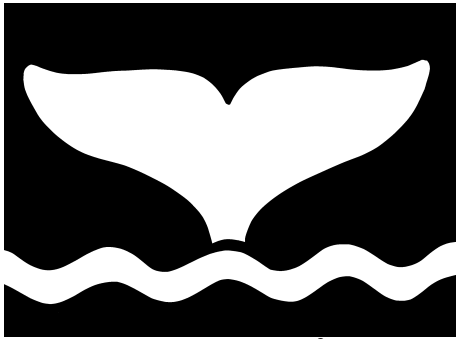


THE WHALE'S TALE



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

November 3, 2008 Vol. 14/No 2

Red Cross Club

By Donna-Lynn Thompson, Teacher-Sponsor

In late September, the Red Cross Club challenged all of the advisor groups to support the Mill Bay Food Bank with a Thanksgiving Day food drive. A chart was on display and each advisor group received a paper shopping bag to fill. This visual provided the school community an understanding of the need and instilled a spirit to help less fortunate individuals.

The Mill Bay Food Bank provides food for approximately 350 people in the community. Numbers include 200 children, up to the age of 18, and at least 70 senior citizens.

By October 10th, the PE basket was filled to the top. It was a pleasure to see the generosity that was provided. Two members of the Mill Bay Food Bank came to pick up the food. The Red Cross would like to thank all of the students and staff for their generosity. Commendations

were given to Mr. Abbott's advisor group and to Mrs. Munday's advisor group for most donations.

Future Red Cross Club activities include shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, a Christmas food drive and raising funds to support Joseph Onaga Oyoko from Kenya with the Foster Parents Plan. All of the students are willing to volunteer time to benefit those in need. Presently, a group of 5 students is involved in club activities. We look forward to new members. Please consider joining and volunteering with the Red Cross Club this school year. The meetings are Tuesdays, at 11:15 in room 132. Members are Caitlin Millwater, Tonia Hill, Desiree LeCarte, Warren Spencer, Martin Riedel, Julian Plaumann and E.A. Mrs. Niziol.



Photo by Mr. Hall

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



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. November 3, 2008

Formal report card issued with newsletter
7:00 p.m. Dry Grad parents meeting in library

Thurs. November 6, 2008

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

Mon. November 10, 2008

Day in lieu - no classes

Tues. November 11, 2008

Remembrance Day - no classes

Wed. November 12, 2008

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

November 12-13, 2008

Provincial Exams

Fri. November 14, 2008

Last day to buy Yearbooks

Mon. November 24, 2008

College/University and Career Day for all students in morning
Balance Day in afternoon

Wed. November 26, 2008

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

Mon. December 1, 2008

Monthly report card issued with newsletter
7:00 p.m. Dry Grad parents meeting in library

Wed. December 10, 2008

7:00 p.m. PAC meeting in library

Fri. December 19, 2008

Last day of classes before Christmas Break

Scholarships and Bursaries

By Mike Martin, Vice-Principal

In October, Grade 12 students attended a Scholarship and Bursary Information Session. Grade 12's should now be preparing academic resumes, cover letters, and applications for scholarships and bursaries which are open to students throughout BC and Canada. Student examples are available in the scholarship filing cabinet found in the library. Students should be aware that academic resumes are different from employment resumes. Graduates presenting high quality packages are often very successful in acquiring post secondary funding; therefore, students requiring help should seek assistance 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 pro-

gramme 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;

- requesting reference letters.

Applications now available

Vancouver Island University, BCIT, and most Vancouver College applications are available. 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.educationplanner.bc.ca, www.careercruising.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. Martin. Further websites can be found through the Library Homepage.

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

- Wendy's Classic Achiever Scholarships
- Millennium Scholarships
- University of Alberta Academic Excellence Scholarships
- BC Institute of Technology Entrance Awards



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PAC
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By CJ Kubica, President
FKPAC

Election of School Board Trustees
will take place on November 15th.

The PAC would like to encourage everyone to vote. The District Parent Advisory Council will be sponsoring an All Candidates Meeting for school trustee hopefuls on Monday, November 3rd, at 6:30 p.m. at Quamichan Middle School.

Once again, PAC will be sponsoring Balance Day on November 24th. This year's theme will be "Thinking Outside Your Box". Anyone interested in helping or wishing to offer a workshop should contact Ms. Sworder at the school Career

FKPAC

Please come and join us at
our next meeting on
Wednesday, November 12
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library

Centre (local 236).

Our next PAC meeting will be on Wednesday, November 12th, at 7 p.m. in the school library. Please join us at the meeting. We encourage your input and ideas.



Dry Grad 2008-2009

requires a group effort by parents, so please join the committee to make Dry Grad 2009 a wonderful memory for our Grade 12's.

