

JAN, 24TH 2005

ABBOTSFORD TRADITIONAL SECONDARY SCHOOL

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- IMPORTANT DATES
- TERM 2 ENDS JAN 28TH, 2005
- SCHOOL EXAMS BEGIN JAN 26TH
- ENGLISH 10 GOVERNMENT EXAM – JAN 28TH
- MATH PRINCIPLES 10 GOVERNMENT EXAM – JAN 31ST
- SCHOOL TURN-AROUND DAYS JAN 31 & FEB 1
- SCHOOL CLOSURE DAYS FEB 2, 3, AND 4
- SEMESTER TWO BEGINS FEB 7TH
- ANNIE – POSTPONED FROM FEB 15 & 16 TO MARCH 15 & 16 MATINEES AND DINNER THEATRE
- DISTRICT PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY – FEB 18TH
- SCHOOL WEBSITE – LOTS OF GREAT INFORMATION WWW.ATSS.CA

REMINDER
OUR NEWSLETTER IS
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
ON OUR WEBSITE AT
WWW.ATSS.CA

Exams Begin On Wednesday!

School exams begin on January 26th with two exams each day. Students in grades 8 through 11 will write two-hour exams for all academic subjects. All students are expected to be at school every day as tutorial sessions and study blocks are organized to help the students prepare for.

Exams are a serious and important learning activity. All students will write exams for three major reasons:

1. To help them consolidate their learning – assessment for learning.
2. To evaluate the student's progress in each subject area – assessment of learning.
3. To teach students important exam writing procedures so that they will be prepared to write grade 10 and grade 12 provincial exams and later, university exams.

Some important information about our exam procedures for parents:

All students are expected to be at school each of the three exam days. We will have tutorial sessions for every class to help students prepare for their exams and thus do their best. We will also have some study sessions.

If there is a reason for your student not to be at school or to leave after an exam – please send a note with the student. If your student will not be at school for the entire day, please call the school office.

We will not be allowing students to phone to arrange to be picked up after an exam unless the student has a note from you or the pick-up has been arranged in advance. Students who simply leave the school (no note or phone call from parents) will be considered as 'SKIPPING' and will be treated accordingly!

Tutorial sessions have been organized to support student learning. These sessions are important for all students, but especially imperative for our grade 10 students who write two government exams this year – English and Maths. English 10 is scheduled for January 28th at 1:00 to 3:30 and Math Principles 10 is scheduled for January 31st from 1:00 to 3:30. Math Applications 10 and Math Essentials 10 are scheduled for the April session.

NOTE: Grade 10 students should come to school at the regular time on Monday, Jan 31 so that they can attend a tutorial session before they write the maths exam at 1:00pm.

NOTE: Parents of grade 10 students will need to make arrangements to get their students home from school on Jan 31st as the bus will not be running at 3:30 when the examination ends.

Exam Schedule

Wednesday

8:30 – 11:30 Tutorials

12:10 – 12:40 Tutorials
12:40 – 2:40 English 8, 9, 11

Thursday

SS 8, 9 Biology 11

Tutorials
Science 8,9

Friday

French 8, 9, 10
Beginning Spanish 10, 11
Tutorials
Maths 8, 9, 11
Biology 11
1:00–3:30pm Eng. 10 Provincial

Reminder: On Monday Jan 31st the grade 10 class has a tutorial session in the morning beginning at 8:15am followed by the provincial maths exam at 1:00 to 3:30 (The school bus will not be running at 3:30)

DRESS CODE

A REMINDER THAT ALL STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO WEAR SCHOOL DRESS CODE AT ALL TIMES. WE HAVE NUMEROUS ITEMS IN OUR CONSIGNMENT STORE IN CASE YOU ARE HAVING DIFFICULTIES FINDING DRESS CODED ITEMS.

School Dress Code

BOYS Tops

Black or beige golf shirts with crest

Black hoodies with crest

Black or beige sweat shirts with crest

Black vest with crest

Black, beige or red dress shirt with crest

GIRLS Tops

Black or beige golf shirts with crest

Black or beige or red dress T-shirt with crest

Black hoodies with crest

Black or beige sweatshirts with crest

Black vest with crest

Shirts and Slacks

Black or beige slacks - full length

Black or beige slacks - Capri length

Black or beige walking shorts

Black or beige A-line skirt

SPORTS - PE STRIP

White T-shirt with ATSS sports logo

Black gym short stripe and ATSS sports logo



PE Runners!

