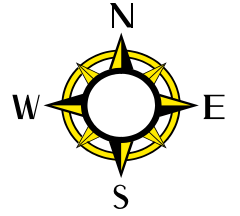




## FRIDAY COMPASS



May 15 – May 19, 2017  
Vol. 177

### Quotation Of The Week:



### The Week Ahead:

<b>Monday</b> , May 22, 2017	Victoria Day – school closed
<b>Tuesday</b> , May 23, 2017	Commencement Rehearsal: 1:00pm, Large Gym Parent Forum: 7:00pm
<b>Wednesday</b> , May 24, 2017	Commencement: 6:30pm – Chandos Pattison Auditorium
<b>Thursday</b> , May 25, 2017	
<b>Friday</b> , May 26, 2017	Term 3 Ends, Grade 7 Parent Tea & Tour, 10:00 – 11:00 am

### Upcoming Events:

Monday, May 29 – Pro-D Day, no classes, PAC Meeting 7:00 pm  
Friday, June 2 – Grade 7 Parent Tea & Tour, 10:00 – 11:00 am

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## **In the News:**

### [EMS staff urge end to dual-bell system at South Surrey high school](#)

Peace Arch News

Posted May 19, 2017

A three-year decline in enrolment at South Surrey's Earl Marriott Secondary has prompted officials to consider a return to "the norm" for students and staff: a four-block schedule.

### [Young Minds: Understanding your teens true thoughts](#)

Peace Arch News

Posted May 16, 2017

Youths to share voices to parents at Elgin, Earl Marriott and Semiahmoo Secondary schools.

### [Earl Marriott Mariners prepare for Fraser Valley rugby rematch](#)

Peace Arch News

Posted May 15, 2017

It's rare that a rugby team that has played in eight consecutive Fraser Valley championship games would enter a ninth as an underdog, but that's the situation the Earl Marriott Mariners senior boys' team finds itself in as it gets set for a gold-medal tilt this week.

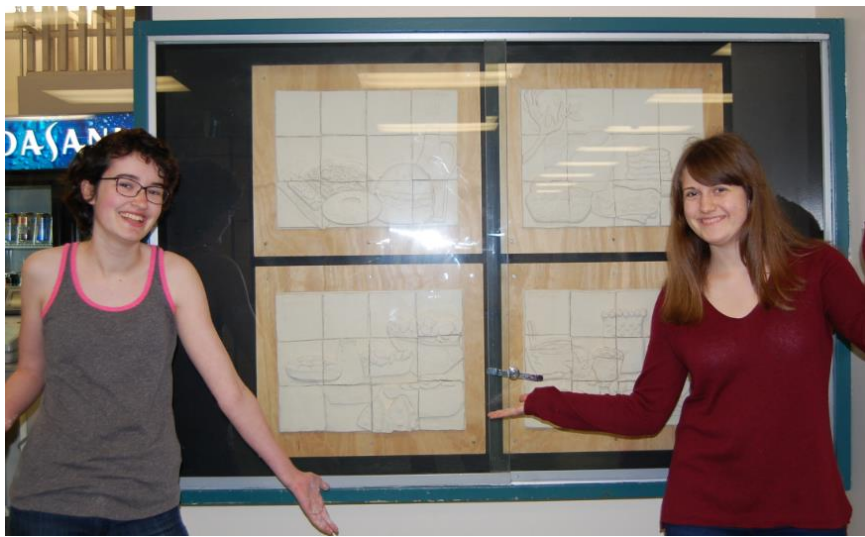
## **Kudos to:**

Four EMS students received top honours for their writing in a national writing contest in Quebec. The **150 Words for 150 Years** contest, put on by Atwater Library, Westmount (a Montreal suburb), was sponsored by Heritage Canada as part of Canada's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.

Cindy Zhang, grade 12 has won the Youth (20 and under) category for her short piece entitled "O Maple Leaf". Also in the top 5 were Claudine Paed (grade 12), Jared Schellenberg (grade 11) and Adia Sove (grade 12). All four students have been invited to attend the awards ceremony in Montreal to take part in the festivities and to read their winning entries.

<https://www.atwaterlibrary.ca/news/creative-activities-for-canadas-150th/>

The students of Mrs. Manning's ceramics 9-12 class are happy to see the completion of their ceramic mural installation "International Foods".



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## **Counselling Note to Teachers:**

Counsellors will be visiting grade 12 classrooms on Tuesday May 30 in period 2 to sign their Transcript Verifications (schedule is attached). Any remaining grade 12s will be called down to the Cafeteria on Wednesday May 31 in Period 2. Thank you for your understanding.

## **This Week at EMS - Principal's Message: May 15<sup>th</sup> – May 19<sup>th</sup>:**

Hello to all Mariners!

The past week at the Earl Marriott Secondary has brought us the usual 'end-of-May' flurry of activities and special events. We have all been absorbed in school life and all of the excitement and challenges that makes our time at EMS so rich.

