



The Midpointe

News and opinion for Southpointe Academy Families

June 16, 2011

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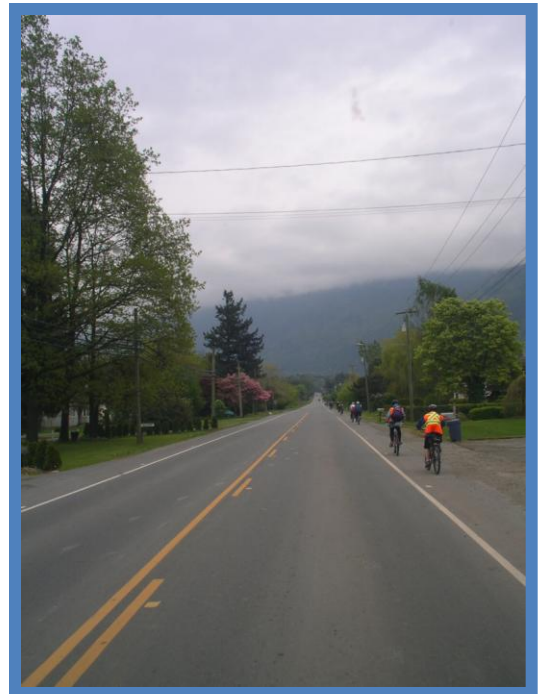
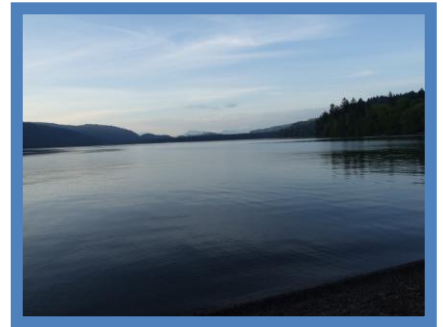
GYP NEWS

Project Discover 2011

It has been an exciting year in Project Discover! With a new international trip to NZ and new location for Grade 5 camp, our program continues to grow and change to meet the challenges of 21st century learning. Now that summer is here, we hope the spirit of getting outdoors will follow you to wherever you go, be it an Okanagan campground, the spectacular vista of another country or just even your local park.

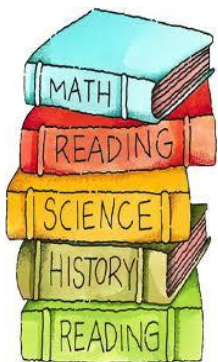
We leave you now with some photos of our final trip of the year – the always amazing Grade 9 cycle expedition through the farmland of the Fraser Valley.

Monica Sparling & Lucy Ferreira



PROVINCIAL EXAM SCHEDULE

DATE & TIME	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
Monday, June 20 9:00 AM			FRENCH (Oral)
Tuesday, June 21 9:00 AM		SOCIALS	
1:00 PM			MATH
Wednesday, June 22 9:00 AM			ENGLISH
1:00 PM			PHYSICS
Thursday, June 23 9:00 AM	ENGLISH		HISTORY
1:00 PM			CHEMISTRY
Friday, June 24 9:00 AM			FRENCH
Monday, June 27 9:00 AM	SCIENCE		
Tuesday, June 28 9:00 AM	MATH		
1:00 PM			SPANISH
Wednesday, June 29 9:00 AM			BIOLOGY



Textbook Return

* GYP students may drop their textbook at the front office, if they forget to bring it on the exam day.

MYP NEWS

The MYP Grade 8 Graduates, the MYP Student Council, and Ms. Huber wish you all a happy, safe, enjoyable summer vacation.

We look forward to September 2011! See you in a few months...



"Grade 8 Graduates"

"MYP - Student Council"



"Grade 8 Graduates"



GRADE 8 PROJECT DISCOVER

The Grade 8's also visited the Boeing Future of Flight and saw airplanes such as the 747 and new 787 Dreamliner being assembled. The Boeing building is the largest building by volume in the world, so large that it has its own weather systems, and over 30,000 employees. On our tour, we saw firsthand the complex assembly lines that Boeing uses to put together its airplanes. We also learned how much it costs to build an airplane – it's not cheap! The frame itself is over \$100 million dollars for a 747 (or Jumbo Jet) and then costs even more to put on the engines, passenger seating and entertainment systems. The factory tour was a great opportunity to see how science and technology are connected, and gave us an appreciation for all the work that goes on to build an airplane.