ALL STUDENTS SHOULD HAVE A PAIR OF RUNNING SHOES JUST FOR PE - THESE SHOES MUST NEVER BE WORN OUTSIDE!

PAC News

January 26 Events

6:40pm - Yearbook meeting

7:00pm - PAC meeting

PLEASE SUPPORT THE DRESS CODE!

Most students are looking very smart in ATSS dress for success casual coordinates. Unfortunately there are a few students who are not wearing appropriate dress code on a regular basis.

Students who are not in dress code will be asked to complete a 'Dress Code Think Piece' outlining their responsibility to the ATSS to wear the dress code. Please sign the completed "Think Piece" and have your student return it to the school the following day wearing correct dress code.

The weather has been fine recently, but just in case the snow returns, please read the following.

SNOW ALERT

(Possible School Closure)

It is a difficult decision whether to keep schools open or to close them when snow is forecasted for the community. Our policy is to make a collaborative decision at 5:30 a.m. The Transportation Department will complete a road check and then, in conference with the Superintendent, will make the decision. The Superintendent will inform the following radio/TV stations as to the level of school closure:

107.1 STAR FM
 96.9 JACK FM
 980 CKNW (only closures announced)
 NEWS 1130 AM
 CITY TV
 District Website: www.sd34.bc.ca

The final decision to send students to school resides with parents since they know the road and weather conditions in their respective areas. Parents/guardians should be reminded to dress their children warmly during inclement weather conditions, as schools are sometimes cooler than normal.

Please do not call the school - any questions should be directed to the School Board Office at 604-859-4891.

Registration for Grade 6, Sept 2005

If you are planning to have a child attend Simpson Traditional Middle School (SMTS) next September, **you must complete a registration form and submit by March 1, 2005.** Priority placement goes first of all to students already enrolled at King, Auguston, and South Poplar. Next priority goes to siblings of students currently attending one of our traditional schools, including Abbotsford Traditional Secondary School. If any seats remain, students on our wait list are contacted according to the date that their registration forms have been received by our secretary, Mrs. Horsman. It is probable that our current five Grade 6 divisions will be nearly filled by our feeder schools. We will not be able to open another division in Grade 6 due to constraints upon our facility and property.

Should you know of friends and neighbours who are hoping to have their children join us at STMS, please remind them of the March 1st deadline. Traditional parents who have not ensured that their students in Grade 5 are registered at STMS will not be guaranteed a seat after that date. Beginning, March 2, students on our wait list with "sibling status" will be contacted.

During the week of February 7th, Grade 5 students at our three traditional elementary schools, as well as those who are presently on our wait list, will be invited to come to Simpson for a morning of activities and presentations. Specific information will be sent out shortly to each of the three schools regarding the plans for those days.

Please contact the school if you have concerns or questions about registration for next year. We would not want for you to be disappointed!

National Institute on Media and the Family MediaWise e-News

National Institute on Media and the Family Warns "Buzzploitation of Minors" a Dangerous Trend

To address the increasing use of Internet marketing firms engaging minors in sophisticated "word of mouth" campaigns, the National Institute on Media and the Family launched an investigation into whether some Internet marketers are exploiting young people and possibly exposing them to adult-oriented concepts and products.

"The Institute has already expressed concerns over Internet advertising to children," said Dr. David Walsh, president of the National Institute on Media and the Family. "Now we're finding some marketers are pushing the envelope even further. Not only are they advertising to kids, they're using minors to promote their products to unsuspecting peers."

Through its on-going investigation, the Institute has found:

By recruiting minors for online viral advertising campaigns, marketers sometimes expose them and their friends to sexually explicit information, age inappropriate language, and sexual images. When these recruitment efforts involve a centralized website, on which young people can communicate with each other, marketers open the virtual door to predatory adults who use the Internet to stalk children, especially young girls.

"These practices would never be accepted by most Americans if they knew what was going on," said Dr. Walsh. "We are going to expose these practices to the light of day."

