FEBRUARY 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 **1234**	**2** **5678**	**3** **2314**	**4** **6758**	**5**
6 WEEK ONE	**7** **1234**	**8** **5678**	**9** **2314**	**10** **6758**	**11** **3124**	**12**
13 WEEK TWO	**14** *Valentine's Day* **7568**	**15** **1234**	**16** 2011-12 Course Selections Due **5678**	**17** **2314**	**18** **6758**	**19**
20 WEEK ONE	**21** **1234**	**22** **5678**	**23** **2314**	**24** Pascal, Cayley, Fermat Math Contests **6758**	**25** **District Pro-D School Closed** Kiwanis Jazz Festival	**26**
27 WEEK TWO	**28** Newsletter Posted **7568**					

January 2011

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March 2011

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Notes:

ÉCOLE SECONDAIRE ARGYLE SECONDARY SCHOOL

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Web Site: www.argylesecondary.ca
Tel: (604) 903-3300 Fax: (604) 903-3301 Attendance: (604) 903-3314
Mrs. Olga Woodland: Principal
Ms. Brenda Gilby: Vice Principal
Mr. Adam Baumann: Vice Principal

NEWSLETTER ~ February 2011

Principal's Message

The end of January signifies half of the school year is over. Wow!! We are currently immersed in course programming for the 2011-2012 school year; again, another indication that we are on count down for this school year. Programming started with a recent Course Fair for parents and students followed by an information meeting for parents. Thanks to all members of our community who took the opportunity to learn more about courses and programs offered at Argyle. Special thanks go to all our teachers who took the time to present at the Course Fair and a special mention to Ms. Bell for taking a leadership role in organizing this. This evening also showcased many of our clubs. Thanks to all our student leaders who were here representing their clubs.

As for the programming information meeting, we have put the power point presentations on our Argyle website for those of you that were not able to attend. We also have our Course Description Handbook posted on our website. The grade counselors are currently visiting specific classes to speak to all our students and to distribute course selection materials. I encourage students to make choices that they will experience success with as there will be limited opportunities for course changes after the timetable is created in May.

February and March will be filled with many student activities. Look out for basketball playoffs, math contest, music festivals, band and choral concerts, and our school play which starts on March 1st. In addition, we wish a bon voyage to our students going on the photo trip to Cuba and the digital media students going to Japan.

Congratulations to Cassidy Hendricks who has been selected to play ice hockey for Team BC at the Canada Winter Games in Halifax. Way to go Cassidy.

Our next PAC meeting will be on March 7th @ 7:00pm in the library. The guest speaker will be Jesse Miller who will talk about the reality of Facebook and social networking. Check out his website at www.mediatedreality.com

Our next PAC meeting will be on March 7th @ 7:00pm in the library.

The next Newsletter will come out on February 28th.

Argyle Has Piper Power

***P**ride*
***O**pen-mindedness*
***W**isdom*
***E**xcellence*
***R**espect*

SCHOOL GOALS

1. To Improve Students' Writing Skills Across the Curriculum
2. To Increase Students' Sense of Responsibility and Academic Achievement
3. To Increase Students' Sense of Empowerment

SPRING PLAY - *Sunday Night by Stephen Gregg*
Whit, a seventeen-year-old girl, is yanked into another world where time behaves strangely, and bizarre creatures are out to get her. Whit must befriend a boy named Six and find a way back to earth before she's trapped in the alternate universe forever.
When: March 1st, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 10th @ 7:30pm
Where: James Buchanan Theatre, Argyle Secondary
Tickets: $10 ($8 students/seniors) - available in the theatre.

VANCOUVER SUN RUN, APRIL 17th
Argyle has a team entered in the School Team Challenge for this year's 10 km race.
Enter now and for only $20 you'll receive race entry, timing chip and souvenir Sun Run T-shirt with "Argyle Pipers" printed on the back. Early bird registration ends February 25th.
See Ms. Warland or Ms Berry for details on how you can run or walk Canada's largest 10km event!

