

SPECTRUM

COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020 EDITION

This newsletter is being sent to you as your sons and daughters bring home their report cards. To say that our students have achieved well is an understatement - an incredible 620 certificates were issued to students scoring 90% or better in their courses! Way to go Spectrum!

It is that time of year when Spectrum students will make their debut in this year's musical, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. Opening night is Friday, February 28th at 7:30 pm. Be sure to check our website for additional show times. Tickets are available in the office for \$10.00 for students and \$12.00 for adults. Make sure to get your tickets early, you won't want to miss this one!

Just as we begin the new semester, we are preparing for next year for our current grades 9 to 11, and with our incoming grade 8's, too. In February and March, we will be involved in course selection and planning for the 2020-2021 school year. It is important for students to make informed decisions on their course choices for next year as we build the timetable based on their requests. If you have any questions regarding our programs, learning strategies and teacher offerings, please join us at our Course Fair on Wednesday, February 12th from 12:15 to 3:00 pm. Staff will be available to answer questions and share course offerings for the 2020-21 school year.

Regards,
Bruce Bidney, Principal

Kudos to our Parking Lot supervisors



Each morning and afternoon our parking lot supervisors oversee our very busy parking lot. They are out there, rain or shine directing traffic and keeping our students safe. It can often be very congested in our parking lot and our supervisors are there with a smile to ensure that staff, students and parents remain safe. We ask parents to avoid using the staff parking lot as a pick up and drop off area if at all possible and keep the area free for our arriving buses. A very heartfelt thank you to our Supervisors for their hard work. And special thank you, our parent community, for helping us to keep down the congestion in our staff

parking lot.

From the Visual Arts Department

We are in full creative mode this year already. Just prior to the holidays we had 2 students water colour images chosen by our federal MP Randall Garrison. These were used as both his holiday greeting card and thank you cards that he sends out to constituents, this is such a wonderful experience and an honour for our Spectrum artists to have their work showcased on a provincial and federal level. As well, our dual credit art class, paired with Camosun College's Art 102 class has just gotten under way. We will be working with Connie Morey, a local artist & post-secondary instructor. We look forward to working and learning with her; stay tuned for information about our upcoming art show, which will happen May 12-31 with an opening gala even on May 14th at the Arts Centre at Cedar Hill. Our Spectrum artist's will also be involved in the annual Limelight show, which is a collaborative show across the lower island, dates and times TBD.



From the Desk of Mr. Schwarz

The second semester has started in a flurry of activity with a full slate of classes and no preparation time inside the schedule. An exciting new class of students taking Acting, Film & TV, and Directing & Script-writing all in one block will begin to learn work standards both behind and in front of the camera. Some of these students will combine their efforts with Mr. Gordon's Creative Writing class to culminate in a film festival in late May or early June. Drama 9/10 students have begun to build their performance skills and self-confidence. They're quick studies and show potential for a possible end-of-year performance. Classical Black & White Photography classes take up the afternoon and students are looking forward to creating artworks using light, shadow, and silver crystals on film and paper with the chance to show their work at an exhibition through Camera Traders in the Market Square.

The A/V Club has been meeting Mondays and Fridays at lunch in the Library and have been producing another set of radio plays for their Lesser Known series. This one entitled "Parallels" explores how relationships are tested when a rift in space-time causes family members to go missing. Search for it on Spectrum Community School's SoundCloud channel.

Mainstage Musical Theatre Production 2020

Imagine the pitch meeting.

"So, you have a new script for us?"

"Yes. A musical comedy."

"Oh, good. Something fun! What's the plot?"

"The main protagonist murders eight people in cold blood."

Silence.