Submitted by Ms. Ferreira

Camlann Medieval Village

On Friday the 13th, thirty-four students and four brave teachers ventured out to Camlann Medieval Village, east of Seattle, for two hours of extreme medieval torture....just kidding. For the past couple of months Socials Eight have been learning about, not only the extravagant wars and battles, but what it was truly like to live in the Middle Ages and Renaissance. Although our textbook provides intensive information on many different topics, it was very enlightening to see the many medieval innovations we read about in our textbook, first hand.

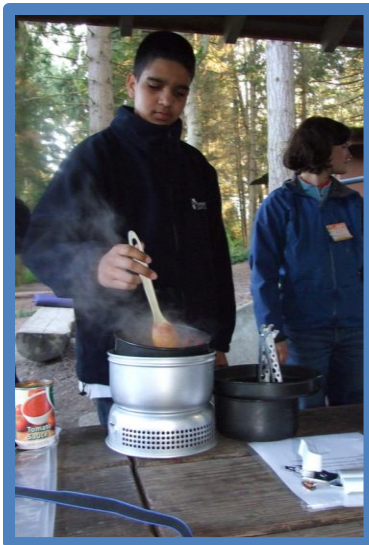


After the long, strenuous bus ride we finally pulled up in front of two large doors and three coat of arms hanging above them. We knew we were in the right place. Our tour guide Roger, guided us through the long gravel path, pointing out many of the medieval cottages we saw. Last term in Social Studies we learnt about the medieval building technique called "wattle and daub". Wattle and daub is a medieval plaster used to seal the walls of medieval homes. Wattle and daub is usually made of hay and straw, stuck together with clay, mud and other liquid excesses. We also were able to see an actual blacksmiths shop and tools. We learnt that since the skills of a blacksmith were very scarce, they were usually quite well-off.



On the final leg of our tour, Roger took us over to the feast hall. The feast hall was a dimly lit, with vast tables spreading across the room. On the walls were many painting (meant to look like frescos), of people dressed in medieval clothing. We learnt however, that the people on the wall were in fact sponsors of Camlann Medieval village. We were then served, "medieval sausages" fruit, cheese, and a medieval spiced drink. Towards the end of the tour, Roger showed us real armour, and some other home innovations used in the middle ages. Overall, it was very enlightening, and helpful to have a hands-on learning experience!

Submitted by: Aliyyah Jafri



Seattle's Rock and Roll History Museum

During our Project Discover Trip, the Grade 8 students of Southpointe Academy visited Seattle's Rock and Roll History Museum and had a remarkable time. Beside the fact that it was Friday the thirteenth, we still made memories and had enjoyable moments together. If you enjoy rock and roll history or if you are a fan of it, you'll find lots to learn there. The Rock and Roll Museum of Seattle had many things to offer, from collections of over fifty rare electric and acoustic guitars from 1770 to a thirty-five foot tall cyclone, made of almost seven hundred musical instruments. Perhaps the most entertaining part of the building was being a part of the music. That's right, the Sound Lab. We were given the opportunity to play music on the guitars, keyboards, drums and other instruments. A couple of the instruments were connected to a computer console which guided us through different activities. There were twelve, sound-proof rooms containing instruments, regular and interactive where you can take a lesson, jam with others or learn more about mixing music. The Jam Studio also allowed us to record and purchase our very own CD. Overall, the Grade eight students, with our four teachers, had a spectacular time in Seattle's Rock and Roll History Museum.



Submitted by Sumeet Toor

FYP NEWS

THE END OF THE IB YEAR

As the school year comes to a close and your children wrap-up their final IB unit, you may wonder what it all means, or what the next steps are. Southpointe Academy students, parents, teachers and staff are still very new to the International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme. It usually takes several years to truly become an IB community school. Because the IB Programme is not something that one teacher can teach alone. When fully embraced, the lessons from the IB Programme are evident in the way all community members speak to each other, treat one another and look at the world around them. The program is still in infancy at Southpointe, but as discussed in the article about action, there is already evidence of it and many things you will notice as your child moves into their next year at the school.

