



# The Midpointe

News and opinion for Southpointe Academy families

## April 15, 2010

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## **A WEEKEND IN CHINA AND A TUESDAY NIGHT IN TSAWWASSEN**

On Friday afternoon last week, I left for China. It was Saturday night when I arrived. On Sunday and Monday I was busy there. On Tuesday afternoon this week, I arrived back.

I went primarily to give a speech to officials of the Chinese Ministry of Education and selected Principals from all parts of that vast country. They had invited me to talk to them about education reform, something they intend to do. Concerned by student stress levels as they prepare for national exams that essentially determine their future and by what they perceive as a lack of creativity in their students and too little ability to think, China is determined to reform its education system. How to do it to achieve the desirable results? That is the question on which they are seeking opinions and that was the question to which I was requested to suggest the answer.

On Tuesday night, I was here at the school to introduce and enjoy an excellent presentation on the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Program. We announced some weeks ago that we were introducing this program in our FYP next year. In order to share our excitement with parents, Bruce Griffioen and Kate Quenville prepared a program, with hands-on activity, to introduce the main elements and explain what would be different next year as we strive to give our students the best possible education in the crucial early years. They had prepared well and presented an informative, enlightening, and crisp presentation that was well-received by the ten parents who attended. Many more, though, would benefit from hearing what they had to say (and trying to solve the problem presented!), so we shall repeat the evening at a later date.

The point is that a vast nation and a small school are both busy reflecting on their practice as they try to give their students the means of achieving success and happiness in this new century. I feel privileged to be helping both!



## **THE PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION**

Tomorrow is Speech Day. Delayed by the Olympic days, it is welcome now. Starting at 0845 in the South Delta Baptist Church Sanctuary, our finalists from Grade 1 to 12 will continue a five-year tradition by speaking to a large audience of their fellow students.

Parents, grandparents and friends are welcome, too, and are promised a morning to remember.

## **PINK DAY**

We all wore pink yesterday to show we were against bullying. The 'Pink Day' concept is a worthy one, though we encourage everyone to think of every day as pink day!

## **VAISAKHI**

We are pleased to note that on April 13 Vaisakhi, the Festival that celebrates the founding of the Khalsa, began. We wish all our students a happy time as they participate in the vibrant festivals that will happen this weekend. Thanks, too, to the kind donors for today's pizza feast.



The Anandpur Temple

## **NEW SCHOOL UPDATE**

Delta Council will vote on our building permit application at their meeting next Tuesday.

Meetings to assist us all to complete the paperwork necessary to buy our Southpointe Bonds have begun and will continue. We would like you to attend on the day designated in the e-mail you have received from the pledge committee, but please do not hesitate to request a change of date should that be more convenient for you.

## RE-ENROLMENT

The timeliness of re-enrolment is crucial this year as decisions on the number of classes/courses to be offered need to be made so we can assess our staffing needs accurately. It seems, to judge from conversations we have had, that many families who intend to re-enrol have not yet done so. **Please do not delay any longer.** Thanks.

## VIVA ESPANA

On Saturday, a party of 21 –eighteen students and three teachers –arrives from our partner school in Spain. El **Colegio Internacional de Valladolid** es un Colegio español, privado, mixto, no confesional, que ofrece una enseñanza bilingüe en inglés y español en el marco de la normativa vigente. They will be with us until April 30. Please give them all a warm welcome to our school and our country.



Their visit will help them with their English, but it also provides excellent opportunities for our students to practise their Spanish. These opportunities should be seized enthusiastically, so let's hope our corridors and classrooms ring with the greeting 'hola!' for the next two weeks.

*Graham Baldwin*

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Volunteer Opportunity

A team of volunteers are gearing up to start mounting and framing artwork for the upcoming Southpointe Academy Art Show. If you would like more information about this very rewarding volunteer opportunity, please contact Lori Weatherby via e-mail at [weatherby@dccnet.com](mailto:weatherby@dccnet.com) or Karen Nielson at [knielson@me.com](mailto:knielson@me.com).

Our first session will be on Monday, April 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in the Art Building at Century Square. We look forward to hearing from you.

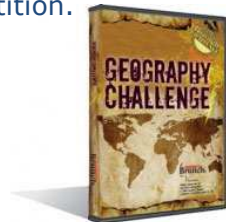


### THE GREAT CANADIAN GEOGRAPHIC CHALLENGE

Congratulations, to Declan Hodgins on his participation in the Provincial Finals of the Great Canadian Geographic Challenge this past weekend in White Rock. Declan took on thirty-eight other students from as far away as Dawson Creek and Vancouver Island, in the preliminary 90-point preliminary round. From this, the top ten students met to compete in the final round. Declan competed against students in grades eight, nine and ten and although he did not advance with the final ten, he more than held his own against his older and more experienced competition.