And yet, somehow, the 2014 Best Musical Tony winner *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* has you rooting for the dashing Monty Navarro, an impoverished Londoner in Edwardian England who discovers he is actually of noble birth – his mother was disinherited when she chose to marry for love. In fact, as it turns out, Monty is ninth in line to inherit the family fortune and become Earl of Highhurst, though it seems improbable he could outlive all eight before him in the line of succession. But when the pompous (and hysterically eccentric) heirs who stand between him and his birthright will have nothing to do with him, a plan hatches to remove them one by one through whatever means happen to present themselves. Complications, of course, arise. Based on a 1907 novel by Roy Horniman, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* opened on Broadway in 2013 and was nominated for ten Tonys, winning four (including Best Musical and Best Book). Underneath the comedy lies a subtle critique of class, entitlement, and bigotry. Horniman's novel was also the subject of a 1949 film, *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, featuring Sir Alec Guinness in a tour de force playing all eight murdered heirs. Rights to *Gentleman's Guide* have only just this year become available for licensing and Spectrum Community School will be the first organization to bring it to the stage in Victoria.



Show dates are February 28, 29, March 5, 6, 7 @ 7:30 PM and March 8 @ 2:00 PM. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10 for students and can be purchased or reserved through the school office, 250-479-8271.

Library News

Spectrum is participating in the Salmon in Schools program again this year. Two-hundred Coho salmon eggs arrived at the school at the end of January. Life Science and Library Science students will be caring for the salmon until they are ready for release into Colquitz Creek after Spring Break. Thank you to Kate MacDonald of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ms. Heidi Dyck and Ms. Joanne Beagle for supporting this initiative.

The Great Spectrum Read is underway! From a longlist of 21 titles related to the theme of "Inspiration", students and teachers have selected 14 books to move to the shortlist:

On the Come Up – Angie Thomas

By Chance Alone – Max Eisen

Unbroken – Laura Hillenbrand

I Am Malala – Malala Yousafzai

Educated – Tara Westover

Glimmer of Hope – March for Our Lives

Long Way Down – Jason Reynolds

No Summit Out of Sight – Jordan Romero

Rita Hayworth and the Shawshank Redemption – Stephen King

The Far Side of the Sky – Daniel Kalla

Princess Bride – William Goldman

Just Mercy – Bryan Stevenson

You Are Awesome – Neil Pasricha

The Alchemist – Paulo Coelho

Final voting in May will decide 2020's "Great Spectrum Read" winner.

"Off Topic", Spectrum's Student Book Club, meets every Wednesday in Room 160. Students are currently reading and discussing "Six of Crows" by Leigh Bardugo. Students are also organizing a board game café event and a trivia contest with Vic High.

We are looking forward to I Read Canadian Day (February 19) Freedom to Read Week (February 23-29) with activities and displays in the library.

Attention writers! The Greater Victoria Public Library is sponsoring a Teen Writing Contest for grades 7-12. This year's contest focuses on writing that is inspired by Michael Nicholl Yahgulanaas's book *Flight of the Hummingbird*, which challenges each of us to do our part, bit by bit, to make the world a better place. The contest runs from January 2 to February 27, 2020. Enter your original poem, short story, or something in our creative writing category. Entries have a limit of 1,500 words; works that surpass the word count may be disqualified. If your entry is selected by the judging panel, you will win a gift certificate to a local book store of your choice. Further details and an entry form is available at <https://www.gvpl.ca/play/teen-writing-contest/>. Students are also encouraged to enter stories, poems, and artwork to Spectrum's literary magazine, *The Muse* by e-mail at spectrumbreakout@gmail.com. Please see Ms. Havelaar, Ms. Irwin or Mr. Clark for more information.

NEWS FOR GRADS

Grad 2020 is June 15, 2020 at 5:00 PM, University of Victoria, Farquhar Auditorium

All grads participating in the U-Vic Grad Recognition Ceremony MUST pay their \$70 Grad Fee no later than Friday, April 17th. This covers the university facility, grad certificates and more. There will be an additional cost of \$30.00 for gown purchase. Payment deadline is April 30, 2020. Deadline for measuring is Friday, April 17, 2020. Details for ticket availability will be emailed and posted on the Grad Google Classroom in April. A Grad Parent information night is scheduled for April 23, 2020 following the Parent/Teacher/Student interviews.

Have questions about Grad? Please see Ms. Wignall, Vice Principal or visit Spectrum's webpage at <https://spectrum.sd61.bc.ca/> and follow the links "Student Info" and "Grad Resources" for details and refer to the Amended Grad Calendar for all important dates and deadlines.

