

D. D. NEWS

Japanese | British Columbia | Learning

This year in review

It is surprising to realise that we are quickly approaching the end of the second year for the Double Diploma program. It is amazing to see how far the students have progressed in their knowledge and in their English skills. We are very proud of them and they have worked hard!

Plans for next year

We are in the final stages of working through the next year's schedule for the DD program for Gr. 10, Gr. 11, and Gr. 12 students.

We have been given course equivalency by the Japanese Ministry of Education for some of the classes taught in English. This is excellent news for the girls as we are looking at ways that we can reduce the class hours while still meeting all required content for British Columbia and for Japan.

The actual schedule details are still being worked out as we integrate our program with the Japanese side of the program here at BSCIS.



Happy New Year!!

A real celebration to all of the hard work of our students!

This is the time to celebrate the excellent achievement and activities in the DD program. They achieve this excellence by being surrounded by learning opportunities and role models:



*Dr. Mary Wells, Mechatronics expert,
Waterloo University*



Canadian Embassy visit:





Planning 10 posters:

What I learned from the speakers

Plans for next year

Staffing:

Here at Bunka Suginami School there is a long tradition that staffing changes are introduced only on March 24 at the Closing Ceremony. In BSCIS for this year we are now in a position to announce the following:

1. We are pleased that Mr. Watson, Mr. and Ms. Pakulak-Monroe and Mr. Miles will be staying at the school for next year.
2. Based on our current enrolment projections we are expecting to welcome a full grade 10 class next year. This means we will have grade 10, 11, and 12 classes in the DD program.
3. We have hired one extra BC teacher for next year to help us with the extra DD classes. Her name is Alissa Krochenski. She comes to us with a strong background in sciences and she has lived and taught in Korea. She will mainly be assigned to the junior sciences and math.

Exam preparation:

As we approach the end of the year and exam time, we want to stress to students how important it is to rest, to enjoy time away from studying to ensure that their brains are fresh for the exams. These exams are important... but they are only part of their overall grade.

In all of our classes students have received an explanation of the review required for the final exams. We have done several things to prepare students for this time;

1. The final DD exams will take place during the regular year-end exam schedule. Due to length of the DD exams because they are year overviews, most exams will be scheduled for two hours.

2. Since the beginning of January different classes have begun preparing students for their final exams in a variety of ways:

- in all classes teachers have explained the final exam format to the students
- in some classes students have been doing provincial exam practice questions as part of their regular in-class assessments
- in some classes vocabulary review sheets for the final exams have been handed out, as well as review sites on Edmodo and other review links
- some classes have a continued focus on language skill development to prepare students for the final assessment

Please contact us directly or have your child contact us if they need extra help or support to prepare for the exams.

Congratulations to Sana Kahn in Gr. 10 for being a finalist in a Japan-wide creative writing contest! She is going to Kyoto with her family as a prize. Nice job Sana!



News from the Science Department:

The grade 11 students met challenges in very productive ways in term 2.

In Chemistry, a large part of the term's information was researched, organised, and presented by students. Students worked alone and in groups to share their newfound knowledge with their peers. One presentation included a pair of students teaching a concept and included participation by all.

In Precalculus, students worked to apply their existing knowledge of trigonometry to a real world problem involving their teacher riding a Ferris wheel in Yokohama. Students were able to draw the system using sine or cosine functions, adjust the model to changes, and even share different ways of thinking about the problem with their teacher and peers.



Our visit to the Canadian embassy:

We had an excellent visit on Jan. 19 to learn about Canada today, about opportunities to study in Canada and also about the multiculturalism of Canada. We had a very interesting presentation by Akiko Onozuka, Second Secretary for Trade, about her own personal journey in life. She is Canadian but has lived in many countries and speaks four languages. It was a great day for for all:



