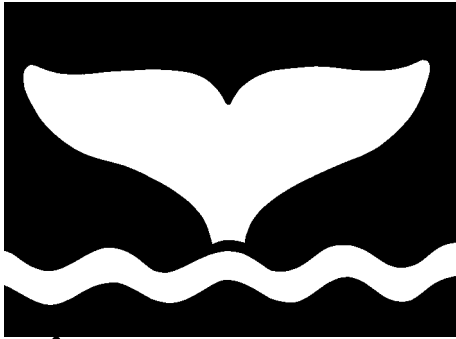


THE WHALE'S TALE



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

February 4, 2008 Vol. 13/No. 5

The Transition to Term Two Questions and Answers

By Marilyn Sandford, Principal

February 4th 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's 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 4th)?

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 4th, the student will be notified.

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. If a student has a lot of work remaining in the course, they may be

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



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. February 4, 2008

Term 2 begins and monthly report card issued with newsletter

Thurs. February 7, 2008

6:30-10:00 p.m. School dance

February 7 and 8, 2008

"A Separate Peace" by Performing Arts students in Kelsey theatre

Mon. February 11, 2008

Grade 12 Local scholarship/bursary presentations in blocks W and X

Wed. February 13, 2008

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

February 13 and 14, 2008

"Oleanna" by Performing Arts students in Kelsey theatre

Sat. February 16, 2008

Grad bottle drive

Tues. February 19, 2008

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

Thurs. February 21, 2008

1:05 District-wide early dismissal

Fri. February 22, 2008

Pro-D Day (school not in session)

Wed. February 27, 2008

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

Mon. March 3, 2008

Second formal report card issued with newsletter

Tues. March 11, 2008

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

rescheduled in a mandatory block with a teacher. As soon as the course is completed the student should see their counsellor to discuss the best options for the remainder of the school year.

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?

A. 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 Liz Gamble, Vice-Principal

During the month of February, the school website (www.fkss.ca) will be open for student access for local scholarships and bursaries. As previously stated, through the generous donations of many groups and organizations, we have approximately \$120,000 available in the form of scholarships and bursaries. These

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awards are available for high achievers as well as trades and practical arts students and individuals who show excellence in service to their community.

Information sessions with the Grade 12's will be held on Monday, February 11th during W and X blocks. All Grade 12's must attend an information session. Any students who miss

this seminar may contact me and make arrangements for help. The awards are listed under the www.fkss.ca website, in the "Grads" tab, and then "Scholarships".

Students should remember that a monthly listing of non-local scholarships (open to all students in British Columbia), is available a t

www.bcawardsonline.sd61.bc.ca/ . I encourage all Grade 12's to look at this award information 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, 2008, are available in the library filing cabinet:

- Credit Union Foundation of BC Education Bursaries (deadlines vary)
- Burger King Scholars Program
- Talk About Canada Scholarship
- BC Government and Service Employees' Union Scholarship Awards
- Simon Fraser University Entrance Awards
- Royal Commonwealth Society Essay Competition
- Elder & Leema Publishers
- Vancouver Film School
- University of Alberta Scholastic Distinction Scholarship and Entrance Leadership Award Competition
- RE/MAX Quest for Excellence Bursary
- The Leonard Foundation
- Malaspina University-College Accessing Targeted Awards & Entrance Scholarships
- The Miller Thomson Foundation
- BC School Superintendents Association
- University of Victoria Entrance Scholarships
- Victoria Diocesan Catholic Women's League Bursary
- The Girl Guides of Canada Scholarship



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



We are well underway with fundraising events and the decorating committee is going ahead full throttle. The Grads are going to love this event!! Any parent who has not yet been able to attend is welcome to come to our monthly meetings. The more the merrier!

Christmas is over and look at all

Dry Grad

that stuff you don't need! It just so happens we want your leftovers for the Dry Grad Garage Sale coming up in April. Please don't throw it out - just give Linda O'Neil a call at 743-7866.

In March the Mill Bay Liquor Store will be asking for a \$1 donation for Dry Grad and perhaps handing out chocolate.

We have certificates from Country Grocer and Smile Cards from Thrifty Foods still available. Every time you use one, they'll donate a percentage back to our Dry Grad

2007-2008 DRY GRAD MEETING

Tuesday, February 19
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library
Everyone welcome

fund. It costs you nothing! Call Sandy Kadar at 743-0380.

Next meeting is on Tuesday, February 19th at 7:00 p.m. in the Kelsey library.

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.

Gourmet A la Carte Luncheons



Enjoy the journey.

at The 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

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.

FKPAC

Please come and join us at our next meeting on Wednesday, February 13 7:00 p.m. in the Kelsey library

Get Hungry for Change!

The 30-hour famine is going to take place on Friday and Saturday, April 11-12. Students who sign up to take part will "get hungry for change" and money raised from this event will help

those people who are in need all over the world. If you are interested in raising money and becoming involved, please attend the Global Issues Club meetings on Wednesday or find Mrs. Smith

and she can answer your questions. Space is limited and fills quickly, so don't delay.