At this stage it is possible your child has focused more on their character development than they had in the past. You may see evidence that they are looking at how to be open-minded or caring, for example. This is the learner profile and attitudes from the IB Programme. As we teach students to think about their character, they become stronger citizens and more successful learners. Understanding that their actions and attitudes affect others and their own ability to learn is a huge step in helping students become more independent and effective group members. Because of the absolute necessity of children being successful independent *and* cooperative learners, the IB Programme's learner profile and attitudes are taught, explored and emphasized every year.

You have likely seen your child making bigger connections this year. With the IB Programme, students are taught a series of 8 'big picture' concepts. These 8 concepts (form, function, causation, change, connection, perspective, responsibility and reflection) remain consistent each year your child is in the Primary Years Program (PYP). The repetition allows your child to see how things are connected and assists them in seeing that what they do in the classroom is not isolated. For example, form (what is it like?) and function (what does it do?) are large umbrellas under which any number of things can be examined. Grade three this year learned about the form and function of structures. Next year they may learn about the form and function of weather. Whatever the topic may be, the concepts remain the same each year and help solidify much deeper levels of learning than disconnected structures in grade three and weather in grade four.

Another piece of evidence that the IB is becoming part of your child is that, from the piece mentioned above and others at work in your child's classroom, what the IB Programme calls 'international mindedness'. When your child begins to absorb deeper connections, is aware of positive attitudes and wants to take action on something they learned, their understanding moves way beyond the classroom. They see and believe that they have a role in the world community. They begin looking for ways to become active citizens on planet Earth. They may become activists against world hunger or pollution. They may beg for a trip to China to see the ancient tombs of emperors and their buried armies. When your child's perspective and awareness shifts beyond themselves and their families to wondering about the world at large, the IB Programme is working.

As your child journeys through Grades K to 5, it is consistency in key concepts, attitudes and the learner profile that more thoroughly they will develop their international mindedness. Your child's understanding of the world and desire to be part of it will thrive. That drive will be tempered with positive attitudes and motivation to learn, to question and to seek answers. I hope you have enjoyed your first year in the IB Programme and are able to see some of these things. In the coming years, as the IB develops within the school and we all become part of a true IB community, I look forward to seeing the evidence inside and outside the classrooms and in each of us.

Submitted by Jenny Slinn, Grade 3 Teacher and Parent



Dear Students, Parents and Staff,

I write to you to say a big thank you for your support, kindness and friendship through out the years. It has made my eight years here at Southpointe feel like home and I will miss you all dearly. I will always remember my years at Southpointe as happy ones and I feel very fortunate that I was able to share my love for music in such a wonderful place, a wonderful school. I have learned so much from all my colleagues, great teachers with whom I was fortunate to work with and made long lasting friendships with. Most importantly a big thank you to the students who have taught me so much more than teaching music.

I'm excited to embark on a new adventure teaching high school choir for the Ministry of Education in Singapore next year. However, it fills my heart with sadness when I think about leaving the place where I

have called my home. I wish you all the best for next year as you celebrate the new school, as well as achieving your goals in the future.

Please feel free to contact me at robflo@gmail.com, and in return, I will reply with updates from Asia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rob Florencio".

Roberto Florencio

Building Update

Walls and framing for the gym on the north side.





CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

June 17 – July 8

June 20 – 24 Mon. - Fri.	GYP Provincial Exams
June 22 Wednesday	Reports are emailed home today
June 24 Friday	1:00pm – Commencement Ceremony in the Church Courtyard
June 27 – 29 Mon. – Wed.	GYP Provincial Exams
July 1 Friday	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR CANADA DAY
July 4 – 8 Mon. – Fri.	Office Summer Hours begin – 9:00am – 3:00pm - Monday – Friday

FOUND

- 1. Volvo key fob**
- 2. Armani prescription glasses in Nike case**