

Balmoral Secondary Newsletter ● ● ●

Balmoral Secondary 604-903-3400

May 2010 Volume 1, Issue 1



Of Special Interest

- ✓ The June exam schedule is posted on the website
- ✓ Sign up for Trip to Dominican Republic
- ✓ Daily Physical Activity due
- ✓ Community and Service Report

June 2 - Save the Date!

Balmoral's yearly award ceremony is on June 2 at 7:00pm in the gym.

Many students will be receiving awards this year. Some of the awards include: Honour Roll, Honour Roll with Distinction, Service, Top Citizen, and the year's Top Scholars. In addition the major Music and

Athletics awards will also be presented.

For a complete list and description of Balmoral's award program check out the agenda book or visit Balmoral's website.

Students who are receiving awards will receive a letter in the mail near the end of May.

A complete list of award winners will also be posted in the Awards cabinet outside the main office near the end of May. Students are encouraged to check the list.

If you have any questions please contact Ms Barter.

Drop off/Pickup Continue to be a Problem

Unfortunately, we continue to have drop-off/pick-up congestion at the back of the school both in the mornings and after school.

The artillery service roads on the south and the west sides of the school are very narrow and are particularly unsafe when we have the

dangerous combination of cars and people. **Please do not drive around to the back of the school to drop-off or pick-up your child.**

For the safety of other children please drop-off and pick-up your child at the front of the school.

In addition, parking is not permitted at the back (west side of the school). Student drop-off and pick-up is to be on Mahon Avenue only. The parking lot is reserved for staff.

Thank you for your help with this matter.

Missed Final Exam Policy



"Forget past mistakes. Forget failures. Forget everything except what you're going to do now and do it."

-- William Durant

All students who have final examinations are required to write them during the scheduled school examination period.

Provincial exams at the grade 10 level are compulsory. The Provincial Exam schedule cannot be altered: it is set by

the provincial government for all students in British Columbia.

Parents and families must make all efforts to avoid planning holidays that conflict with scheduled exams.

For a full explanation of the Missed Final Exam Policy, please check your child's agenda book or the website.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms Barter.

June Exam Schedule

The June exam schedule will run from June 14 through to June 25.

The complete schedule is posted on the website. Please check carefully so that your child is aware of when his/her

exams are.

Any conflicts need to be reported to Ms Barter ASAP.



Daily Physical Activity

Daily Physical Activity has been recorded since September.

Ministry requirements state that grade 8's and 9's must

complete 30 minutes daily.

Grade 10's must complete 150 minutes a week.

Teachers will be reporting on DPA on the June report card. Please check with your child to ensure that they are meeting the requirements.

Community & Service Hours are Due

A critical part of the IB Middle Years Program is the idea that **every student** at Balmoral will contribute some form of service to the community; be that the school community, our local community or our global community.

At Balmoral students are provided with numerous opportunities to

volunteer their time and talent.

Students are required to perform 10 hours of Community and Service during the school year in order to receive their IB MYP certificate.

Students who go above and beyond this requirement will be receiving awards at our Awards Ceremony.

For 20 hours they

will receive a certificate, for 100 hours a service pin, and in addition, a top citizen award will be given to the student (s) from each grade.

Up coming events where students can continue to get hours are: the Meal Service for the Homeless Friday May 7, 14 and possibly 28; our annual Fine Arts Night fundraiser for our Plan Canada sponsor child; the Stephen Lewis Foundation



“Chili for Change”
Thursday May 13 and
the Grade 7 visit
Thursday May 20.

For more information
please contact Ms
Gellatly at:
tgellatly@nvsd44.bc.ca

Trip to the Dominican Republic!

Grade 10, 11 and 12 students at Balmoral and Carson Graham...

Do you know about an exciting new course and travel opportunity available in our school community?

The Global Initiatives program is for students who are interested in leadership, service learning, and travel.

This upcoming summer we are sending a group of 21 students to Vicente Guerrero Mexico to help build houses and equip a school.

Students going on this trip will be exposed to a life changing experience. Next year’s class will be traveling to the Dominican Republic to help

volunteer in an orphanage, participate in a work experience alongside Haitian refugees and also participate in a building program in that country.

Again, this travel opportunity is a life changing opportunity that will allow students, who enjoy giving back to others, to act as a leader in their community.

If you are interested in finding more out about next year’s trip to the Dominican Republic please email Mr. Olson at:
rolson@nvsd44.bc.ca

IB Update



Wow! It's already May and with June around the corner, its time to reflect on our inaugural year of the IB Middle Years Program.

The Grade 9's began their year-long Personal Project journeys. Volunteerism was at an all time high with many students involved in different activities. Students were ringing Salvation Army Christmas bells, kitchen skills were being utilized as

students chopped and plated at a downtown soup kitchen, and the local neighborhood has never looked cleaner thanks to both the Shoreline and Earth Day clean-up crews.

On a monthly basis, students were recognized for embodying characteristics of an ideal IB learner. Recipients of an "IB Star" were rewarded with a certificate, prize, and a recognition letter.

With all the extra-curricular IB activities happening, it is hard to imagine there was time for the multitude of MYP class projects, homerooms, and assemblies to

happen. We are a busy bunch of IB learners.

