

BEAR BRIEF

January 2012



Principal's Message

Welcome back everyone. We hope that you had a restful holiday and a chance to enjoy time with family and friends. The New Year brings with it final exams and the end of semester one. Please take some time to review the in-class and Provincial Exam schedules set for the end of January. With the cancellation of the Optional Provincial Examinations the Ministry of Education has adjusted the dates/times for the English 10, Foundations of Math & Pre-Calculus 10, A&W Math 10, Science 10, Social Studies 11, BC First Nations Studies 12, Communications 12 and English 12. The schedule that was published in the Parent Calendar has changed – please see the **new dates/ times** on page 1 of this newsletter.

As the \$1000 Provincial Exam Scholarship Program is now tied to the results that students earn on their mandatory exams, we encourage all students to attempt the electronic **practice tests** and have them evaluated online. The website can be accessed at - <https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/search/>

Semester Two begins January 30. You can expect a final Report Card for Semester One (mid-year for linear courses) to come home Monday, February 6th. This is a good time to revisit personal commitments and to set New Year resolutions for a successful final semester. Thank you to our staff and parents for supporting our students through the demanding month ahead.

Mr. John Simonson, Principal

JANUARY 23 TO 27, 2012 MBSS EXAM SCHEDULE:

Day	AM or PM	Exam	Location
Tuesday 24th	9:00 – 11:00	Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus 10	Gym
	9:00 – 11:00	Apprenticeship and Workplace math 10	Gym
Wednesday 25th	9:00 – 11:00	English 10	Gym
	9:00 – 11:00	First Nations 12	Library Computer lab
	1:00 – 3:00	Social Studies 11	Gym
Thursday 26th	9:00 – 11:00	English 12	Gym
	1:00 – 3:00	Science 10	Gym
	1:00 – 3:00	Communications 12	Gym

MBSS's ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Principal:

Mr. John Simonson, Ext. 5225, Email: jsimonso@sd23.bc.ca

Vice Principals:

Mrs. Linda Ross, Last Names A-G

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MBSS COUNSELLORS

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IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

DATES TO REMEMBER: January 2012

- 3 **SCHOOL REOPENS TODAY!**
- 3-6 Last round of Grad photos will be taken this week.
- 9 Lifetouch Grad photo order assistance available at MBSS Library, 4:30 to 6:30 pm.
- 12 Arts for Equador Evening at MBSS - 7:00 pm.
- 13 Grad fees due in total by today.
- 16 PAC Meeting held tonight, 6:30 pm.
- 16 Parent Ambassador Training Meeting held tonight, 7:00 pm in the MPR.
- 17 COBSS online applications close at 12:00 pm/midnight.
- 18 COBSS Applications DUE to the Counselling Centre by 9:00 am.
- 18 Fine Arts Night held this evening in the MPR, beginning at 7:00 pm.
- 18 Deadline for RCMP Camp application forms.
- 20 Term 2 and Semester 1 ends today.
- 20 Term 2 DPA (Daily Physical Activity) forms due to the Career Centre today.
- 20 Textbooks due to the Library today.
- 24 Provincial Exams held today: **9:00 to 11:00 am: Foundations of Math and Pre-Calculus 10**
9:00 to 11:00 am: Apprenticeship and Workplace Math 10
- 25 Provincial Exams held today: **9:00 to 11:00 am: English 10**
9:00 to 11:00 am: First Nations 12
1:00 to 3:00 pm: Social Studies 11
- 26 Provincial Exams held today: **9:00 to 11:00 am: English 12**
1:00 to 3:00 pm: Science 10
1:00 to 3:00 pm: Communications 12
- 30 Term 3 & Semester 2 begins today.



Welcome Back!



PARENT AMBASSADOR MEETING

The next Parent Ambassador meeting is scheduled for **Monday, January 16th** at **7:00 pm** in the MPR.

DEALING WITH DIFFICULT ISSUES

There are many difficult issues that parents and families have to face regarding drug and alcohol use. One of the hardest things to deal with as children grow older is the weekend party scene. Here are some tips that may help you-

Hosting the Party

Talk with your teenager about the party. Consider activities for the party (special theme, occasion), what food and drinks will be served. Prior to the party determine the ground rules. These might include time span, no leaving and returning, invitation only.

You should keep in mind that you are legally responsible for anything that happens to a young person who has been served alcohol or other drugs in your home. You must decide what you will do if young people are using in your home.