Well done, Declan!

Submitted by Mr. Scholefield

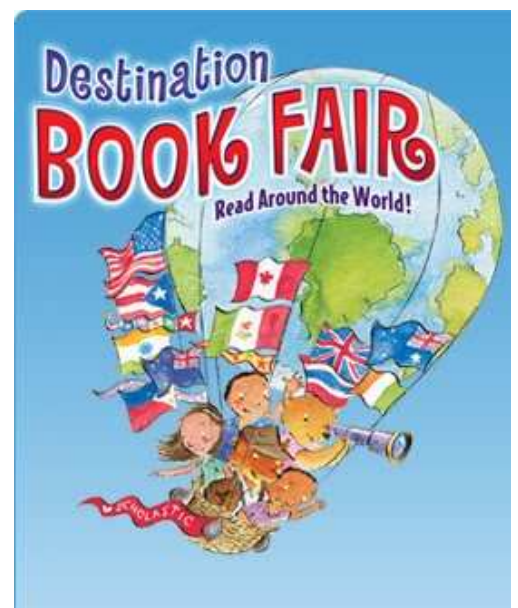


### LIBRARY NEWS

Southpointe Academy's Library is hosting its second Scholastic Book Fair. The Book Fair will run from Wednesday, April 28th through Friday, April 30th. Are you interested in volunteering? There will be plenty to do from set up, to stocking the shelves, to crowd control.

Please sign up on the library door or send Mrs. Levitt an email at [library@spacademy.ca](mailto:library@spacademy.ca). Your support is appreciated.

Mrs. Jessica Levitt  
[jessica.levitt@spacademy.ca](mailto:jessica.levitt@spacademy.ca)



# **EARTH DAY**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The FYP Environmental Club and the Grad Committee have teamed up to bring you an exciting EARTH DAY program for next week! Read below to find out how you can become involved in our EARTH DAY activities!

## **BLUE AND GREEN THEME DAY and HOT DOG DAY**

On Earth Day (Thursday, April 22), come to school dressed in the colours of our Earth! For \$2.00, you can wear blue and green clothing to celebrate a clean environment! To make the atmosphere more festive, the Grad Committee is offering hot dogs and drinks for lunch on Thursday, April 22. Enjoy a hot dog in the fresh air!

## **WHOLE SCHOOL ASSEMBLY on MONDAY, APRIL 19**

Come and hear the EARTH DAY RAP! The FYP students will share what they have been doing all week and find out more about the week's activities! Student must wear their #1 uniform.

## **LITTERLESS LUNCHES**

All Delta schools have been issued the "Litterless Lunch Challenge".

*Did you know that average school age child who consumes a conventional disposable lunch generates an average of 67 lbs of waste per school year? For one average sized elementary school that equates to 18,760 lbs of lunch waste per year. All week, use a reusable lunch box and reusable containers for drinks and food. Avoid plastic wraps and packaging that ends up in the landfill. Each FYP class has a compost bin for fresh fruits and vegetables!*

## **"BIKE POOL" FROM SURREY AND TSAWWASSEN**

Our "bike pool" from Boundary Bay and Beach Grove was great fun last year! Mr. Griffioen issues a challenge to all Surrey residents to join him on an early morning cycle ride to school on the dyke from Mud Bay Park in Surrey! Get your bike tuned up and join the fun! More information and details of both bike pools will be presented at the assembly on Monday.

## **PLANT A FLOWER IN THE COURTYARD**

Every FYP student will be given the opportunity to make the courtyard and school grounds more beautiful! Come to the courtyard on April 22 and enjoy nature!

## **TURN YOUR LIGHTS OFF**

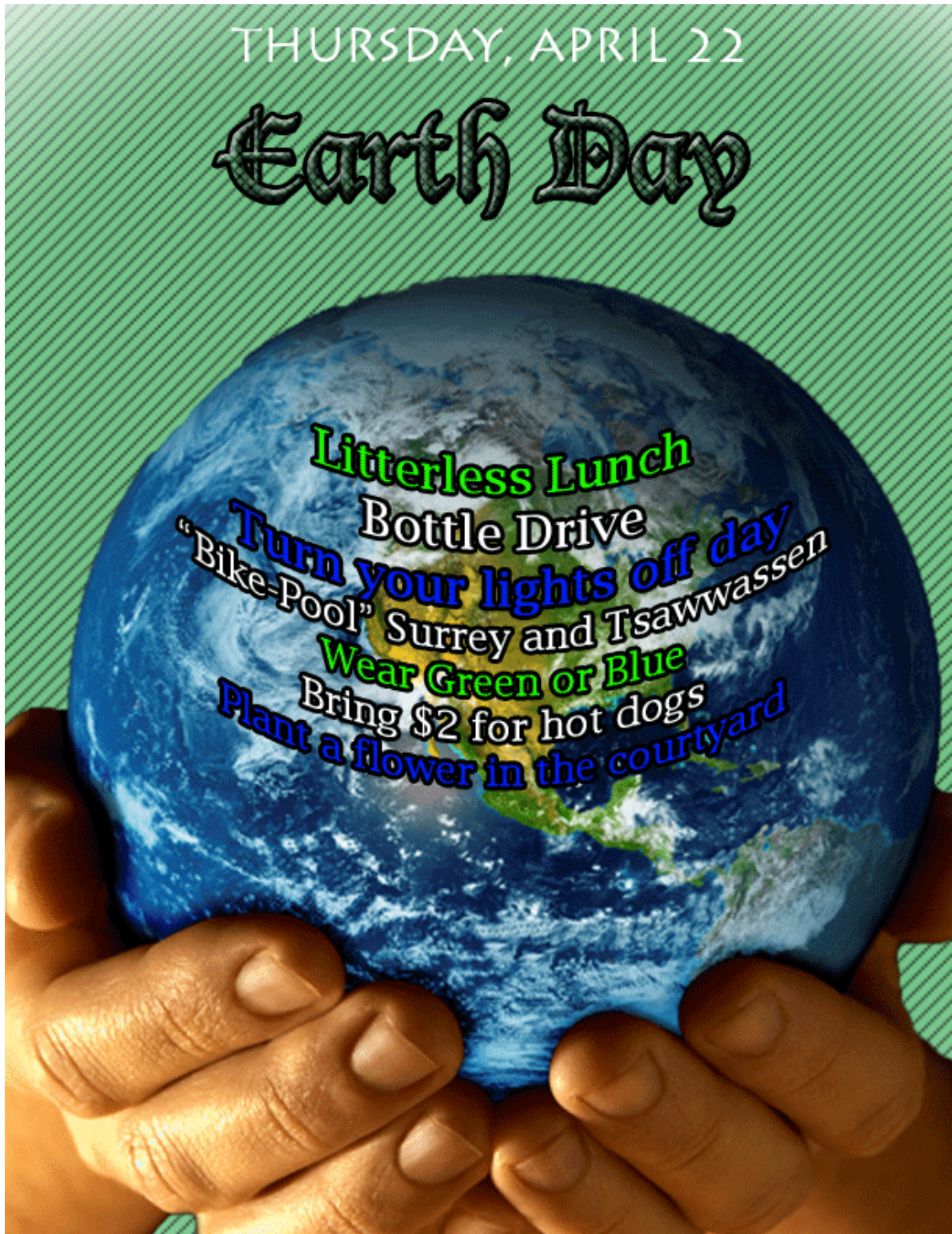
Teachers and students will be challenged to keep their lights off as much as possible next week to avoid using electricity. Take it a step further and take this challenge as a family in your home!

## GRAD PLANT SALE

Buy a plant from our Grads and support this fundraiser! Look for the Grad plant sale order forms to come home on Friday, April 23.

## GRAD BOTTLE DRIVE

The FYP Environmental club encourages you to bring your recyclable bottles to the courtyard on April 22 for the Grad Bottle Drive.



## VAISAKHI

It was April 13, 1699, the Sikh religion was formed. Vaisakhi the day all Sikhs come together to celebrate a New Year and harvest season. For many people Vaisakhi is also called Baisakhi. It's a day of remembrance for Guru Gobind Singh Ji because of his bravery for introducing the Sikh religion. Guru Gobind made the Sikhs believe they had more power than they thought and gave them courage to stand up for their religion and beliefs. On the Sikh calendar this celebration stands out because of its importance. Joy fills the hearts of every Sikh on this special day. It starts in the early morning when they take a bath, wear fresh new clothes and visit their place of worship, the gurdwara to participate in a special prayer. Once the religious singing comes to an end everyone is served with Prasad (sweet treat.) The Golden Temple is the main place where Vaisakhi is celebrated.