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, great prizes and memories which last forever.

If you have a child graduating this year, come out to our monthly meetings and find out about the exciting plans that are underway for this coming year's event. You can help celebrate their achievement. This event

We have some fundraising activities planned, one of which was the Firewood Sale held on October 25th & 26th. Thank you to all the grads and parents who came out to support the firewood sale. With your help, we raised over \$6,500. Also, a special thanks to Timberwest, Tools 2 Go and Mill Bay Power Products for all their generous support, as well as thanks to the Dry Grad executive committee for its hard work. We have grocery certificates available from Country Grocer and Smile

cards from Thrifty Foods. Every time you use one, the store will donate a percentage back in cash to our Dry Grad fund. Sounds easy and doesn't cost anything!

Our next meeting will be Monday, November 3rd at 7:00 p.m. in the Kelsey library. All parents of Grads are welcome, so bring a friend and your ideas! Meetings are over by 8:00 p.m.

**2008-2009 DRY
GRAD MEETING**

Monday, November 3
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library
Everyone welcome
For more information
call 743-9440

Start the Year Off With Kelsey Gear!

What's Kelsey Gear? The Business Education program sells hoodies, sweat pants and sweat shirts with the school name and logo! See the display in the office windows! Orders can be placed in room 229, the main office or by calling the school at (250) 743-6916 local 309. A perfect Christmas present!

Name: _____ Advisor # _____ Date: _____

Hood with Kelsey:	White	Navy	S	M	L	XL	XXL	\$37.00
Zipper hood with logo:	White	Navy	S	M	L	XL	XXL	\$40.00
Crew neck with logo:	White	Navy	S	M	L	XL	XXL	\$36.00
Navy pants with Kelsey on butt:			S	M	L	XL	XXL	\$33.00

Our Annual Terry Fox Run

By Carla Peltier and Neelam Doman, Teachers

On Thursday, September 25, 2008, Frances Kelsey Secondary School participated in the annual Terry Fox Run. It was wonderful to see everyone walk or run the route, and enjoy hot dogs and pizza for lunch (all proceeds were donated to the Terry Fox Foundation) while listening to the live band (consisting of Mr. Mark

Buchanan, Taylor Filgate, Taylor Pears, Janelle Gicas, Brooke Anderson, Adam Buchanan, Ian Haig, and Kale Howe). The special guest speaker, Ms. Alana Baker, a Frances Kelsey English teacher, delivered a heartfelt, inspiring speech sharing some personal stories of her battle with cancer. Thanks are extended to the following: Ms. Alana Baker, Mr. Mark Buchanan, Mrs. Helen Butcher, Mrs. Bonnie Williams,

Mrs. Deb Melnyk, Mr. Greg Price, Mill Bay Fire Department, Shawnigan Lake RCMP, Shawnigan Lake Fire Department, the Culinary Arts Program, PAC, Aitken and Fraser Administration, and the Frances Kelsey Secondary School staff and students. We raised \$1,795.01 for the Terry Fox Foundation. Congratulations to the Leadership 2008-2009 class for organizing this event. It was such a success!

Have You Ordered Your Yearbook?

A reminder that yearbook sales this year are all presales and will not be available at the end of the year. They can be purchased at lunchtime until November 14th.

If All You Had Was a Backpack, What Would You Put In It?

By Brooke Anderson, Student, and District Student Advisory Council Chair for Cowichan Valley School District 79

Do you know that there are kids our age in our school district who are basically homeless? There are kids who don't have the comfort of waking up in the morning in a warm bed, showering, and having breakfast before going to school. Wherever these kids wake up in the morning, they have to prepare for their day with whatever they have at hand, whereas for most privileged teenagers, the morning priority is personal hygiene – the premise is 'if you look good and you feel better, you can accomplish more'.

Over 25 students in School District 79 – our school district – do not have a place to sleep at night. This may seem to be a surprisingly large number, but it doesn't even include other teenagers and kids in our district who just need a little extra help

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just to get by.

School District 79 is asking the students of Kelsey to participate in the third annual DSAC (District Student Advisory Council) Backpack Project. We are asking you to help other kids in the Cowichan Valley with donations of clothing, toiletries and backpacks. The goal for DSAC is to have 60 backpacks stuffed with an entire outfit of warm clothing, plus toiletries and anything else we can fit into the backpacks by December 1st. The backpacks will then be delivered to Cowichan's Canadian Mental Health branch, where they will be distributed to any kids in need.

Please donate clean, used clothes in good condition, backpacks, blankets, and small shampoos/conditioners/soaps and other toiletries in complementary hotel sizes, as well as toothbrushes and toothpaste and any other items you might find useful if

you were a homeless teenager.

These kids need help. Who better to help them than us?

