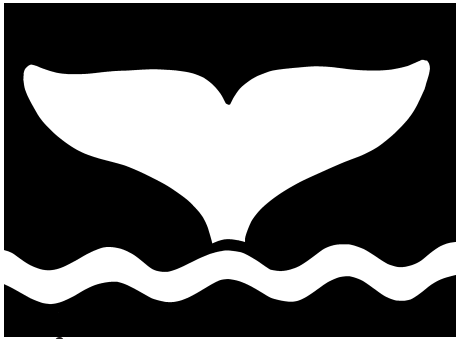


THE WHALE'S TALE



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

March 1, 2010 Vol. 15/No 6

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

By Mary Kirchner, Counsellor

Well, here we go again! It's almost time for course selection for the 2010/2011 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 Graduation Program which is well-explained in our course selection booklet. The course selection booklet can be accessed on the Kelsey website.

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 college (i.e. Camosun) 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 which is 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. Students may also like to research Post Secondary options through www.educationplanner.bc.ca

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



Kelsey Calendar

Mon. March 1, 2010

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

Wed. March 3, 2010

7:00 p.m. - PAC meeting in library

Thurs. March 4, 2010

1:30-4:30 & 6:00-8:00 p.m. Parent/Teacher Conferences

March 8-19, 2010

Spring Break

Mon. March 22, 2010

Classes resume (Day 1)

Fri. March 26, 2010

Grade 12 Local Scholarship and Bursary application deadline

March 31, April 1, 2, 3, 7, 8 & 9

School Play *Reserve Two for Murder*

Fri. April 2, 2010

Good Friday (school not in session)

Mon. April 5, 2010

Easter Monday (school not in session)

Tues. April 6, 2010

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

Wed. April 14, 2010

7:00 p.m. - PAC meeting in library

April 15 & 16, 2010

Provincial Exams

Mon. April 19, 2010

Term 2 Mid Point

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

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 they are selecting their courses. A good rule of thumb is to choose those courses that are in the student's area of interest. Researching and finding out as much as possible about the various programs available before enrolling 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. Marks are also important in considering university entrance and students must take this fact into account.

For Bonner students coming to Kelsey, we provide an excellent transition program. Students and parents have the opportunity to attend an evening presentation in early April.

Included is a general introduction by teacher advisors, followed by tours of the school with the help of peer counsellors. 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.

Administrators, counsellors and peer-counsellors will visit Bonner's Grade 8 classes in April, and finally, Bonner students and their Grade 8 teachers will spend a morning in May experiencing "A Morning in the Life of a Kelsey Student".

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

Contact the Counselling office at (250)743-6916, extension 230, for further information.

Hello Parents

By Marilyn Sandford, Principal

1. The March formal report cards are being issued on Monday, March 1st, but will not include the January Provincial Exam results. The Ministry of Education will release Exam results on March 5, 2010 and will be available through www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams. Results may be accessed on line, through your son's or daughter's counsellor, or through one of the administrators. The Progress reports for April will include the

calculated final mark for provincially examinable courses.

2. Parent-Teacher interviews are Thursday, March 4th. Interviews are set for 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. and from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. If you wish to sign up for appointments in advance, please return the appointment form included with the report card. Parents are reminded to sign the agenda book indicating they have seen the report card.



3. If you are unable to attend the Parent-Teacher interviews, please contact the advisor or subject teacher if you have a concern. Telephone extension numbers and emails are on pages i and ii of the agenda book.

Our New Staff

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

Mr. Aaron Gillatly - English 9, Planning 10; Mr. George Heyd - Science 10, Physics 11

As well, we extend our best wishes to Mrs. Heddy Braunwarth upon her recent retirement.

Scholarships and Bursaries

By Mike Martin, Vice-Principal

Are you planning to attend UBC, UVIC, Simon Fraser University, Camosun College or Vancouver Island University next year? Please see your counsellor as soon as possible. Applications are being accepted **now**. Don't wait!

At this time, all Grade 12's should have attended one of the workshop seminars on Resumes/Scholarships/Bursaries. **Students at Kelsey have access to up to \$120,000 of scholarships and bursaries offered from our community.** These workshops covered all these local scholarships and bursaries.

Students can access the scholarships/bursaries any time at www.fkss.ca on the opening page of our website and begin the process of applying for local scholarships and bursaries, all of which are due to Ms. Wheeler in the Counselling Office by March 26th. Students should request their transcripts immediately and they will be available for pickup on March 26th. Students who require Ms. Wheeler to photocopy their package, please note that the photocopy deadline is March 22nd. There will be a considerable queue for this process, so don't leave it until the last minute. There is a \$5.00 fee for photocopying.

Complete details about the procedure may be found in the "Resumes, Scholarships and Bursaries" hand-out which all Grade 12's received at the workshop seminar.

Do you need help? Resume help and assistance with your cover letter is available. See Mr. Martin or Mrs. Munday.

University and college online applications for entrance scholarships should not be put off any longer; do it now.

For more information about any scholarship or bursary, please see Mr. Martin. All dates should be checked at each source's site.

Application forms for the following scholarships and bursaries, which have deadlines in March and April, 2010, are available in the library filing cabinet:

- Dalhousie University
- Garfield Weston Awards
- Kwantlen Polytechnic University
- My Favorite Photo Contest
- Voice for Animals High School Essay
- Fountainhead Essay Contest
- BC Innovation Council Young Innovator Scholarship
- Public Guardian and Trustee of British Columbia
- Vancouver Island University
- BC Amateur Hockey Association
- Coast Capital Savings Education Awards



Haiti Relief Fundraising at Frances Kelsey Secondary School

By Greg Price, Counsellor

Towards the end of January, a number of concerned students representing different clubs in the school came together to discuss how Frances Kelsey staff and students could help earthquake victims in Haiti. Representatives of the Interact Club, the Global Issues Club, Red Cross Club and Student Council decided to launch a two-week fundraising effort that ended February 18th.

Through the generous donation of \$1,000 from a parent of one of the students in our school, \$250 from another and the contributions of students and staff, Frances Kelsey was able to put \$3,250 towards Haiti relief. With the government matching these funds, \$6,500 was put toward the purchase of six shelter boxes for Haiti during the first week of our campaign. For more information on shelter boxes please visit the website www.shelterbox.ca.

During the second week of the campaign, \$1,000 was raised to benefit the Red Cross efforts to help rebuild Haiti. In all, \$7,500 was raised by the Frances Kelsey community to help earthquake victims of Haiti. A hearty and generous thank you to all who participated. Your efforts saved lives.



"The Prom Project" also known as "The Cinderella Project"

By Linda O'Neil, Parent

Every year 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 (250)743-7866 or Principal

Marilyn Sandford at (250)743-6916 anonymously, if they know of a student who is in need of our support.

The project has a great selection of gowns available for loan, access to free tuxedo rentals, as well as reduced hair and makeup services, and a variety of shoes available.

There is one further opportunity for Grad this year! Any young

woman may rent her dress from the "Prom Project" for a nominal fee instead of buying one. Contact Elizabeth at (250)658-0246.

We want to make sure every child has the opportunity to attend Grad festivities with pride and the wonderful sense of accomplishment that he/she deserves.

Thank you,
Linda O'Neil 743-7866

Kelsey Wins Middle Years Math Challenge

By Steve Gergel, Teacher-Sponsor

On Wednesday, February 17th, four students from Frances Kelsey travelled to Mount Prevest Middle School to compete against other schools from School District 79 in this year's Middle Years Math Challenge. The competition consisted of three parts: the Sprint Round, the Pairs Round and the Team Round. In the Sprint Round, the team had to complete 20 questions in 25 minutes on its

own without a calculator. In the Pairs Round, team members worked in pairs to solve eight problems in 40 minutes given to them two at a time and calculators were allowed. Finally, in the Team Round, all team members worked as a group to solve a mathematical puzzle. Kelsey's team of Tylynn Haddow, Darby Fischer, Brodie Dayton-Mills and David Whitney-Brown were well-prepared for this competition

and our team had an outstanding day. Kelsey won top Grade 9 team and top team overall, repeating as champions from last year and winning the overall championship for the third time in the last four years. Tylynn Haddow also won the top Grade 9 individual student award. Congratulations to our team on a fantastic result and to Tylynn on her individual award. You all should be very proud of what you have accomplished. Well done, Kelsey!

Update on Josh Balfour

By Alex Dawes, Student

On January 16th a donor heart became available for Josh and he underwent surgery that same day. The heart transplant was a success and little Josh has made an incredible recovery. He has astounded his doctors and nurses and just ten days after the surgery, his dad purchased a two-wheel bike which he rode out of the hospital on his first day-pass. Although his recovery was expected to take over three months, Josh managed to bounce back in one month's time. This little boy is coming home this

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Saturday, February 20th, to Mill Bay to be with his family. Although Josh will be on anti-rejection drugs the rest of his life, he will be able to go to school, play sports and lead a normal life. I would like to say thanks to Frances Kelsey students who

have helped raise money for Josh and his family. With the help of the Grade 11/12 Peer Counselling class, we made approximately \$1000 through the bake sale and hot dog sale at Thrifty Foods. Thank you to everyone who has taken part in raising these funds.

