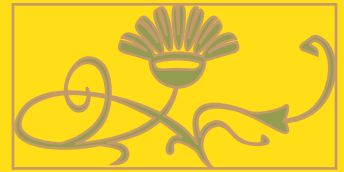


April is the fourth month of the year in the Gregorian Calendar, and one of four months with a length of 30 days. April was originally the second month of the Roman calendar, before January and February were added.



The derivation of the name (Latin *Aprilis*) is uncertain. The traditional etymology is from the Latin *aperire*, "to open," in allusion to its being the season when trees and flowers begin to "open," for spring.



For the May 9, 2011 Board of Education Meeting

SUCCESS STORIES



Recognition of Student/School Success

School District No. 67 (Okanagan Skaha) extends congratulations to the following students/groups for these outstanding examples of success for April:

Kaleden Elementary

Environmental Mind Grind

This year was Kaleden Elementary's first foray into the annual Mind Grind competition. Six dedicated students prepared for four weeks at lunch time, giving up valuable play time to study for their competition.

Their hard work and study paid off as both teams advanced into the final rounds of the competition where one Kaleden team knocked out the other. Overall the school came in second place. While the staff is very happy with the result they are more proud of their students for their dedication and the way they represented Kaleden Elementary! Team members were: **Kiera Thompson**, **Kevin Stevenson**, **Meghan Stayburg**, **Simon Phillips**, **Alyse Kohler-Mergle** and **Martin Lukacic**.





Cleaning Up the Community

In celebration of Earth Day, Kaleden Elementary partnered with Kaleden Recreation Services to clean up Pioneer Park. On Thursday April 21st, the students walked down to the beach and participated in weeding, raking, picking up garbage, washing picnic tables – all the maintenance that is required for the upcoming summer months. Many parents offered a helping hand as well.



SUCCESS STORIES



KVR Middle

Cyber Space Meets Outer Space!

Astronaut, Alvin Drew spent some time with the grade 6 French Immersion students at KVR two weeks ago. The interaction was done through a Skype video as Drew was working in Houston, Texas.

He had recently completed a successful mission, STS-133, to the International Space Station and was the 200th human to do a spacewalk. Drew shared some of his experiences with the students as they took a sneak peak of a movie just made by the crew (but not yet released.) This was Drew's second successful mission after STS-118. Before that, he worked as an engineer, flew helicopters and worked as a test pilot.

He shared some very interesting stories and gave some great advice to the students as he answered their questions.



Environmental Mind Grind

On April 15th KVR participated in the *Environmental Mind Grind*. Not only did KVR teams finish both first and second but they also won the prize for the team with the most spirit! Congratulations to Ms. Lindsay Anderson and all the Mind Grinders!





Naramata Elementary

Naramata Super Stars:

The April Naramata Super Stars Assembly took place on Tuesday, April 19. Following their new theme of “Growing”, the following students were honoured for their “growing” efforts, talents, and kindness. Students received a certificate to take home and a small trophy to place on their desk for a week (a certificate is also placed on the bulletin board at school). The trophies have been kindly donated by Okanagan Awards Plus (Tony & Jodi Trovao).

(Grade 4, 5) **Desiree Paulhus**, **Felicia Ord**, **Jeniah McElroy**
(Grade 2, 3) **Carlin Bordin-Slavens**, **Ceadra Hardardt**, **Ben Ryan**
(Grade 1, 2) **Finn Halladay**, **Carson Semancik-Green**





Parkway Elementary

April Events:

The Breakfast Club met twice and the students enjoyed two excellent meals. Thank you to all the wonderful volunteers!

Flag football for the grade 4/5's is wrapping up soon – it's been a great success!

The monthly assembly went very well which included a great performance. Conservation was the theme for this month.

The choir practiced twice and had a great time at the music festival. All the students performed brilliantly – everyone was very proud of them!

The parents put on another super hot lunch today. The students all really enjoyed it. Thank you to all of the volunteers that do such a great job!

The senior readers from the Concorde had another wonderful afternoon reading with Parkway students.

All of the grade 4/5 students enjoyed a great day building cultural bridges with the Aboriginal Education staff in the district. They took part in eight wonderful stations and learned a great deal.

Parkway staff and students enjoyed 'Backwards Day'. House team points were collected!

Princess Margaret Secondary

SURPRISE BIRTHDAY PARTY

The Princess Margaret grade 12 students, the Grad class of 2011, put on a surprise birthday party for a fellow Grad in late March. **Daniel Cunningham**, a grade 12 student at Princess Margaret has Muscular Dystrophy and is confined to a wheel chair. The grade 12 students raised money, bought some Vancouver Canuck hockey tickets for Daniel and his family and then called a Grad meeting. 170 students attended the meeting. To Daniel's surprise, it was a Birthday party for him!