Backpack Project List:

- Packaged toothbrush and toothpaste
- Travel sized shampoo and conditioner
- Blankets
- Water bottle
- Poncho/rain jacket
- Mitts/scarves/warm clothes/jackets
- Footwear/socks
- Hand toiletries
- Hand sanitizer
- Kleenex

There will be a box set up in the dome for donations. The deadline for donations is November 28th. Please do what you can.



Career Centre News

Career Planning

CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES EVENTS – November 11

6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Shawnigan Lake School for all students in our area. Meet and talk with representatives from over 35 universities from across Canada.

POST SECONDARY LIAISON VISITS AT FKSS –

Monday, November 24 (Info sessions are for current Grade 11 & 12 students)

GRADE 12 DAY AT VANCOUVER ISLAND UNIVERSITY

(*Malaspina*) – November 27 – Students may sign up for this interactive and informative day in the Career Centre

VANCOUVER ISLAND CAREER FAIR – December 4 –

Grade 11 students may sign up in the Career Centre. Details of the event are posted at www.educationcareerfairs.com

NATIONAL PORTFOLIO DAY at Emily Carr University of

Art & Design – Saturday, December 6, 2008. Any student may take their portfolio in for critiquing. No appointment necessary.

POLICE CAMP 2009 – April 11-18, 2009

Camp applications available to students who sign up for and attend the spotlight session on November 3, 2008. Grade 10, 11, and 12 students may apply.



Work Experience 12 – 4 credits

Placements are currently being sought for Grade 11 and 12 students wanting **experience in their Focus Area:** Business & Applied Business, Fine Arts Design & Media, Fitness & Recreation, Health & Human Services, Liberal Arts & Humanities, Science & Applied Sciences, Tourism Hospitality & Foods, Trades & Technology.

Apprenticeships:

Has your student been working in one of the more than 100 recognized apprenticeship jobs? He/she may qualify to be a Secondary School Apprenticeship (SSA) student and be given 16 credits towards his/her graduation – students may make an appointment to speak to Mrs. Munday in the Career Centre.

Apprenticeship Training:

Students can start their apprenticeship training before they graduate and get credit towards graduation and Level one certification. Examples: Welding, Cooking, Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, and Sheet Metal.

Students may make an appointment to speak to Mrs. Munday in the Career Centre

Student Work Experience & Job Opportunities

Volunteer to help at the Cobble Hill Remembrance Day service: Set up and clean up. Students may sign up in the Career Centre.



SWEAT 2009 (Structured Work Experience and Training) March 16-19/09 Mini courses in:

- Animation
- Culinary Arts
- Electronic Music
- Interior Design
- Visual Effects
- 3D Modelling
- Digital Film & Video
- Event Planning
- Recording Arts
- Fashion
- Game Production
- Graphic Design
- Interactive Web Design

**Applications due:
December 15, 2008**

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: 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.

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. In the event of a power failure during school hours, the Superintendent may close the school and request buses take students home early.

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.

News from the Library

By Sue Emblem, Teacher-Librarian

As mentioned in last month's *Whale's Tale*, we have begun our focus on the "Word of the Day". The first competition was held in our Block W extended advisor time on Monday, November 3rd. Prizes were awarded to two lucky students who correctly spelled one of the words featured during October. Keep checking the library window each day for a chance to win next month's contest!

The Stellar Book Club will be starting soon. Watch for dates and times in the *Daily Newsbreaker*.

We have a wonderful selection of books by Canadian authors. I am pleased to see our library circulation rates high and am encouraged by the number of readers.

Remember, books make great birthday and Christmas presents.



Homestays Needed

The Cowichan Valley School District International Student Program needs individuals and families to host students in their homes. International students attend secondary, middle and elementary schools in the Cowichan Valley. We have both short-term and long-term students.

Host families receive the rewarding experience of hosting a student from another country, the opportunity to learn about another culture, and monthly remuneration.

Host families provide parenting, caring, support, and guidance; a private bedroom; meals, transportation, and basic necessities; and a Canadian cultural experience.

Host family requirements: criminal records checks, personal reference letters, and a successful home interview.

For further information, please contact Louise Thauvette, Homestay Manager, Cowichan Valley School District #79 International Student Program at (250) 701-0494.

Youth Action Crew

Get your voices heard, and put your ideas into action! This is a **FREE** program for youth aged 12 to 18 years who want to work towards planning, organizing, and hosting a movie night,

recreational activity or a special event for themselves and their peers in the Cowichan Valley. Tuesdays til December 16 from 3:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Meet upstairs in the Island Savings

Centre Social Lounge. For more information on this event and many other opportunities for youth, call Leah at (250) 746-0420 or (250) 709-1564.

Gourmet Table d'Hote Luncheons



at the Frances Kelsey Dining Room
Wednesday - 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 Vancouver Island University'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