

## EMCS Weekly Message for February 12<sup>th</sup>

It's that time of year again! We are excited to be hosting our annual **Open House on Thursday, February 18th from 6:30 to 8:30**. We encourage all students and parents from grade 8 to 11 to attend.

At 6:30, there will be a presentation in the theatre, for students and their families, after which everyone is invited to explore the school, to enjoy the treats and displays, and to ask questions. Throughout the evening Mr. Phipps will be available in the main computer lab on the second floor to help with the course selection process.

We look forward to seeing you!

**Course selection for the 2016-2017** school year will take place in late February and March. It is important that their choices be based on Ministry requirements, individual interests and abilities, and future goals. Our Open House is organized to showcase the courses offered at EMCS, and to help students and parents make informed choices at each grade level, beginning with the transitions from Journey to EMCS. Teachers, counsellors, case managers, and administrators will be in attendance to answer questions and to make recommendations.

Students have been reminded to turn in their Career Cruising consent forms so they will be able to select courses online. Consent forms have been emailed home and are also available in the office. Using Career Cruising, each student creates a 4 year high school plan. Based on this plan, the program provides a personalized list of post-secondary options to explore.

School Counsellors have started course selection meetings with Grade 8 students at Journey. Career Cruising accounts are set up for Grade 8 students and Grade 8 students may now select their courses online. Starting on February 19, Grade 8 students will be able to lock-in their requests by clicking the "submit" button in the course selection window of Career Cruising.

Career Cruising accounts are not yet set up for current Grade 9 – 11 students. We plan to have these accounts set up near the end of February. At that time, school counsellors will meet with Grade 9 – 11 students to review grad requirements and explain the course selection process.

For more information and updates on course selection at EMCS, please visit:  
<http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/students/counselling-centre/course-selection/>

**Math and Science Tutoring** - Free tutoring for all levels of math and science (up to grade 11) is offered every Thursday after school in the counselling suite. No appointment necessary.

**Is your student interested in technology?** If so, stop in to our career center (in the counselling suite) and look for Ms. Cossentine. TEAC applications are now available for the September 2016 intake. TEAC 105 provides an introduction to careers and basic skills in Computer Science, Electronic and Computer Engineering Technology, Civil Engineering Technology, and Mechanical Engineering Technology. Students will complete a project in each of the 4 areas. Students also earn 4 college credits. This course takes place at Camosun College Interurban Campus, Fridays from 3:00pm to 6:00pm. This course is open to Grades 10 to 12 students who have a strong academic interest in engineering and computers sciences.

**Math Opportunity** - As our school continues to develop a community of academic rigor, we're happy to announce we are launching "Math and Computing Contests at EMCS".

We wish to inspire our students to develop an interest in and love for mathematics and computer science. We see the Math and Computing Contests at EMCS project as being able to bring together students of a common interest across grade levels. We are excited about this opportunity to challenge our students. For more details, please contact Mr. Eccleston, Mr. Baldwin, or visit our website.

<https://sites.google.com/a/sd62learns.org/emcs/>

**Grad Fashion show:** The grads are hard at work preparing for the Grad Fashion Show. Tickets are now on sale at both EMCS and Shoppers Drug Mart. Sales are brisk so get yours now before they are gone.

**The EMCS Concert Band** is looking for new members. We are playing rock, pop, and classical - including Star Wars and the theme from Halo. Come check us out on Mondays/Wednesdays after school in the drama/music room. Experience in music preferred, but not necessary. Electric bass, Brass, woodwinds, and percussion needed!

**It's not too late to join the Europe 2017 trip!** A few spots remain. Please contact Ms. Garat, Ms. Gruno, or Mr. Baldwin for details. (Please see poster attached)

The cafeteria re-opens Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>.

**February Rugby**

Boy's rugby Monday Thursday for February: all welcome

Girl's rugby: Monday Wednesday Friday: all welcome

### **EMCS TRACK AND FIELD PRACTICES**

Mondays 3:30 - 5:00 pm

Thursdays 3:30 – 5:00 pm

Practices will be held at the new track at Royal Bay School.

All events will be held. See Matt Mortenson or Ms. Hunter for more information.

### **Reminders for Grade 12 Students**

**Please remember that only students who are on track to grad will be permitted to participate in the grad ceremony. Being on track means that there are deadlines that must be met!**

- Refer to the Grade 12 Checklist for a list of important things to do during your Grade 12 year.  
<http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2015/10/EMCS-Grade-12-Checklist.pdf>
- Review the Grad List requirements online at:  
<http://emcs.web.sd62.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/sites/8/2015/10/Grad-List.pdf>
- Are you taking a distance learning course? You should be turning in assignments regularly. **Any DL courses that are required for graduation must be completed by May 1** for you to be on the Grad List. Note that many post-secondary schools expect you to complete DL courses early in the spring so be sure to check the requirements of the post-secondary schools you hope to attend.
- Self-Reporting grades to universities... UVIC, UBC and many other universities require you to “self-report” your marks online. Check the requirements and timelines for universities to which you’ve applied. Self-reporting at UVIC opens Feb. 15. **See your counsellors for help if needed.**

**Spring break** is almost upon us and often there are fun and organized trips associated with this break. We want to be clear, though, that “S Trips” are not sanctioned by our school or by our school district. Neither are they a school recommended way for our students to spend their spring vacation.

Our Sooke District Chapter of **Canadian Parents for French** is hosting a French Nature Camp this March Break for students in French Programming. This is the first time we will be having a French Language Camp like this locally for our students, and we are so excited for them to benefit from this amazing experience. This would also help boost the registration so that we can in turn build our funding to better support our French Programming students, staff, and families in SD62 with more resources, activities and events in French!

They would appreciate your support in sharing the following information on your facebook/twitter/any media with our families in SD62 so that all have the equal opportunity to register:

Register NOW! French Nature Camps during this March break held locally at Camp Barnard. This is a great way for your child to develop their French vocabulary further while building unique survival skills. 150\$/child with CPF Membership or 175\$/child without a CPF Membership. We can't wait to meet all of our campers!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1DLinHplGv893XEZCKArFBeBFenCVWlqEX1qc9mmXCk/viewform>

February 17<sup>th</sup> – Report Cards

February 18<sup>th</sup> – Open House

February 19<sup>th</sup> – Non-instructional Day