Mason Raymond, Daniel's favorite Vancouver Canuck player, provided a Happy Birthday greeting to Daniel via video, something the students arranged. The Fire department was on hand wishing Daniel a Happy Birthday. As well, they provided cake for the occasion. Daniel has been an inspiration to many of the grade 12 students. Several of them have known Daniel before he had Muscular Dystrophy. Daniel's parents, siblings and Grandparents were also on hand for this very emotional gathering. Thanks to grade 12 student **Megan Ehlers** for organizing the event. By the way, the Canucks won the game Daniel and family attended!

SUCCESS STORIES

Princess Margaret Secondary Cont...



Daniel Cunningham

Penticton Secondary

Reach for the Top

Congratulations to **Shawn Loielle**, **Mackenzie Johnson**, **Katie Kearney** and **Anne Theilmann** for their efforts at Reach for the Top!

The Pen High team finished 8th out of 28 teams in the preliminary round! They then scored a victory against Burnett in the round of 16 to reach the quarter-finals. In the quarter-finals they lost to eventual winners Burnaby North.

Penticton Secondary students demonstrated "class" and incredible knowledge!



Penticton Secondary Cont...

Court Room Drama

The Penticton Secondary debate team engaged in some court room drama in Victoria this past Saturday. The team successfully prosecuted the accused against Oak Bay, but were unable to defend the same accused in tense court room theatrics against Brentwood Secondary. Brentwood went up against and Glenlyon-Norfolk to take top legal honours. All in all it was a great success !

Congratulations on a job well done! These students tried and they persevered!

Yasha Pushak (Grade 12)
Jahnnie Shaw (Grade 12)
Dillon Brown (Grade 11)
Aspen Dirk (Grade 10)
Linda Worden (Grade 9)
Jasper Meiklejohn (Grade 9)

Annual Sun Run in Vancouver

Pen Hi Sun Runners had a fantastic weekend in Vancouver and joined about 49,300 other people at the Annual Sun Run. Tons of smiles and excitement all weekend.

Student Sun Runners - loads of personal bests and a lot of smiles after the race!!!
Well done team!!!!

Hailey Byrnes
Emily Laidman
Jelayna Murdoch
Courtney Milligan
Layne Richardson - who placed 22nd in his age group and was one of the top runners overall - nice job!! And who made the front page with Waterman (we think) of the Vancouver Sun.
Emily Allin
Jamie Atkins
Keirsten Mend
Kiah Wheeler
Lisa Tu Storhaug
Morgan Foisy
Vicky Cumming

Penticton Secondary - Staff - Sun Run Runners

Sue Gunning - extra special thanks for driving the crew there and for being a skytrain saviour
Nadeen Halls - organizer extraordinaire
Shea MacDonald - for giving Kate her fastest time yet! And for being such a loyal Canucks fan....
Geoff Waterman - for just being fast - placing in the top 125 overall!
Kim Kerr - a blazing PB for a newly converted runner
Lance Zablotney - extra special thanks for driving home!
Sandra Richardson - an amazing race and extra special problem solver all weekend long...whew!
Kirsten Nendick - for writing up a great Safety Plan! And willing to meet for ice cream!

SUCCESS STORIES



Penticton Secondary Cont...

Clean Water Project in Sierra Leone

Pen High's Global Awareness Group is closing in on another successful year. Their most recent fundraiser, was the second annual multi-cultural dinner, which raised almost \$1000. toward the Clean Water Project in Sierra Leone. Food and drinks were generously donated by restaurants in the Penticton community, as well as several businesses donating items for a silent auction.

The Pen High group has been working closely with 'Free the Children' to accomplish their clean water goal.

Last year Pen High raised enough money to build a school in Sierra Leone: this year they are excited to bring clean, fresh water to a village which will allow more children the freedom to attend that school.

The next fundraiser is a used jewellery sale at the Penticton Farmer's Market. Gently used or new items of jewellery have been donated, and are then resold. A true recycling project!

Writer's Block

On April 21st, 50 SD67 students gathered at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre for Writer's Block. Writer's Block is a conference for high school students with interests in Creative Writing and Journalism. Guest speakers included:

1. **James Miller** (Editor of The Penticton Herald) - Session: How to interview and ask follow-up questions.
2. **Michelle Barker** (Professional Writer) - Session: Dedication to the craft and creative writing exercises and websites to help you write at home.
3. **April Lawrence** (Global TV Journalist) - Session: The importance of direct and accurate language in television journalism.

