

EMCS Weekly Message for February 3rd, 2017

Semester one has come to a close and we have had an excellent start to semester two. The halls are quiet as students get organized with their new schedules and get acquainted with new teachers to begin the semester. Our current Grade 9's now have a full semester under their belts at EMCS and the grade 12's can see the finish line of their public school career on the horizon. February is not just time for new classes at EMCS; it is also time for us to start the process of ensuring a smooth transition into next year. This means that admin and counselors will be visiting Journey Middle School to talk to our incoming grade 9s about their course options and about what life at EMCS can look like for them. It also means that we will be having our Open House/Course Fair here on Thursday February 23rd, 6:30 to 8:30. Everyone is welcome to attend this event that will showcase the variety of courses we are able to offer at our high school. This open house is not just for our incoming students and parents; it is equally relevant for our current students who are charting their course towards grad. As always, if you have concerns or questions about your student never hesitate to open the line of communication with the teaching staff or the office; we are always here to help.

Report Cards will be handed out Wednesday, February 8th during homeroom.

The Boys and Girls Club is offering an after school program, called Keystone Youth Leadership, for students interested in increasing their job readiness, developing life skills and volunteering in their community. A representative will be at EMCS on Feb. 8th at lunchtime to answer any questions you may have. Details can be found in the Career Centre.

Still a Few Spots Left! Parents of Grade Nine and Ten University-Bound Students

On February 15th, Sharon Jesson one of our EMCS School Counsellors will accompany 30 grade nine and ten students, by bus, to a FREE day-long symposium at the University of Victoria. Last year's group loved it, and this is the final year that it will be available. If your son or daughter is interested please call EMCS and speak directly to Sharon or have them sign up on the list posted on the Counselling bulletin board ASAP.

Participants will:

- Develop skills in leadership and group learning
- Learn about the latest in technology from top researchers in their fields
- Meet students from across British Columbia and share your ideas
- See what it's like to be a UVic student!

Follow this link for further information: <http://www.uvic.ca/freshminds/index.php>

Sharon Jesson, EMCS School Counsellor, 250-642-5211 Ext 1185

The Student Video Game Work Experience Program provides students with the opportunity to learn what it is like to work in a video game company. The program will run from April - May 2017.

Each work experience week placement will run Mon - Thur.

Hours will be 9:30 am - 3 pm

Open to grade 11 and 12 students only. Register at: <http://www.vicvideogames.com/>

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Women in Trades and Technology Exploration Day is coming up on February 15 at Camosun College. This is an opportunity to check out some great, well-paying careers while doing fun, hands-on activities. Bussing is provided for this all day event but registration is limited. Please sign up in the Career Centre.

Seedy Saturday, needs volunteers on Friday February 24th and Saturday February 25th. Tasks include setting up tables, helping vendors bring in their products, assisting with workshops, raffle ticket sales, parking attendants and take down. See the Career Center for details.

The 25th Annual Vancouver Island Youth Parliament

A model parliament for youth ages 14-18 from March 10-12, 2017, hosted at the Gulf Islands Secondary School. Applications can be picked up in the Career Centre.

All students who have been to Ottawa with **Encounters with Canada**, who are between the ages of 16 and 18, are invited to enter a contest to win an eight day, all-expenses paid trip to Belgium. Contestants are asked to create a response to what the poem "In Flanders Fields" means to them. It could be a card, poem, recital, play, video, photo audio recording, choreography, visual artwork or essay. Details can be found in the Career Centre.

For all you videographers out there, there is a video contest being hosted by Worksafe BC on the topic of Work Safety. First prize winners will walk away with \$1000.00 for themselves and \$1500.00 for your school. Details in the Career Centre or take a look at the poster outside Ms. McLellan's room.

Job opportunities are available in Port Renfrew with **Wild Renfrew**. Restaurant, hotel and pub positions are posted in the Career Center.

Fort Rodd Hill is looking for volunteers to help with the restoration of the Garry Oak Forests. This volunteer position is sponsored by the Species at Risk Communications Officer with Parks Canada. This position would involve two Saturdays a month year-round. The volunteer times are from 10am-3pm. Please contact the Career Centre if you are interested in this position.

Any students interested in becoming a heavy duty mechanic, please contact the Career Centre. The course would start September 2017, and would be taught at Camosun College Interurban Campus.

For any **Grade 12 students** who have completed their grad requirements, and would like to enter the Health Care Assistant program at Camosun College in April. We have been informed there are seats available for this program. Please contact the Career Centre.

For those students interested in **Arts and Technology**, there is a **Digital Boot Camp** offered through the **Centre for Arts and Technology** in Kelowna March 20 to 23rd. Students will take part in a designated Bootcamp mission that will allow students to test-drive the digital arts program of their choice. The options range from animation, audio engineering & production, digital filmmaking, graphic design, network security specialist, interior design, event and promotions management, and veterinary hospital assistant. Contact the Career Centre if you are interested.

Feb. 8th – **Report cards distributed in homeroom**

Feb. 13th – **Family Day**

Feb.14th-16th – **EMCS Talent Show auditions**

Feb. 15th – **Hockey Banquet @ 6pm**

Feb. 17th – **Students vs Staff Hockey Game**

Feb. 23rd – **EMCS Open House @ 6:30pm**

Feb. 24th – **Non-instructional day**

Mar. 15th – **Grad Fashion Show @ 7pm**

Mar. 20th – 31st – **Spring Break**