Attending a Party

Check the party out before you give your consent for your child to go. Know who is going, how they are getting there and back, what time the party finishes. If you don't know the host parents, give them a call or introduce yourself as you drop off your child. Ask them about their plans for the party including the use of alcohol and other drugs. Consider providing your child with money or a taxi voucher for emergency situations.



MBSS CAREER PROGRAMS



Our Grade 12 Graduation transition interviews (MAP) were held on December 8th and proved to be a great success! Thank you to our MBS staff and our community members for their time and support. MBS students did an excellent job preparing for their interviews. Good luck to our graduating students with their future plans.

Dragon's Den Competition

Do you have what it takes? **Deadline is January 24th** to register a team of one to five students in this young entrepreneurship competition. Students can come up with a service or product to successfully market through this program. Students must accomplish three separate challenges from February to May in order to make it to the final trade show where their idea will be judged by local "Dragon" judges. This competition offers students opportunity to gain invaluable business advice and experience. Any interested students can sign up in the Career Center or contact Ms. Kirk.

If students don't already have an exact business or service idea, that's okay. Ideas can be finalized after sign up!



MBSS ATHLETICS



CONGRATULATIONS to the Mt. Boucherie Sr. Boys Volleyball on another successful season. The Sr. Boys wrapped up the season with a 7th place finish at Provincials.

In a year where many considered Mt. Boucherie to be in a rebuilding state the boys began the year ranked outside the Top 10, this did not last long. In the opening tournament of the season the boys knocked off the 4th ranked Penticton Lakers in the semi-finals only to lose a close final to the #5 ranked Kelowna Owls. This tournament showed the province that the Bears were certainly not rebuilding. The team went on to be ranked as high as #5 in the province with some very impressive finishes at the Best of the West tournament (2nd place) and the George Elliot Invitational (4th place).

The team was led by Team BC and future Trinity Western Spartan Scott Plocktis who was named to the all-star team of every tournament we entered finishing with a 1st Team selection at the Provincials. Connor Oughtred, Derek Zwaagstra and Cole Mullen also received all-star awards at different times of the year.

The remaining members of the team are: Jon McNulty, Tomas Lammers, Jeremy Flett, Erik (Dwayne) Wannop, Peter Briker.

Special appearances by Reid Lobson, Adam Kern, Cole Hanson and Joel Mclellan.

MBSS ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB

The MBSS Environmental Club is up and running and very excited about logging all the environmental projects currently going on in the school and initiating new and needed projects towards achieving the Green School Award this year. All students and staff are asked to drop off suggestions for activities to the box in the Career Centre.



This month's projects are recognized for:

1. The Global Village store for providing fair trade organic coffee and biodegradable cups
2. Bottle and Can recycling
3. Mr Hurd's metal class for metal recycling

Each project will be recognized by holding the Green School Trophy for a designated time.

Check the bulletin board by the Bear Cave to check the progress towards 100 projects.

For students who wish to join the Club, meetings are on Fridays at lunch in Room 155B.

CONGRATULATIONS

... to **KAREN METZ** - Grade 11 MBSS student who won first prize in the Canadian Legion Remembrance Day Essay Writing Contest. Karen's essay will now be submitted in the Zone competition.



LIBRARY NEWS

Would those students who have overdue library books please return them to the library! Beginning January 5th, 2012, overdue notices and bills will be sent home for any outstanding books which have **not** been returned to the library.

ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER: What Parents Need to Know

You're Invited
to a presentation by
Dr. Don Duncan, Child Psychiatrist and Scott Jacobsen, ADHD Clinic Nurse
Child and Youth Mental Health
being held at Hudson Road Elementary School
1221 Hudson Road

on Thursday, January 19, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.

ADHD is a commonly diagnosed, yet frequently misunderstood disorder. One of the biggest challenges a parent can face is advocating for their child. This presentation is intended to help parents understand ADHD and common issues that arise through the diagnosis and treatment of ADHD, and provide parents with some information and tools to help with navigating the system.

For further information regarding this presentation contact Daniel Reilly, School Psychologist at 768-5121 extension 280.



MBSS FINE ARTS NIGHT

Wednesday January 18th at 7:00 pm

Come out and support the dance, drama, music and arts programs at MBSS in their Fine Arts Night! The show will be a combination of Dance, Drama, Music and Art.



BOOJANGLES



Welcome to Boojangles . . .

a business operated by the students of Mount Boucherie Secondary School's Resource Program! Boojangles began four years ago as a way to complement the MBSS resource program. Students who are a part of the Resource Room purchase various products in order to create their own jewellery. Their creations are then sold to other schools and part of the money raised is donated to different charities around the world as well as to local families who are in need, especially during the Christmas season!! Students learn various functional skills from operating this exciting business!

