

# Mission Secondary Newsletter

March 27, 2014

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

With Spring Break behind us, students and staff continue to work hard in all areas of teaching and learning. As we move into the final months of the year, students and teachers will focus their energy on preparation for final exams.

March has also been busy for extra-curricular activities. During Spring Break a group of senior students had the opportunity to participate in a cultural tour of Spain and France. Just before Spring Break we held our annual Andrew Burke memorial staff vs student hockey game. Our leadership team also hosted a gym riot for grade 7 and 8 classes. Both events were huge successes and demonstrate the strong sense of school spirit at Ecole Mission Middle Secondary.

Our drama students continue to work on preparing for the Shakespearean production. The track and field team can be seen practicing regularly, rain or shine. The dry grad committee is now meeting every week in preparation for this very exciting event for grade 12 students. The course selection process for students is now wrapping up.

As always, if you have any questions about any aspect of your child's school experience, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

Brian Tucker  
Principal

## School Hours

8:44 am – Warning Bell  
8:47 – 10:04 - First class  
10:10 – 11:27 – Second class  
11:27 – 12:10 – Lunch  
12:10 pm – Warning Bell  
12:16 – 1:33 – Third Class  
1:39 – 2:55 – Fourth class

Following the final bell of the day, school buses are loaded very promptly at the bus loop on the east side of the building. The office is open 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

## PAC News

Our next PAC meeting is scheduled for April 15 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library. If you've never been to a meeting (or haven't been in a while), there are only two more meetings before the end of the school year and we would love to have you attend! All parents and guardians are welcome and, unlike elementary school PAC meetings, our meetings last no more than an hour, are primarily a venue for exchanging information and ideas between our school's parent community and the school's administrators, and there is no fundraising committee or fundraising of any sort. It's a great way to find out more about current programs and upcoming events at MSS--and refreshments are provided! We hope to see you there!

# WELCOME

## **TALIA'S CLOSET**

Are you **graduating** this year and do you need **HELP** with gowns or beauty related services??

Talia's Closet is a program run by the Youth Resource Centre and Abbotsford Community Services to assist graduates in celebrating their success by easing the monetary stress associated with graduation.

Students will need to take a form stating that they are graduating this year to Talia's Closet. Please see Cyndi McLachlan or your counsellor for this form and more information on the program.



## **Community Recreation 9/10**

MSS Community Recreation undertook their first ever winter camping trip at Manning Park on March 1 and 2nd. Camping in the snow! Are they crazy! There were 15 students and 5 adults who participated, and despite overnight temperatures that felt like -17 with the wind, and being stranded in the park for an extra night, we had a great time. Saturday afternoon students winterized their tents by digging into the snow and building wind breaks around their tents. The bonfire needed to be constantly tended as it melted into the snow. The trick to a successful winter camping experience is to KEEP MOVING. Our evening activity was a night hike around the frozen Lightening Lake by headlamp. It was lightly snowing and beautiful. Sunday morning the students split into two groups. Group A was to build a snow shelter called a quinzee and group B went off for another snowshoe, this time to have a better look at the scenery missed in the night hike. By the time the second group returned, word had reached camp that there was a storm back in Mission and the bus would be unable to retrieve them. The unexpected second night was spent on the floor of the conference room of the Manning Park Lodge. We were warm and dry. We ended of our extended stay on Monday morning with some sledding on make shift crazy carpets. So fun! Lots of good lessons were learned about survival and friendship.



## Drama news

Theatre production students are into their last lap of rehearsals for our upcoming production of "Much Ado About Nothing" set in a 'Game of Thrones' world. The show goes up May 1, 2, 3, and 8, 9, and 10<sup>th</sup> and tickets will be available as of Parent/Teacher night on April 16<sup>th</sup>. They can also be obtained after that date by calling the school office to make reservations at 604-826-7191 or at the door contingent upon availability. Doors open at 6:30 for the 7:00 pm show at our studio theatre at the northwest end of the school. Don't miss this hilarious and timeless comedy about the follies of love.

Also, look for a weekend spread about our illustrious theatre department in the Vancouver Sun the weekend of April 26<sup>th</sup>. The paper is coming to film and interview our company in an effort to honour the legacy that has become our very own precious black box theatre, a place of memories and miracles. We are thrilled with the hard earned recognition!