You know how the culture was formed, but who are the people of the culture? A Sikh is someone who believes in one God, the 10 Sikh Gurus, the Guru Granth, and they must believe in the importance of Amrit (the Sikh baptism.) Christianity and Islam are similar to the culture of Sikhs because they think God is the greatest power, He is supreme, the kings of kings, He knows the inner thoughts of everyone, He is the giver, He existed before the start of the time and most importantly He will exist now and will exist forever. Vaisakhi is a tradition for the whole world and the excitement is shared with anyone no matter what culture they are.

Submitted by Alina and Ashley

**Rupinder Gill would like to say a big thank you to all the Parents who donated their time and money to help buy pizza and help celebrate Vaisakhi with the Students today!**

## PROJECT DISCOVER

### **GRADE 4 PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

Our Grade 4 Project Discover Camp is coming soon! An information package with details on the camp and consent forms will be sent to your family's SPA email account in the next few days. The important dates to remember are:

- » Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> – parent/guardian information session at 3:30pm in Ms Santry's classroom;
- » Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> – forms are due;
- » Thursday, May 13<sup>th</sup> – camp begins! Meet at 8:05am in the South Delta Baptist Church parking lot;
- » Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – camp finishes. Pick up is at 12noon in the South Delta Baptist Church parking lot.

### **GRADE 5 PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

The dates for our Grade 5 Project Discover Camp have changed. An information package with details on the camp and consent forms will be sent to your family's SPA email account late next week. The important dates to remember are:

- » Tuesday, May 11<sup>th</sup> – parent/guardian information meeting at 3:30pm in Dr Mangat's classroom;
- » Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup> – forms are due;
- » Monday, June 7<sup>th</sup> – camp begins! Meet at 8:05am in the South Delta Baptist Church parking lot;
- » Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> – camp finishes. Pick up is at 3:15 by the primary playground (on site).

## GYP NEWS



### **UNIVERSITY NEWS!**

Update on University acceptances.

Congratulations to the following students:

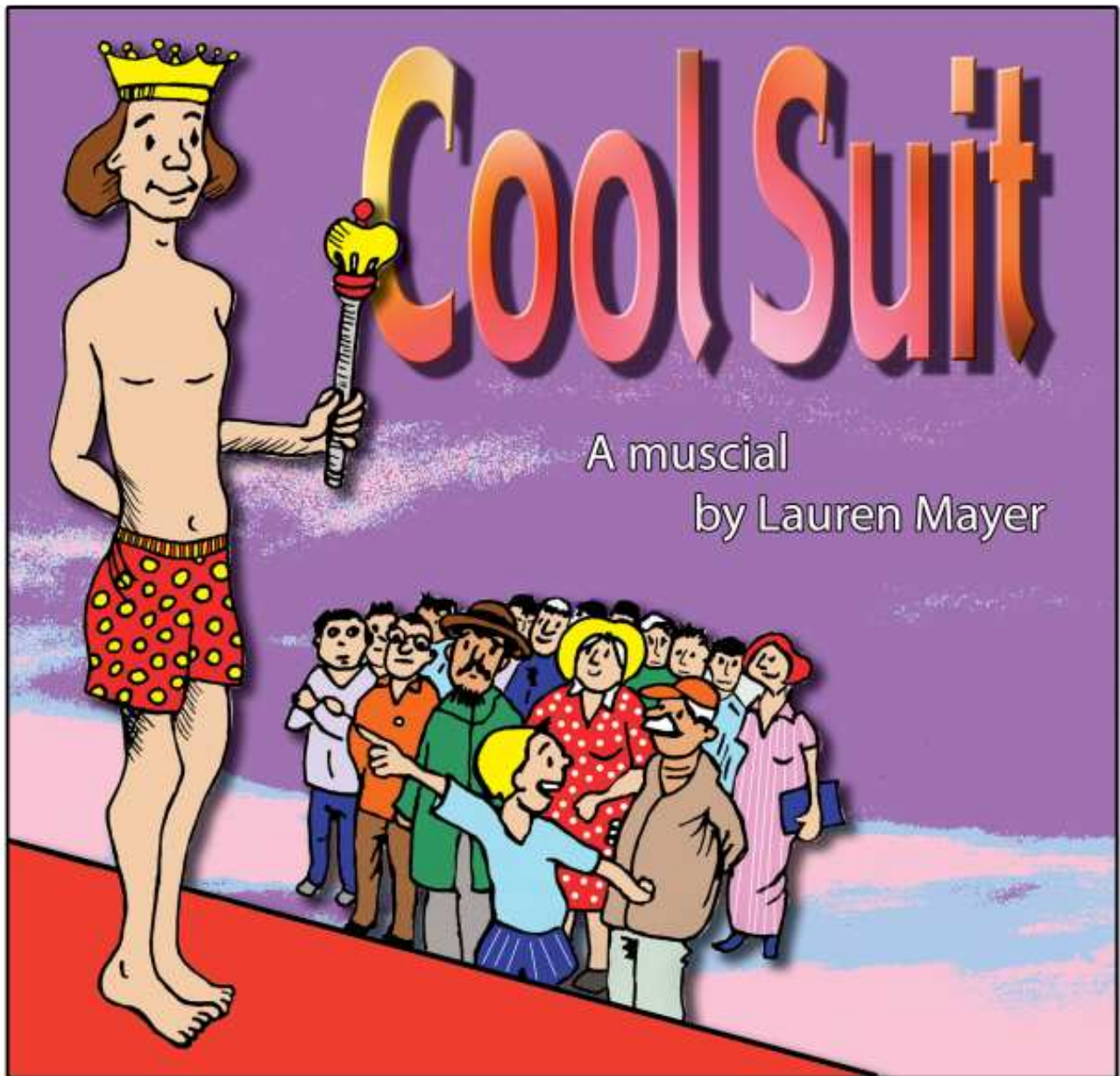
Amrita Bhullar	- U of Victoria
Prabjot Gill	- Langara
Yasmin Gill	- in addition to U of Vic, she has also been accepted at SFU
Jaryd Gracan	- Langara and SFU
Kailin Kang	- Engineering and Commerce at U of T, Waterloo
Cobi Yu	- in addition to his acceptance into Engineering at McGill, Cobi has also been offered a place in Engineering at U of T. Cobi is also on the waiting list for NYU.
Alex Kolewe	- SFU
Sunjeet Brar	-University of Alberta, the University of Manitoba, the University of Victoria, and Vancouver Island University