ARGYLE'S FIRST ANNUAL COURSE AND CLUBS FAIR
On Wednesday, January 26th Argyle held a Course and Clubs Fair which not only gave students and parents an opportunity to learn more about the myriad of course offerings, but also gave our students and staff a chance to showcase their talents and hard work. As students will be asked to make their course selections for next year in the coming few weeks, one of the goals of the event was to assist students in making appropriate choices. Students also were exposed to the vast array of extracurricular activities that Argyle offers, another indication that Argyle is a vibrant and positive community! Thanks to all the staff and students for their enthusiastic participation. We look forward to this event next year.
Check out the pictures on the following page:

Course And Club Fair

"ARGYLE CHORAL CORNER"

The Vernon Tour, with the grade 9 Band & Choir, was a huge success despite winter road and weather conditions. We departed on the morning of Wednesday January 12th for the annual concert tour in Vernon where we performed 5 concerts at local elementary schools in the city. The groups this year did a great job delighting and engaging these young audiences with songs from Disney classics, rhythmic African grooves, gospel swing feel and good ol' rock n roll tunes, insect inspired tone poems and a march that young student conductors from the audience got to lead. The students did a great job of working together to set up and take down every concert within 20 minutes; they were fine ambassadors for Argyle. Thursday night we all played on the mountain. SilverStar had fabulous snow, so tubing, skating, and serious snowball fighting were on the evening menu... eat much snow Mr. Smith? The Friday was a wind up of 2 concerts and then we hit the road for home; the Canyon was the chosen route due to closures on the Coquihalla. It is a whirlwind tour, but a great time was had by all.
Special thanks to our tour chaperones: Ms. Bastien, Ms. Braich, Mrs. White and Mr. Wong.

The Senior Vocal Ensemble is honoured with an invitation this year to be a showcase choir at the annual Capilano University one day workshop on Saturday January 29th. Along with Magee Secondary Chamber Choir, Argyle opens the concert and then combines with Magee to perform "Bumble Bee", a new piece from Sweden's "The Real Group". Thirty grade 10 - 12 choral students from Argyle are participating in this intensive workshop which will have a massed choir of 146 under the direction of Dr. Geoffrey Boers from Washington University. Secondary choral students from all over the lower mainland will be participating and learning together along with the University Singers from Capilano University. A full slate of rehearsals, voice workshops and some serious eating are the body of the day, and it is always a positive experience for everyone. The concert starts at 7pm in the Birch Theatre on Saturday January 29th.

Memories of February 2010 Olympics:

GRAD GOWN ORDER FORMS

In order to attend the graduation ceremony, in June at the Orpheum Theatre, all grads must wear a black grad gown; therefore, it is important that each grad completes an order form. The deadline for orders is February 24th.
A form can be found on the Argyle website or in the counselling office.

SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY SUPERTOURS

Supertours are designed to introduce prospective students and their families to SFU programs, our campus, our current students, professors, and our advising staff. Students in grades 9-12 and their families are encouraged to attend this Supertour and experience SFU.

Event Date:
Saturday, February 19, 2011
10:00am - 1:00pm (arrive early for registration, beginning at 9:15)

Event Overview:
* Introductions and Student Life Keynote
* Campus Tour (with student guides)
* Program/Faculty Q&A Session
* Faculty and Advisor Meet & Greet

To register, please visit: http://students.sfu.ca/tour/

STUDENT SERVICES INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Argyle Student Services is open to any student or prospective student in need of assistance. Students may discuss their educational, career, or personal concerns with a trained counsellor. Students having difficulty planning their program, making career choices, acquiring adequate student habits, or resolving many other problems which might influence their work, can receive assistance. Various publications on these topics are available in the Student Services Centre and the Career Centre in room #302. The Student Services section of the Argyle website also contains a number useful resources links on the following topics:

- Community Youth Services
- Community Parent Services
- Post Secondary Information
- Grad News and Information
- Programming Information
- Information for Students
- Scholarships
- Programming
- Career Centre
- Tutoring Services

For more information please visit the website at www.argylesecondary.ca and choose from the menu on the left.