Exeunt Stage Left

By Judy MacLeod, Teacher

I always thought that I would dance out the door behind a marching band, not just limp away into the sunset. Although I will miss everyone terribly, I am ready to go. You will find me in the pool doing aquasize or possibly running (walking) around Chesterfield Track, but just like Mr. MacLeod, I will be back to visit.

Kelsey has been a part of my family since the school was a germ of an idea. I could paper the walls with early blueprints for the building, and I can still remember the excited phone calls from the offices of Fred Dalla-Lana, the architect, with the sounds of the Molson Indy roaring in the background. I remember the ground breaking ceremony and meeting Dr. Kelsey who had just been white water rafting and then hurt her back fishing in Cowichan Bay. I remember our pride when we officially opened Frances Kelsey Secondary, and our horror when some parents terrorized us.

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It has taken me a long time to forgive the local media who printed fiction for fact. I share a special affinity with the original staff and students. Our first yearbook was called "You Had to be There," and you did to even begin to understand the bond that was created after our tumultuous beginning.

"The opportunity to spend my last teaching years in Dance is a dream come true."

My girls also decided to attend Kelsey and like most students who bought into the Kelsey philosophy, my daughters thrived. Kate is now working on her Masters in Counselling Psychology and Liz will receive her Bachelor of Science in Nursing in September. They both remember their years at Kelsey fondly: the sports they played,

the teams they managed, the musicals they performed in, the dedication of their teachers and the loyalty of their friends.

I came to Kelsey on a volunteer basis to choreograph "Leader of the Pack" in the spring of 1995. I then was a Teacher-On-Call for Dr. Hargreaves in English. In September 1996, I was given a .4 appointment in Learning Assistance and one Dance class. Next, I became Mrs. Munday for a few weeks and then was assigned the Poetry section of English 10 for a few years. I have been on the Performing Arts team from the beginning. Mr. Carr and I have been together for 24 major productions. Eventually the Dance program blossomed into a full time teaching position.

In my 'first life' I was a Phys. Ed teacher. I started at Coquihalla Elementary in Hope in 1968 with a Grade 3 Home Room and Primary Phys. Ed. In the summer of '69 I took up skydiving and broke my leg on my first jump. I went to job interviews in a cast;

didn't get a job, so went back to SFU and did a research semester at Jericho Hill School for the Deaf and Blind. In January of 1970, I went to Cow High to replace the P.E. teacher who was going on maternity leave. She never returned, and so for the next ten years, there I stayed. My passion was Track and Field. In 1972/73 I received my International Judging certification and spent all my spare time either judging or coaching until 1984. From 1980-90 I was a stay-at-home Mom.

My avocation has always been in the Arts, specifically choir, dance

and musical theatre. The opportunity to spend my last teaching years in Dance is a dream come true. Every small accomplishment and boost of confidence gained by the dancers is like a race won for me. Every moment gives me pleasure. That goes double for On Stage/ Performing Arts. To see a group of students come together to work hard and enjoy a production, and to learn that each one of them is important "no matter how small", is most rewarding.

I am surrounded by former students: Mr. Faught, Mr. Loutet

(now retired), Mr. B. Johnson, Mr. Jackson, Mrs. MacKay, Ms Dayton, Mrs. Melnyk, Mrs. Bonner, Mr. Garriock and Mrs. Gamble. On "Meet the Creature" nights I am often greeted by "Oh, it's Miss Henrichsen." I think it is time I hightailed it before I start seeing grandchildren of my first students!

As I said on the program of my very last dance show: "It has been a wonderful journey. Thank you to all who, at some time, have been my travel companions."

Hey old friend, let's look back
 On the crazy clothes we wore
 Ain't it fun to look back
 And to see it's all been done before
 All those nights together
 Are a special memory
 And I can't wait for tomorrow
 Just as long as you're dancing next to me
 'Cause it's so clear, every year we get stronger
 What's gone is gone, the past is the past
 Turn the radio up and then hit the gas
 'Cause
 I know we've come so far
 But we've got so far to go
 I know the road seems long
 But it won't be long 'till it's time to go.

Literacy's the Word!

*42% of Canadian adults,
 aged 16-65, lack the
 literacy skills to succeed
 in today's 'knowledge
 economy'
 - Statistics Canada*

*Help develop a
 community-based
 literacy plan
 for residents of all ages
 in the Cowichan Region*

**READ WRITE COUNT UNDERSTAND COMMUNICATE
 MAKE AN IMPACT!**

**Please drop in at our Open House
 and help shape our Plan**

**Monday, February 18 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Hiiye'yu Lelum House of
 Friendship Youth Centre (Sun Valley Mall, #107-5462 TCH, Duncan)**

Sponsored by Literacy Now Cowichan, with financial support from BC 2010 Legacies Now
 For more information, contact Bernie Jones at literacynowcowichan@shaw.ca