Alexander Fetherstonhaugh was not only admitted to Waterloo and UBC, he was admitted to the prestigious Science One program at UBC. Only 80 applicants, from around the world, are accepted.

A reminder that all students should be applying for a spot in residence well before the deadline dates indicated by the universities.

Submitted by Susan Kirkwood

**SOUTHPOINTE ACADEMY PRESENTS**



A musical  
by Lauren Mayer

**You thought you knew the story of the Emperor's new clothes?  
Wait until you see this!**

## **TSAWWASSEN ARTS CENTRE**

April 21, 22, 23 at 7:00 PM

Tickets:     \$10 - Adults     \$5 - 12 and Under

*Presented by special arrangement with Contemporary Drama Services*

# MYP NEWS

## Adventures in Babysitting

### Reflections on the Babysitting Course for MYP Alternate Program Week

The Babysitting Course I took during MYP Alternate Program Week, was an amazing experience. Our day usually started with us helping our Junior Kindergarten, Kindergarten and Grade 1 students.

Each day, we went to a different class, so we gained experience helping students from three to seven years old. Some of the things I did were read to the students, help with their English and, my favourite, help the students draw costumes for their play. On Friday, we had a Storytime and I read a picture book to the students.

After the morning interaction, we brainstormed ideas for our Babysitter Survival Kits and then we headed to the dollar store to purchase items from bubbles to bandaids. On the last day, with our kits complete, we raided the PE trailer and planned activities for FYP students to do during lunch hour. Our relay race was a great success.

The afternoons were productive, but challenging. Already exhausted from our busy morning, we were bombarded with tons of information on how to be a good and safe babysitter. Some of the information must have sunk in because, on the last day, none of us scored below 97% on the exam! Overall, it was a fun and educational course.

By Jeevan Saran

The Babysitting Course was full of excitement! Each morning, students would be looking forward to each day, wondering what was going to happen next.

I do have something in mind for next year. We should spend more time with the younger students, and try to learn more from the teachers by watching how they act with students, how they explain things, and how the kids behave when the teacher asks them to do something.

I do have something to say to the teachers and students from Junior Kindergarten to Grade 1. "You Guys are fabulous!" Srishity, Kelvin and I were shocked to discover how smart these kids are! They are all well behaved, and know their rights and wrongs from A-Z.

I am very happy that I was a part of this course and I am pretty sure the rest of the students are too. I hope next year, if anyone decides to take the babysitting course, they have just as great a time and learn just as much as we did, or even more. Overall, babysitting was a great experience!