## Festival Send-Off Concert!

**When:** Wednesday, April 2, 2014  
**Time:** 7:00 pm  
**Where:** Clarke Foundation Theatre  
**Cost:** \$5/adults, \$2/students & seniors

The entire music department would like to invite you out to see our Spring performance, before we head off on tour! You will be dazzled by the vocal and playing abilities of all of our students – this is not a concert you want to miss!!

We look forward to your support as we head off to San Francisco! See you at the concert!



## IMPORTANT TO GRADE 12s Post Secondary Institutions (PSIs)

**ALL** Grade 12 students who are planning to attend a Post Secondary Institution (University, College, etc.) after grade 12 **MUST** arrange for their final transcript to be accessible by the Post Secondary Institutions. This "online" process **MUST** be completed by **May 1, 2014**.

Go to the following link and follow the instructions.

<https://www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/tsw/student>

(Notice "**https**" above.)

You will require your **STUDENT PEN NUMBER** which is printed on each report card - upper left corner.

Need help....? See Mr. Love, Ms. Gabel, or Mrs. Janzen.

Please check out the lost and found box in the main office. It is overflowing!

## GRAD NEWS

In preparation for upcoming graduation events, grade 12 students that are in good academic standing and meet the attendance requirements, are to do the following:

- Complete and hand in letter of expectations
- Complete and present graduation transition portfolio
- Pay all outstanding fees





## Mission Secondary School

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Mission, BC  
V2V 2C5

PHONE:  
604-826-7191

FAX:  
604-826-8187



### We're on the Web!

See us at:

<http://missionsecondary.sd75.mission.bc.ca>

## School Calendar

April 4, 2014	End of Term 3
	½ Day Assessment
April 7, 2014	Term 4, Rotation 1 Begins
April 16, 2014	Parent Teacher Interviews (3:30 - 6:00 and 6:30 - 9:00 pm)
	Report Cards Available for Pick-Up
April 17, 2014	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
April 18, 2014	Good Friday, No Classes
April 21, 2014	Easter Monday, No Classes
May 16, 2014	Non Instructional Day, No Classes
May 19, 2014	Victoria Day, No Classes
May 23, 2014	Prom & Dry Grad
June 5, 2014	Commencement
June 13, 2014	Last Day of Formal Classes
June 16 - 18, 2014	School Exams
June 16 - June 23, 2014	Provincial Exams
June 26, 2014	Report Cards Available Noon - 4:00 pm
June 27, 2014	Administrative Day



### Mission International Student Program:

The Mission School District International Student Program is currently looking for nurturing host families to provide a welcoming “home away from home” for our visiting elementary and secondary students. These paid positions are a wonderful opportunity to share your heart and your home as well as our great Canadian culture with young visitors from around the world. Student placements range from 2 weeks to 2 years or more. We invite you to complete our On-line Application Form to become a host family and be a part of our exciting International Student program. Please complete all 5 sections of the On-line Application Form and we will be happy to contact you for a follow up home visit. Go to: <http://international.mpsd.ca>; Homestay; New Host Families; Click On-line Application Form. For more information, please call the International Program Office: 604-826-6286 Ex. 3336

### Aboriginal News

Spring has arrived and we are busy, busy with report cards, school activities and special events. Our annual Siwal Si'wes Family of Schools Dinner will be held on May 1, from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. All families are welcome to attend the honouring of our Aboriginal Students and their achievements.

The Siwal Si'wes Aboriginal Department hosted a performance by Ed Peekeekoot at Mission Secondary School on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Ed performed for the Aboriginal Peoples Choice Awards in 2008. His performances go from blazing guitar work to foot stomping fiddle and haunting Native flute – all sprinkled with his Cree humor and wise philosophy. He takes people on a wildly varied musical journey from country folk to a touch of classical and jazz. He is a Multi-instrumentalist, singer-songwriter, and story-teller. Ed has a timeless kind of cool that appeals to audiences of all ages. It was a full house with those who enjoyed his magical performance including students from MSS, Heritage Park, Hatzic, Fraserview, Hatzic Elementary, Christine Morrison, Elders & guests.

Aboriginal Middle School will have increased colour and vibrancy with a mural created by and completed by our students. Students continue to access the space before school and during lunch hour participating in board games and crafts. Please note all students and parents are welcome to come check out the fun.