Need help with a formal outfit? Connect with the Magic Wand Project. Formal wear is available to borrow for both men and women for a small donation.



CAREER LIFE CONNECTIONS

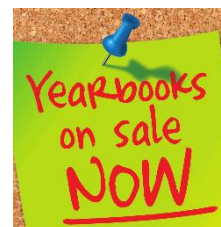
The Career Life Connections (CLC) course is to be completed by all students in grades 10, 11, and 12. In order to keep track of progress made in CLC, there is a CLC checklist for each grade found on the CLC website (spectrumclc.weebly.com) as well as a CLC Report Card sent home each reporting period. Grade 12 students are expected to participate in a culminating event, the CLC Capstone Fair, in either December or May, where they will showcase all of their CLC work from their years in the course. Any questions can be sent to Mr. Chris Lubinich at chlubinich@sd61.bc.ca.

SPRING BREAK 2021 – EUROPE

Would you like to join us at Spring Break in Berlin, Prague, Krakow, Budapest and Vienna? We will be experiencing history, culture, art and food as we travel across several countries; join us for a life-changing experience. A new traveler information meeting for parents and students will be happening on Feb 20th from 7-8pm in the Spectrum library.

Spectrum Yearbook

Have you bought your Spectrum Yearbook yet? This year's annual is up for yet another award and is sure to be a book long remembered. Buy early and skip the line on Celebrations Day in June. There are a limited number of books available so order yours now! Books are \$50 each and can be purchased in the office or online at: <https://sd61.schoolcashionline.com/>.



ATHLETIC LEADERSHIP 9/10 AND OUTDOOR RECREATION 11/12

Applications for Athletic Leadership 9 and 10; and Outdoor Recreation Leadership 11/ 12 are now being taken.

Athletic Leadership is a course which is designed to allow like-minded students the opportunity to explore interests in a range of athletic pursuits. The course runs together with physical education for a double block of time. Students will be given the opportunity to learn and demonstrate leadership skills in many situations in the school, in our elementary and middle schools and in the community. Students also participate in lifetime activities away from the school setting; such as, sailing, kayaking, disc golf, golfing, rock climbing, skating, ski/snowboarding, beach volleyball, jujitsu etc. Students will achieve their CPR A certification, CANSAIL I, and Kayak INT.

Outdoor Recreation Leadership 11/12 is a two year program designed to provide opportunities to gain knowledge and skills in outdoor education, community recreation, recreational leadership and management. Students have the opportunity to participate in activities such as:

Surfing	Leadership training and program design
Golfing	Wilderness running
Rock Climbing	Hiking
Scuba diving – Hours toward certification	Backpacking Juan de Fuca trail
Lawn bowling	Sailing – CANSAIL II
First aid	Beach volleyball
CPR	Strength and aerobic training
Orienteering	River rafting

How do I...

Find a student's counselor? Counselors at Spectrum divide their case load by student last name – as follows:

A to G and Y, Z	Graeme Hamilton
H to O	Jude Woodland
P to X	Celeste Bradshaw

Spectrum's Administrators also divide their case load by last name:

A to L	Mr. Jeff Marchi, Teacher in Charge
M to Z	Mrs. Jennifer Wignall, Vice-Principal

If you have any concerns, please contact your student's teachers or an administrator.



VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

We greatly appreciate our volunteer drivers. Volunteers driving any child other than their own must submit copies of their driver's license, vehicle insurance and a completed Adult Volunteer Driver form to Spectrum's office before driving. Volunteers are also asked to complete a Criminal Record Check (valid five years) and a Driver's Abstract (valid same as driver's license), this is free of charge. For detailed info, please visit our website at: <https://spectrum.sd61.bc.ca/parent-info/volunteer-drivers/>



DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Times are changing...and sometimes the dates on our calendar do too. In order to provide you with the most accurate information, we have moved to a digital format to keep our student and parent community informed. Please visit <https://spectrum.sd61.bc.ca/news-events/calendar/> for our full year calendar.