By Jasmin Sehkon

**Ms. McKenzie and the students in the Babysitting Course would like to thank Cindy Ellis, from Delta Parks and Recreation, for her excellent instruction. We would also like to thank Kate Quenville and the FYP teachers for arranging and facilitating the Early Childhood Education sessions. Southpointe Academy parents can expect the addition of some competent, qualified babysitters to the official Southpointe Academy Babysitter's List!**

Last week 17 children experienced the wonder of French Cooking. Shannon Kwantes, our Teacher and reviewer for the Vancouver Sun showed us how to cook everything from codfish to pumpkin pie! We were amazed that only a few ingredients and some creativity can make something so delicious! Shannon was a great teacher and we learned many things like Alex learning aspresagus (a-sp-reg-a-gus) was actually pronounced asparagus. One of the highlights of the course was going to La Belle Auberge, one of the best restaurants in British Columbia located in our very own Ladner! We were taught many things and it was an amazing experience. The next day we dragged our sore feet and excited hearts out of bed and traveled to the kitchen in the Baptist Church, where we made cod fish and stir fried vegetables. Oh, was it tasty! For dessert, crepes, strawberry and banana crepes! After standing and running around the kitchen we were all really tired. Our final day was spent at Sunnyside Nursery learning about all different types of herbs we could cook with. Then we got back to the kitchen and made a very nice vegetable soup and pumpkin pie, very rewarding. All in all, it was a great experience and we all had a great time and gained a new skill.

Submitted by Grace Wilson – Grade 6

## **SOUTH FRASER REGIONAL SCIENCE FAIR**

On April 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>, four Grade 7 students competed in the South Fraser Regional Science Fair held at Kwantlen College. Navraj Atwal, Harman Johal, Rob Roy Mackenzie and Shawn Clark all represented Southpointe Academy well in the school's first appearance at the Regional Science Fair. In addition to presenting their projects to students, judges and the general public, the four young scientists were given a tour of the Kwantlen campus and experienced special science presentations put on by the College. It was a fun and educational experience for all, and we are looking forward to competing again and having more representatives next year!

Congratulations Navraj, Harman, Rob Roy and Shawn!