On Monday, our Articulation teams of LST teachers and Counsellors began their visits to each of our Associate schools. This year we were able to provide additional time for these important conversations to occur. I am certain that the additional information obtained through more open dialogue with our Elementary school colleagues will help us support our incoming Grade 8's. Thank you to all of our Articulation team for your work on this important initiative.

Tuesday was a busy day at the school. Students and staff practiced our "Lock Out" drill. We also enjoyed the crepes provided by "the Crepe Truck" brought to the school through our French Immersion Department and this cultural initiative.



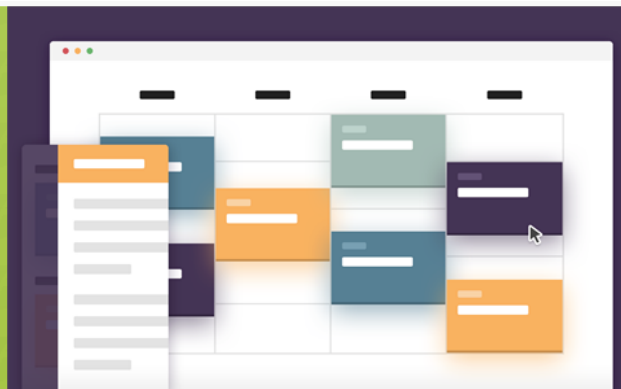
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Staff also met for a Special Staff Meeting with the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Jordan Tinney and Assistant Superintendent Ms. Lynda Reeve. This was an opportunity for staff to discuss the Bell schedule review process and to share opinion with our District's Senior Management team on the benefits and challenges of 4 and 5 block schedules.

## Bell Schedule Review

Earl Marriott first implemented an extended day schedule in 2011 as a temporary measure. This was done to help address the overcapacity at the school and to accommodate projections of increased enrolment in the future.

Adding a block and extending the day by starting earlier and ending later effectively increased the school's capacity. After implementation, the school continued to grow in enrolment for a few years. However, over the past three years the school's enrolment has declined. After a comprehensive review of enrolment projections and school capacity, we are currently exploring the possibility of returning to a four-block, rotating schedule at Earl Marriott Secondary.



Manage stories + Add new story

Please see [Superintendent's letter](#) regarding Bell Schedule review.

Please see [letter from school](#) regarding Bell Schedule review.

Please see [message from PAC](#) regarding Bell Schedule review.

This is a significant decision for the school, our students, families and staff. The bell schedule review process has directly involved the EMS administration and staff and has our common support. We now seek your feedback. We invite your participation at a parent forum on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm at the school. You may also contact us via email at [EMSBellSchedule@SurreySchools.ca](mailto:EMSBellSchedule@SurreySchools.ca). We look forward to your input.

On Tuesday evening, our Dry Grad Committee and Grad Council hosted the 34<sup>th</sup> annual "Duke of Earl" variety show. It was another evening of humor, satire, music and laughter. The evening was a great success raising money for this year's Graduating Class and their Dry Grad. Great thanks to Grad Council teacher sponsor Ms. Canino, Dry Grad Chair Ms. Zimmerman and the many, many people behind the scenes who made the event such a success. I would also like to congratulate this year's "Duke of Earl" student Austin Linder. Well done everyone!



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On Wednesday, students and staff practiced our “Lock Down” drill. The administrative team would like to thank the entire school community for your participation. This was an important drill, and we were pleased to observe the focus and organization of students and staff.

Our Staff Committee met this week to continue an important conversation regarding possible future bell schedule options. On a related note, [letters from the District and the school](#) were sent to our community with an invitation for feedback through [EMSBellSchedule@surreyschools.ca](mailto:EMSBellSchedule@surreyschools.ca) and/or through participation at a parent forum on Tuesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm at the school. We look forward to your input.

On Thursday, our Student Survey Working Group met with the District’s Research Department to continue with our visioning process in the construction of a school-wide student survey. We made excellent progress. Our plan is to have a draft survey completed for initial proofreading and a small pilot project for this June. The survey would then be adjusted as necessary for a possible October school-wide implementation. Our time yesterday was very interesting. If you are interested in joining our working group, please let me know.

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On Thursday evening, I was privileged to attend the Spring Earl Marriott Secondary Jazz Band Concert. Our students' talents awed a full house of proud parents and family members. It was a wonderful tribute to the hard work and dedication of Mr. Owens, Mr. Rutley and all of our student musicians. Congratulations all!



This morning, Ms. Davies and I hosted our next Tea and Tour group. Our thanks to all the classes we visited as we toured the school.

Commencement is next Wednesday! It will be another very full week. Enjoy the time we have together as our school year moves very fast.

All the best,

Ken

**Mission Statement:**

*“To value the most precious treasures of Earl Marriott Secondary School: the minds, hearts, and well-being of its people.”*

*“ Mettre de l'avant les valeurs qui font la fierté de EMS: l'esprit, le coeur et le bien-être de sa communauté”*

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