LAST CHANCE TO ORDER ARGYLE SPIRIT/GRAD WEAR

February 4th is the deadline to get your order for Argyle Grad or Spirit Wear in to Mr. Ruben. Order forms can be found in the counselling office, the Argyle main office, or on the Argyle website.

A Focus on Course Selection

It's that time of year again: the winter holiday is over and Valentine's Day will soon be upon us, a time when every student's thoughts turn to more important matters. That's right – what courses am I going to take next year? Before making this very important decision, we would like to offer some suggestions for students and parents to consider.

1. Start by asking yourself these three very important questions:
   a) What courses do I need to graduate?
   b) What are my goals or plans for my future?
   c) How will the courses I take next year help me with these plans/goals?

2. Do some research – find out what the course involves and what topics will be covered. The best way to do this is to read the course selection booklet and to speak with counsellors, teachers or other students who have taken that course. You may have done this already if you visited our course fair last week.

3. Spend some time reflecting on your likes and dislikes in terms of school. For example, if you don't like to draw or paint, then you probably don't want to take art courses.

4. Do a reality check of your past performance/strengths. Although many students want to do well in certain areas, their past marks in related courses might indicate otherwise. In other words, if you are not strong with numbers and formulas, then courses such as chemistry or physics may be difficult for you.

5. Find out about post-secondary and graduation requirements and base your senior course selections on accurate information. For example, only a few programs require a grade 12 science.

6. Are there any special courses that you would like to take? For example, several departments have enriched courses that you have to apply for. These applications have a deadline and may require teacher references.

7. Select one or two courses that will not involve as much work as the heavy academic courses. PE, Fine Arts and Tech Ed classes are great for exercise and hands on work that give you a break from your other classes. Not only is having a balance good for your health, but as well, employers look for people who are well-rounded individuals.

8. Consider taking a course just for the sake of learning; try something you might not do otherwise.

9. Tap into the experts. Make an appointment to talk to the advisors at the post-secondary institutions you are interested in. You can discuss courses that might help you in your pursuit of personal and career goals. Your counsellor and teachers can also provide an objective view of your strengths and weaknesses.

We encourage you to think carefully and consult with others before you make your final course selections and hand in the forms. Please remember that classes are set up in the school timetable based on your selections. In the past, there have been many cases where students have tried to make course changes after school has started, but were unable to due to either lack of space in those classes or lack of movement possible in their timetable. The opposite has also occurred: sometimes courses have been cancelled due to low enrollment, despite the fact that some students indicated later that they were interested. **Next year, there will few, if any, course changes allowed.**

Shannon Graham, Coach
Argyle Secondary

About Shannon Graham:

Shannon Graham is a teacher at Argyle Secondary in North Vancouver, and has been coaching for 20 years. Her first coaching experience took place as a first year student at UBC. She coached Argyle's grade 8 girls team and went on to follow the team for three more years. She currently coaches bantam girls volleyball at Argyle.

Why She Be came a Coach:

"A love of all sports my whole life; I wanted to give back. I was influenced by great coaches throughout my high school experience."

Most Rewarding Experience as a Coach:

"Getting to know the students (and them knowing me) in a different place besides the classroom. Watching them develop life skills, and applying my teaching background to coaching activities."

What Coaching has Brought to Her Li f e:

"One area that I enjoy is to spend most of my coaching time with the younger athletes hoping to develop sound basics in the sport of their choice. I've also enjoyed my non-coaching involvement with helping to organize Provincial Championships at Argyle and Sutherland. And my 13 years on the AAA Basketball Committee for the championships at Capilano University."

Biggest Challenges:

"Lately, the requirement to be an administrator rather than devote my time to just coaching. The formal demands of coaching (paperwork, budget, etc) is a significant burden.

Proudest Moment in Coaching:

"Surprisingly, not the championships. Instead, using sports and athletics to help students find a place to belong in school. Watching athletes grow and mature as individuals from Grade 8 to 12. Having former students become coaches and give back to the athletic community in which they live."