Submitted by Ms. Ferreira





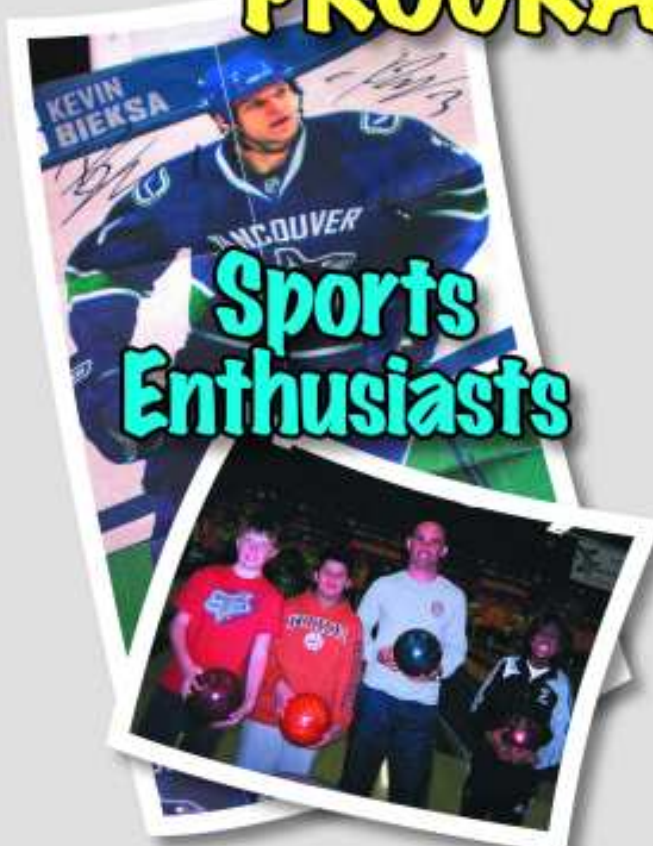
**Equestrian**



**Discover Your City**



**MYP ALTERNATIVE PROGRAM WEEK**



**Sports Enthusiasts**



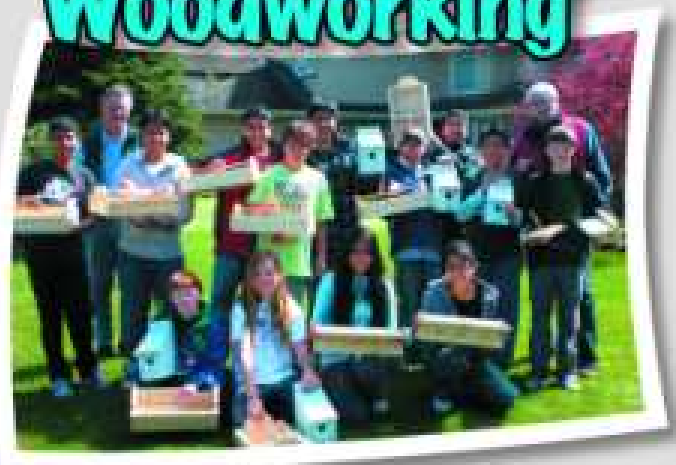
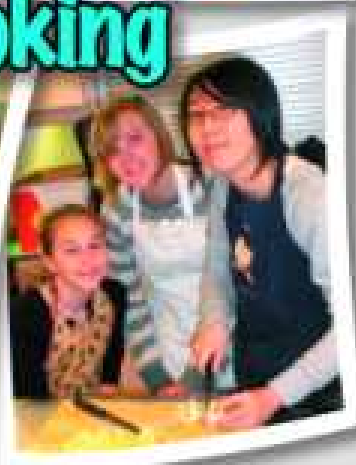
**Scuba-Diving**



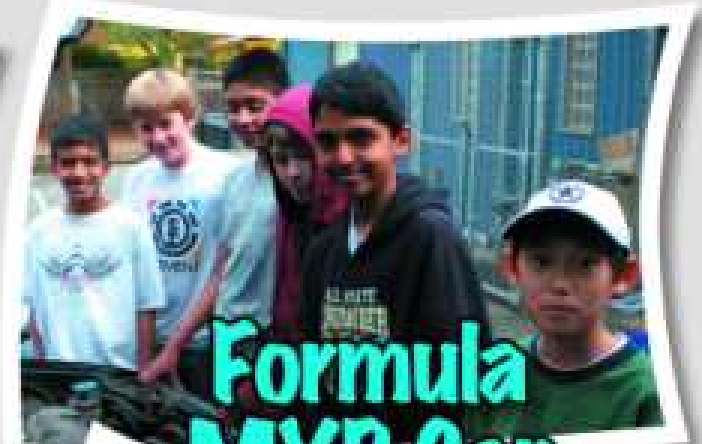
**Hospitality & Cooking**



**Woodworking**



**Babysitting**



**Formula MYP Car**



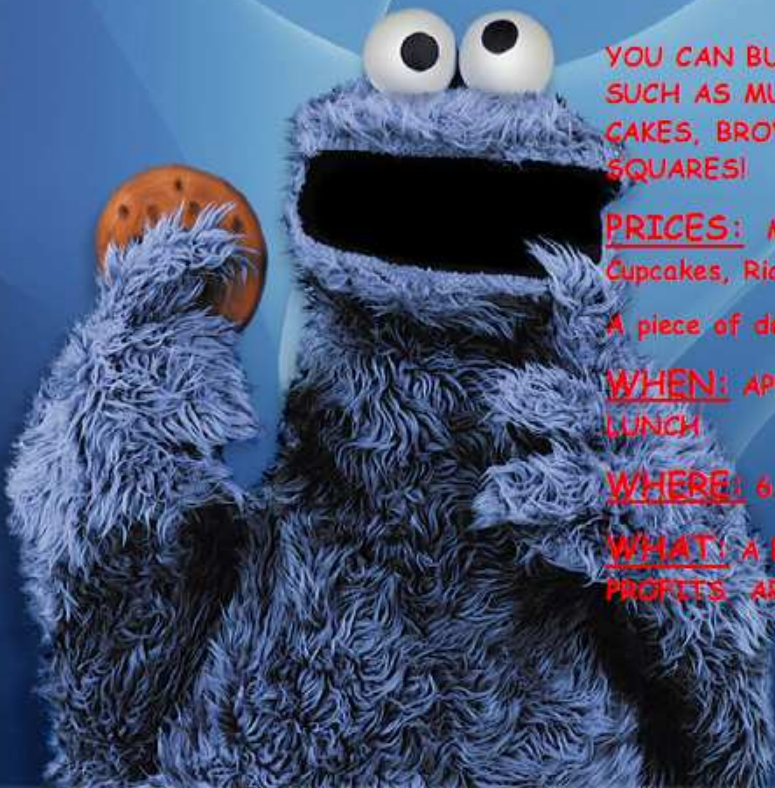
# Spring Feeeva (Fever) MYP DANCE!!!