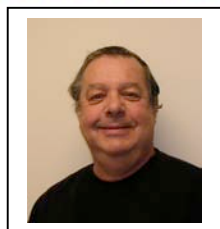


PRESENTED BY YALE SECONDARY

Ray Dancer, Artistic Director

Allen Reynolds, Musical Director

Trevor Fowler & Barb Deane, Producers



Press Release

Disney's Beauty and The Beast Coming To Abbotsford

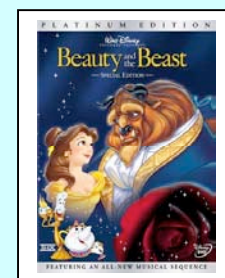
Yale Secondary School Musical Theatre is proud to announce that its 15th Anniversary will be celebrated in grand style with a production of "Disney's Beauty and The Beast". The local school's Musical Theatre group is one of the first amateur production companies to obtain the rights to the production which has only been released for amateur use in August, 2004. It will make a great follow-up to last year's successful performances of "The Wizard of Oz".

Yale Musical Theatre's production of "Disney's Beauty and The Beast" starts with a special afternoon matinee performance on Sunday, February 6th at 2.30 p.m. Evening performances are on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, February 10th, 11th and 12th at 7.30 p.m. The school matinees scheduled for February 7th and 8th sold out in two days so get your tickets early for this show. Tickets are \$12 each and are available from the Yale Secondary school office during regular school office hours.

Tickets are still available but selling fast. Please pass this information on to family, friends, neighbours, staff and parents. We really want our musical theatre students to be able to play to a "full house". They have worked very hard for months to put this production together. There have also been many staff, students, parents and community members who have been working for months to put together professional sets, program, props and costumes. This promises to be an amazing production. Both children and adults alike will love this show. See you there!

Sewing Room Open Mon & Tues Lunch

Time is running out – sewing projects are due on Tuesday. The sewing room will be open at lunch on Monday and to give students the opportunity to finish their projects – there is only one more class so be sure to take advantage of this opportunity.



Exams Begin on Wednesday. See Jan. 14 Newsletter for Exam Writing Tips.

LAPTOP COMPUTER NEWS

As students become familiar with their iBook, and the "newness" wears off, it is important to continue to be very careful with the computer. There are a small number of students in the school who could tell stories about the high cost of repair due to their iBook slipping, banging or dropping. Repair prices for accidents have started at around \$275.00 but some were more money depending on the problem. As always, students are responsible for their own computers at all times - do not let anyone else touch your iBook.

Some student computers look new while other computers look uncared for. Parents are encouraged to observe their child's iBook and set some expectations with regard to keeping the screen clean as well as the keys and body of the computer free from dirt. Some students have put stickers on their computer. This is a mistake. Nothing should be added to the computer to "seal" in heat. Heat needs to escape through the body as it came from the factory without stickers.

We have a good process in place for computer repairs. Students are served on a first come basis and spare computers are given out in sequence when they become available. See Mr. Ennis if you have a computer problem. Best times are Monday, Tuesday and Friday period 3 or after school. Realistic expectations for computer repair returns are 3 to 6 weeks. Sometimes computers are initially fixed but then need to be sent out for repair. This is part of the troubleshooting process with the least invasive technique being used first. If that effort fails then further maintenance can be required.

The school wireless network is doing very well after a special visit from wireless engineers in December. Some of the wireless hubs were moved and a few settings were changed. Our network is now very robust. Work continues on the server software, however, for the most part, glitches that occurred early in the year have minimized. We are well on our way to having a fine tuned system.

Why Apple? One reason is the strong UNIX software underpinnings. UNIX is the language of programmers worldwide and will lead convergence of operating systems into the next decade. Another reason is the software package available on our iBooks - it is not possible to have a similar package available on a Microsoft operating system laptop computer for anywhere near the same price.

During this past week all of the computers were serviced by the Apple Technology Engineer who was sent from Calgary. The computers should be working very well, but in order to keep them in top working order, it is important for the students to follow the procedures that were outlined when they received their computers back.

If you have computer questions please contact
Mr. Ennis at david_ennis@sd34.bc.ca



COURSE FEES

Course Fees Due next month Semester Two begins on February 7th. Reports for Semester One will be sent home early in February.

Students will begin their second semester elective courses on Feb. 7th as well, so semester two course fees will be due.

If you have not paid your first term fees, please do so as soon as possible in the school office.

Virtual Library

Our Musical Theatre teacher, Ray Dencer has developed a virtual online library. This library is now available on the web.

The virtual library is a tremendous resource for students - with huge potential for research and projects.

Check out the virtual library at.....

www.sd34.bc.ca /schools/virtuallibrary/