The Grade 8's made mythical clay masks to accompany their mythical tales. PE students learned what it really means to be F.I.T.T. (ask a grade 8 student about muscles...their knowledge will surprise you!). Social Studies students in grade 9 now understand the underlying meaning of political cartoons and are quite a bunch of cartoonists! And the Math department challenged its grade 9's to organize a school dance – at least on paper, and make a profit! We hosted two inspiring guest speakers who

spoke about their Olympic experience and motivation and involvement being keys to personal success.

In addition to all this, on a monthly basis we gathered in homerooms to discuss IB-MYP topics and undertake activities to better our understanding of what it means to truly be IB...and it's only MAY!

Any questions relating to Balmoral's IB-MYP Program should be directed to the IB Coordinator Ms Toby MacDonald at: tmacdonald@nvsd44.bc.ca

Provincial Exam Information Grade 10 Students

The Ministry of Education provides online access to student data. It is through the website that students obtain their provincial exam results.

Students can also view their graduation

credits and print unofficial transcripts of their grades.

In order for students to obtain their exam results they need to set up an account on the website.

Accounts should be set-up before June

exam results are published. To do so students must know their PEN number which can be found on their report cards. Please call the school if you have any questions.

Students need to have access to an e-mail account.

The website is:

www.bced.gov.bc.ca/exams/tsw/student/welcome.jsp

Grade 9 – Personal Project Update

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As part of the IB Middle Years Program, all students must complete a year long culminating project that encompasses their IB growth throughout the three years of the program. At Balmoral, this undertaking began in February. Each student will complete their project next March and present it at a Gala Event. Work on these

projects occurs outside of regular class time and support and guidance for each student is provided through a staff supervisor. Our Grade 9 students have already met with their supervisors three times, have chosen topics and begun the research component of the project. Parents are encouraged to follow progress of their

child. The Personal Project webpage has useful links and information on a wide range of topics relating to the project.

Any questions relating to the Personal Project should be directed to the Personal Project Coordinator Ms Teresa Anton-Marlowe at: tantonmarlowe@nvsd44.bc.ca

2010 Summer School



Summer school registration starts June 7 for remedial classes. If your child is failing or is close to failing, please register them in the subject (s) they require. Please note that only two subjects may be taken during this summer school session. Families that

delay registration may not be successful in securing a place for their child.

Summer school costs \$150.00 this year. All costs are refundable upon completion of the course or withdrawal from the course.

For more information about summer school this year please refer to:

www.balmoralsecondary.ca

or directly register at:

www.conted44.com

Fine Arts Night/Chili for Change

Join us Thursday May 13 for a celebration of the Fine Arts in the Balmoral cafeteria.

The evening features Balmoral's Musical Theatre, Choir, Visual Arts, Band, and Improv team. During the performances

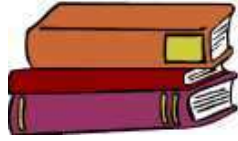
guests will receive a three course chili dinner prepared by Balmoral's Grade 10 Foods classes.

Dinner will be served in a ceramic bowl, handmade by a Balmoral student. These bowls are a

keepsake of the event. The evening will also have a silent auction. Money raised will go to the Stephen Lewis Foundation in Africa which supports orphans with AIDS and HIV.

Tickets are \$25.00 and will be on sale May 4 to May 12.

Tickets may also be reserved by contacting Ms Gellatly at: tgellatly@nvsd44.bc.ca



The Legacy of a Book

A Message from the Balmoral Library

Dear Grade 10 Students:

The Legacy of a Book project is a tradition of donating a book to the library on a volunteer basis. As a gift to future generations attending Balmoral, we are asking each grade 10 student to donate a non-fiction book to the library.

Each book would have the student's name on the front page on a dedication plaquette provided by the library. Each book would reflect the student's interest. An athlete might donate a book about golf or rugby. A drama student might donate a collection of monologues, an art student might donate a book about a favourite artist, or a student might contribute a book in his or her mother tongue.

As we proceed to honour this Balmoral tradition, we encourage you to discuss this with your parents with a view to selecting a title which you will both be proud to leave as your legacy. Thank you for your support!

Michael Kee

Principal

Dariya Bagnall

Teacher - Librarian



Parenting a Pre-teen or Teen?

Hollyburn Family Services Parenting Seminar Series

A four seminar series to help parents understand:

- *How to influence their kids' behaviour effectively*
 - *How developmental stages affect behaviour*
- *What role a child's environment plays in affecting their behaviour*
 - *How to engage pre-teens and teens*
 - *How consequences affect teenage decisions*
- *Strategies to deal with issues that face pre-teens and teens*

This program encourages parents of children aged 11 years and older to understand their role in shaping and influencing their kids, and help avoid constant threats and limit setting, and feeling they are always 'taking things away' from their kids.

Cost: *Free*

When: Wednesday evenings, 6:30p.m-8:30p.m
May 19th–June 9, 2010

Where: #211-255 West 1st Street, North Vancouver

Register: Contact Francine Michaud by phone at 604-723-4726, or e-mail, fmichaud@hollyburn.ca
Pre-registration is required.