**WHEN:** FRIDAY, APRIL 30<sup>TH</sup>, 2010  
**TIME:** 4:30 P.M.-8:00 P.M.  
**WHERE:** TSAWASSEN ARTS CENTER  
**COST:** \$6.00 / TICKET

\* MYP STUDENT COUNCIL WILL BE SELLING TICKETS AT LUNCH TIME DURING NEXT WEEK (MONDAY, APRIL 19<sup>TH</sup>-FRIDAY, APRIL 23<sup>RD</sup>) ONLY!!! BE SURE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKET... \*Appropriate clothing only, as this is a school sanctioned event!

## ***MYP BAKE SALE*** COME TO THE MYP BAKE SALE!



YOU CAN BUY ALL SORTS OF BAKED GOODS SUCH AS MUFFINS, COOKIES, CUPCAKES, CAKES, BROWNIES, AND RICE KRISPIE S SQUARES!

**PRICES:** Muffins, Brownies, Cookies, Cupcakes, Rice Krispie Squares-- \$1.00/ each  
A piece of delicious cake--\$2.00

**WHEN:** APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>, 2010 AT RECESS AND LUNCH

**WHERE:** 6AH

**WHAT:** A BAKE SALE WHERE ALL OF THE PROFITS ARE DONATED TO HALT!!!!!!!!!!!!

# SPORTS NEWS

## TRACK & FIELD

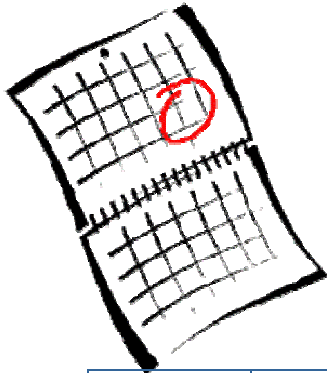
For those still interested in competing on Southpointe Academics' Track and Field Team, please report to Mr. Simpson, Mrs. Locke or Mrs. Kozlowski.

Deadline for registering for the Vancouver Olympic Club (April 24th) and Norwesters Track Meet (May 1st and 2nd) is **today**.



### PLEASE NOTE:

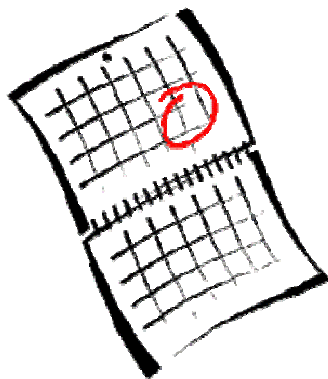
The ISEA Track Meet at South Surrey Athletic Park, is on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, (not Friday as previously stated).



## SPORTS CALENDAR

*April 15 – April 30*

April 20 Tuesday	3:30pm – Sr. Girls Soccer Game, vs. BCCA @ Holly Turf, Ladner
April 27 Tuesday	3:30pm – Sr. Girls Soccer Game, vs. Carver @ Holly Turf, Ladner



## CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

***April 15 – April 30***

April 16 Friday	8:45am – 12:30pm – Annual Speech Competition  <b>Grade 9 Project Discover Forms due!</b>
April 19 Monday	Full School Welcome Assembly - #1 Uniform required Spanish exchange Students & Faculty to be introduced and welcomed to Southpointe Academy
April 19 – 23 Mon. – Fri.	Call Home Week!
April 21, 22 & 23 Wed. – Fri.	7:00pm – TSA Arts Centre, GYP Musical “Cool Suit”
April 23 Friday	<b>Grade 8 Project Discover Forms due!</b>
April 26 Monday	Full School Assembly - #1 Uniform required  3:30pm – 4:30pm - Ms. Santry’s Grade 4 Classroom, Room #115, Grade 4 Project Discover - Parent Briefing
April 27 – 30 Tues. – Fri.	Grade 9 Project Discover – Group #1
April 28 Wednesday	12:30pm – 2:45pm – Kindergarten & Grade 1 Field Trip to the Richmond Art Gallery
April 29 Thursday	<b>“Jeans Day”</b>  8:15am – 3:15pm - Kindergarten Field Trip to the Vancouver Aquarium  7:00pm – 10:30pm – GYP Dance at the Tsa. Arts Centre
April 30 Friday	4:30pm – 8:00pm – MYP Dance at the Tsa. Arts Centre