2009-2010 DRY GRAD MEETING

Monday, March 1
7:00 p.m. in the Kelsey library
Everyone welcome - For more
information call (250)743-4044

FKPAC

Please come and join us at
our next meeting on
Wednesday, March 3
7:00 p.m. in the
Kelsey library

Kelsey Students Now Adoptive Parents of a Polar Bear!

By Jasmin Gabriel and Jenna Askey, Students

Viewing multiple clips in the media about the plight of polar bears opened our eyes to the severe repercussions of climate change. After talking to fellow members of Students of Sustainability, we started the "Kelsey Polar Bear Campaign". Our initial fund-raiser was a bake sale and we raised enough money to adopt a polar bear. Kelsey students are now proud adoptive parents of "Francey". Francey can be tracked online and information about the polar bear can be viewed in the library display case.

Another animal we have been studying is the Vancouver Island Marmot. Mr. Zeeman's presentation about marmots was most informative. We are now going to be raising money to adopt a marmot!

The S.O.S members have recently started a school-wide recycling

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campaign in an attempt to eliminate the amount of plastic and tin going into the garbage. We have put up several recycling bins around the school. So far, students and staff have not made use of them, and we would like to see more support by the student body.

We recently attended a BC Hydro Energy Ambassadors workshop. We are planning to take part in the program, but are in need of potential members. If you are interested in promoting and learning about sustainability, come join us on Thursdays at lunch in Room 212. New members are always welcome! Thanks to our sponsor teachers, Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Higbie and Mr. Hart who have empowered us to be proactive.



STUDY
cowichan

International Student Program

Short-Term Homestay Opportunity

THAI Students

**6 weeks
April to
May**

**Attending
George
Bonner
or
Frances
Kelsey**

**DON'T
MISS OUT**

For more information on Hosting a Student from Thailand, visit our website at:

www.sd79.bc.ca/programs/international/

Or Call our Homestay Manager:

Louise Thauvette at 250-746-0744 asap

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.

Career Centre News

Spring Break Activities

- **Campus Tours:** a great time to see how you like the “atmosphere” for Grade 11 and 12’s
 - **UVIC Spring Break Campus Tours:**
Visit www.uvic.ca/tours
 - **UBC Vancouver & Okanagan**
 - **SFU**

NEW FROM THE CAREER CENTRE!

DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENCE (DND ESQUIMALT) SSA PROGRAM

DND is now offering students the opportunity to start their apprenticeship jobs. Starting this summer, students can apply for the following positions:

Sheet Metal Worker	Welder
Painter	Electroplater
Lagger	Rigger/Sailmaker
Machinists/Diesel Fitters	Electrical/Weapons

Applications due March 31. See the Career Centre for details and applications before this date

ENCOUNTERS WITH CANADA Grade 10-12 students.

Are you interested in a career with the RCMP? Want to study Sports & Fitness? For information on these sessions and many more, see the Career Centre. \$100 subsidy available!



WATERLOO UNLIMITED GRADE 10 PROGRAM MAY 16-21

See program details at

www.unlimited.uwaterloo.ca Travel grants are available



WORK EXPERIENCE NEWS

Thank you to the following businesses for supporting our work experience program:

Coleman, Fraser, Parcels; Discovery Elementary School; and Reitman’s

Apprenticeship jobs wanted! We have students who would like to start their apprenticeship through work based training or who have finished their technical training and are now looking for employment. If you are interested in having an apprenticeship student, please contact Mrs. Munday.

Thank you!

What are you doing this summer?

1. Grade 11 Internship Medical Experience:



- **HEART & STROKE FOUNDATION OF BC** cardiovascular research summer internship.
Application deadline: April 16, 2010.

2. Gain university credit and get a taste of life at UVic! Grades 10, 11 and 12

See www.uvic.ca/summeru for details.

LOOKING FOR WORK?

Posted on the Job Board in the Career Centre:

- **CVRD Summer Student Job Opportunities**
- **B. Dinter Nursery Ltd.**



TO THE FOLLOWING STUDENTS for being accepted to the Ace-IT program (Level 1 Technical Training for their apprenticeship). Each student will receive high school credits for participating in this program:

- **Wes Morris** – Electrical (28 credits)
- **Steven Best and Jared Mabbott** – Welding (32 credits)
- **Matthew McCunnie** – Carpentry (28 credits)
- **Nikola Kneen, Shane Reis, Spencer Rooke, Justin Walker, Taylor Gislason and Kevin Hilton** – Cooking (16 credits)
- **Brandon Vaughan** – Automotive (36 credits)
- **Ava Pesti and Kecia Bremner** – Resident Care Attendant (24 credits)

Gourmet Table d'Hote Dinners



at the Frances Kelsey Dining Room
Tuesday - Thursday 5:00 - 7:30 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 required - call (250)743-0548 or email reservations@viu.ca