Students certainly enjoyed all three sessions, the catered lunch, and the beauty of getting together at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre!



Skaha Lake Middle

- April 7 The grade 8 Band performed at the BC Interior Jazz Festival and were well received by the adjudicators.
- April 15 SLMS entered two grade 7 teams at the Environmental Mind Grind competition. The whole school is being treated to an “ice-cream party” as the teams won the prize for “best school spirit”.
- April 19-20 The AquaVan from the Vancouver Aquarium spent two days at SLMS delivering the “Lives of the Wet and Spineless” program to all ten of the grade 6 and 7 classes. This was funded by the SLMS PAC. Students learned how marine invertebrates (sea stars, barnacles, hermit crabs, sea anemones) are adapted to live in various habitats in the inter-tidal zone. The impact of humans on the seashore ecosystems was also discussed.
- April 27 MD Carnival -The grade 8 “Me to We” Leadership group is putting on a carnival for all classes to raise money for Muscular Dystrophy. The goal this year is to raise \$2000.
- April 28 All grade 6 students will attend the Hearts@School Health Fair at the Penticton Trade and Convention Centre. Students will take part in seminars and try different activities that encourage a healthy life style.





SUCCESS STORIES





SUCCESS STORIES

Summerland Secondary

Optimist Speech Contest

Exciting News - **Francesca Ota-Demers** was a successful contestant in the recent Optimist Speech Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing held at the Michael J. Fox Theatre at the BC School for the Deaf. Francesca had such poise and dignity she blew them out of the water! This was Francesca's third attempt and will be her last due to graduation. She has won several thousand dollars worth of Scholarship monies and is now the BC representative to participate in the National Championships being held in Oregon in May! The Championships involves Deaf candidates from BC and the States. Francesca is on Cloud 9!

French Immersion - Speech Competition

Congratulations go to **Susan Watkins** on winning the top spot in her category at the district-level French speech competition at Penticton Secondary. Her well-researched and convincing speech impressed the judges. She has qualified for provincials in Vancouver in May! Bravo Susan!! Congratulations also to the following finalists who also represented SSS very well at the French speech competition: **Riley Greenwood**, **Cam Weir** and **Emily Henderson**. Penticton Secondary, Princess Margaret Secondary and Summerland Secondary all competed very well.



Fairy Godmother Project

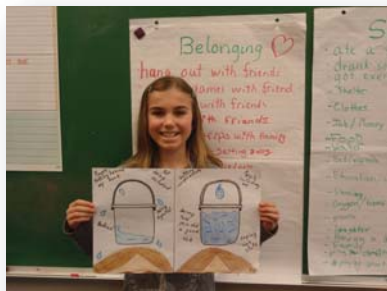
Summerland Secondary's Textiles Class has taken old dresses and fixed them up. They will be auctioning them off for Prom. The proceeds will be going to student assistance programs to help students pay for field trips and other opportunities that they otherwise could not afford.

SUCCESS STORIES

Uplands Elementary



- **School Sports:**
 - Gymnastics with instruction from Manuela Stegmann (BC Gymnastics Association)
 - Tennis with Joanne Bettauer from Vanchen Sports (in conjunction with Tennis BC).
 - Cross Country Running
 - *Fun Sports* -Tues. evenings coordinated by parent volunteer, Randy Beaselinck
 - Every member of the grade 5 basketball team received MVP awards at the Assembly on April 8th
- **Grade 5 Playground Leadership Workshop (with Action Schools):** An excellent workshop was held on April 15th to teach students about leading playground activities. Soon they will be setting up Playground Fun Stations outside for all students to take part - led by grade 5 students.
- **Kiwanis Music Festival:** Mrs. Buzikievich's grade 2 students and Ms. Street's grade 3 students both won their events. Ms. Street's class has also been asked to perform at the Festival Highlights on April 29th.
- **Mrs. Brome's Div. 4, Gr. 3/4 Class Visits to *Village by the Station*:** The visits continue to be very meaningful for both students and their senior buddies.
- **Bake Sale for tsunami and earthquake victims in Japan on April 20th** – lead Mrs. MacIntyre's grade 3 class - \$625.00 was raised!!
- **Restorative Practices Activities and Presentation** – Grade 5 students created a mini-movie involving some of the Restorative Practices and SMARTLearning activities they have been doing. Restorative Practices promotes the understanding of behaviour, taking responsibility and making it "right".
- **Earth Day Assembly on April 29th followed by school clean up**



RESTORATIVE PRACTICES in ACTION