



November 2016

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Important Dates

November

11 - Remembrance Day (Statutory Holiday)

21 - Report Cards Issued

21 - PAC Meeting @ 7pm

25 - Non-Instructional Day

December

1 - Parent Teacher Interviews @ 6pm

5 - Grad Pasta Dinner

14 - G.W. Graham 10 Year Celebration Assembly

19 - Christmas Break Starts (School Reopens January 3rd)

Principal's Message

It is difficult to process or make any sense of the tragic events that occurred in Abbotsford last week. As a school staff we have been reviewing our safety protocols and making some changes to reflect our emergency procedures in light of this event. In the coming weeks we will have an additional lock down practice as we review this process once again with our students in the hopes that we never need to use it. Our thoughts are with the students, families and staff of Abbotsford Secondary School as they come to terms with their loss and work towards healing in the months to come.

Our school observed Remembrance Day in an assembly coordinated by the Drama Department. It was a thoughtful presentation that asks us all to pause and pay respects to those who fought the freedoms and rights that we enjoy today.

Term One is almost over and the first formal report card will be arriving home shortly. Teaching staff have worked hard to assist students bring home a successful first report. Communication is still the key for home and school supporting students with their learning needs. If you have questions it is best to contact classroom teachers through e-mail although phone calls are also returned promptly. I also encourage parents to attend parent teacher conference night on December 1st and to check the school website, our twitter feed and our Facebook page for regular school updates. As we begin Term Two and look towards Christmas, only six weeks away, it is important for students to stay focused on their school work in spite of busy schedules and a multitude of fun activities planned.

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Report Cards

Term One ended on November 8th. The first report card comes home on November 21st for ALL students grades 7-12.



Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher conferences will be held on December 1st from 6:00 pm- 8:30 pm. This is your opportunity to connect with the classroom/subject teacher to find out exactly how your student is performing in class.

Visitor Reminder

Just a friendly reminder to please make sure you check in at the office prior to venturing into the building during school hours. We have several new staff who may not know who you are even if you have been part of the GW family for many years.

Lost and Found

Please ensure that you have picked up all lost and found items before Christmas break because a local charity will be coming to pick up any unclaimed items on December 15th.



Computer Access

Please be aware that any student that did not bring in their blue Internet Agreement form have had their computer account disabled. Internet Agreement forms can be found on the Information wall by the school office.

Dress Code Reminder

At GW Graham we are in the business of learning. As such, we expect that students dress accordingly. Students who choose to wear clothing that is too revealing or inappropriate for this environment will be asked to change. Students who have nothing else to change into will be provided with G.W. Graham wear to put on. Refusal to comply may result in the student being sent home for the day.



GW Graham Grad Pasta Dinner and Auction

Ladies and Gentleman and children of all ages, we are having a pasta dinner and auction fundraiser in support of the Graduation Class of 2017! Please come out and support!

Date: December 5, 2016 at 6:30pm at G.W. Graham

Tickets can be purchased at the school office for \$15.00. Our Grad Class of 2017 is currently approaching businesses and community partners in order to collect donations for the evening. If you have any items that you would like to donate, please bring them to the school office.

Fish Stew with You

Fish Stew With You is an annual event hosted by GW's Aboriginal Department, where all Aboriginal students, parents, and surrounding Aboriginal communities are invited to attend the informal "Meet & Greet". We look forward to seeing you there!

Date: November 30, 2016

Time: 6:00 - 7:30pm

Location: G.W. Graham School





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News from the Career Advisor

MONEY, MONEY, MONEY!

Grade 12 students are encouraged to attend at least one of the three award/scholarships/bursaries workshops Mrs. Jones is running on November 15, 16 and 17 at lunch in room C177, Mr. Simington's room. Find out what is needed to put together a winning internal award package and what you need to do to be on top of applying for awards. Mrs. Jones will take you step by step through that process. External Awards will be covered in another series of workshops on December 7, 8 and 9. Bring your lunch and questions and we will see you there.

Applying to UBC?

If you are considering application to UBC and want to be considered for major entrance scholarships at the same time, you must apply before December 1st. The online application is a bit more in-depth than application to other post-secondary schools so students are encouraged to take their time with the application. Here are two helpful links for students and families: <http://you.ubc.ca/admissions/how-to-apply/ubcs-online-application> and <http://you.ubc.ca/admissions/how-to-apply/personal-profile>.

APPLY BC!

Students hoping to attend a post-secondary institution next fall should apply on-line at www.apply.educationplannerbc.ca. Every school has a different application deadline so check websites to see when those deadlines are. Many popular programs fill quickly, particularly at UFV, so applying sooner rather than later is a good plan. Have questions or need help? See Mrs. Jones!

BCIT BIG INFO SESSION

BCIT hosts a BIG Information Session & Program Expo at the main campus in Burnaby. This free event is open to everyone and provides a unique opportunity for you to find out more about BCIT's full-time programs and part-time courses all in one place, at one time. BIG Info gives you the opportunity to hear from current students, graduates and instructors. The next BIG Info will take place on Wednesday, November 16, 2016. Register at bcit.ca/biginfo

FORUM FOR YOUNG CANADIANS

Interested in politics, the way government runs and in making a difference? Consider travelling to Ottawa and spending a memorable week on Parliament Hill as a member of the Forum for Young Canadians. Examine the issues that affect our country during a week of exciting activities and simulations. Three different weeks to choose from! See Mrs. Jones for more information or check out forum.ca/the-program

LET'S STAY IN TOUCH!

Hey grade 12's! With so much on the go this year, you will want to stay connected to all things related to post-secondary and awards. Be sure to check your account on MyBlueprint regularly.



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News from the Library

Library Challenges

October Library Challenge to create a scary story.

The winners were

For Grades 7- 9

First- Issac G

Second- Kade F

Third- Kalie H

Grades 10-12

First: Joaquin L

Second -Jalen E

Third- Isabella A



Congratulations to the winners and thank you to everyone who participated.

The challenge for November and December is to create a six word story. The six word stories are due on December 14th.

Maker Space

We have opened up a small makerspace in the library. This is a space that allows students to use the material and information provided to create something.

Displays

Our display in the Library for the month of November is Fantasy. Come and check out our Fantasy books.

Overdue books

Students are reminded to return books on time as there is a late fee for overdue books