Jewellery is available to the public for purchase by contacting Jennifer Macleod at MBSS'S Resource Room: 250-712-7040, extension 5170.



Students Chelsea Williamson and Samantha Taylor busy creating jewellery for Boojangles!



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS AT MBSS

The Leadership 10 class organized the "Adoption" of 28 West Kelowna Families in coordination with the West Kelowna Community Food Bank this month. 28 families - 114 people in total - were supplied with food for Christmas dinner and the holidays as well as Christmas gifts for everyone in the family. Many block 7 classes at MBSS as well as sports teams took up the challenge. Outside groups were also involved, including the JB Swim team, Chief Tomat Elementary, and a group of TOC's and their friends! The Leadership classes also canvassed the neighborhoods collecting donations for the cause.

On Friday, Dec. 9, we filled 3 Food Bank vans with boxes and boxes of food and gifts. It was truly a community event; the generosity of so many teachers, students and families helping those in need in our own community.



Courtney Hannigan & Cam Filewich loading Christmas hampers!



Guitar Building 11 Course

Brand new to Mount Boucherie Secondary this year is the **Guitar Building 11** course. Students from grades 11 and 12 are participating and making their own electric guitars based on a Fender Stratocaster guitar. This course has attracted former woodwork students and students who have never worked in a woodshop before and they all are enjoying success in the design and construction of their own guitars. As you can see in the pictures, students have come up with their own unique designs for guitar bodies and headstocks. We have used many types of woods in the construction of these guitars, including curly maple and mahogany. Students have a choice of finishes that they can use on the guitars as well, from sunburst glossy finishes to hand painted designs, including custom inlays in the body and the neck.

Here is what some of the students have to say about the course:

Connor Young: "This course is incredibly fun and well worth taking. Where else can you go to school and finish your course with an A and an awesome working custom guitar?"

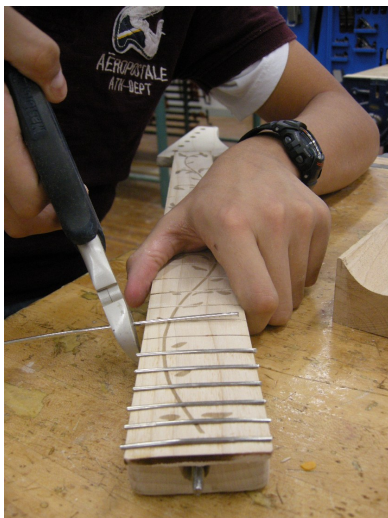
Kolton Kuth: "It is an entertaining learning experience, and you get to make something that you like."

Sarah Zelman: "It takes skill, but it's manageable and rewarding once you overcome the challenges."

Another new project that Mr. Kramer is building is a hollow wooden 10 1/2 foot by two foot stand-up paddleboard for paddling around the lake. Once he has completed it and streamlined the process look for surfboard building as a project in the future!

Guitar Making 11 will be offered again next year!

Keep an eye out for it in the course selection handbook for 2012-2013!



The various stages of guitar building!

GRAD INFO UPDATES:

Grad Photos:

Last round of grad photos have been booked for the first week of school in January. Students should ensure they do **not** miss their session. This will be the last opportunity to have grad photos taken. \$25.00 is due at the time of sitting.

Lifetouch Order Assistance:

Will be held on January 9th and February 6th, 2012 in the MBSS Library, drop in from 4:30 to 6:30 pm.

Photo retakes:

Will take place February 20-22nd. Sign up will be in late January.

Please mark the week of January 9th-13th on your calendar. There will be various Grad related tables set up in the Ian Snow Gymnasium during lunch. Students will be required to pay their grad fees, dry grad fees, complete their grad gown order, complete their Grad intro card, pick up instructions for completing their PSI (Post Secondary Institute) form online for post secondary and more. Students should ensure they are in the Ian Snow Gym at lunch on Monday to view all the tables, and make a note of their responsibilities for this week! Please refer to the MBSS Grad website for more details.

Grad Fees:

Your fees are due in total by January 13th. If you have a financial concern, please ensure you speak with Mr. Simonson prior to the deadline.

Details about the grad fees may be found on the grad section of the MBSS website. Click on the following link to be redirected to the site:

<http://www.mbs.sd23.bc.ca/grad%20info/Fees>



CAYLEY & FERMAT MATH CONTESTS



Cayley and Fermat Math Contests are coming up on Thursday, February 23rd, 2012. Any students interested in these or any other Math Contests should talk to Mr. Kirkey.