

October 2017

NEWSLETTER

4701-52nd Avenue - Yellowknife, NT - X1A 2N8

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www.sjf.yk1.nt.ca



ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN
HIGH SCHOOL

IMPORTANT DATES

October 3

Staff Meeting 3:45pm

October 9

Thanksgiving Day
NO SCHOOL

October 12

PAC Meeting 12noon

October 12-15

Fort Smith Volleyball
Tournament

October 23-25

NWT Principal Conference

November 1

Take Your Kids to Work Day
for Grade 9 students

Assessment Day
NO SCHOOL

November 2-5

Spike-It Volleyball
Tournament

November 6

Report Cards Go Home

November 8-9

Parent/Teacher Interviews

November 8-11

Sir John Drama Department
presents "Beauty and the Beast Jr."

Principal's Message

Welcome to another school year at Sir John! We're one month in and already students and staff are busy preparing for numerous things. The student body has elected their student council President and Vice-President and Grad Council will have their first meeting next month.

We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members: Cora Brancato, Laurene Head, Jeremy Kielstra and Debbie Morrison. You can read more about them inside. Peter Curran is our newest Assistant Principal and Angela Martin is back as a Program Support Teacher. We hope they feel welcome and have a great year at Sir John.

Congratulations to our soccer players who participated in the Hay River Elks Outdoor Soccer Tournament on September 22-24th. Next up is volleyball and hockey! Sir John athletes are getting ready for their trip to Fort Smith on October 12th and Spike-It on November 2, 2017 and for Challenge Cup on November 22, 2017.

The Drama Department is busy rehearsing for the fall production of "Beauty and the Beast". Tickets will be available at the NACC box office or NACC website. Don't miss it!

New to Sir John this year are Early Dismissal days. On most Wednesdays our school day will end at 2:30pm. See calendar inside for a list of these dates.

Thank you to the parents who attended our Parent Information Night on September 20th. If you were unable to attend please feel free to stop by and visit the school or check our website for a list of staff email addresses. See inside for a list of other ways you can stay connected to Sir John.

Mr. Dean MacInnis



YK1 High School Year-at-a-Glance Calendar 2017/2018



This handy reference tool places your child's school-year schedule at your fingertips, whether it's used at work or at home!

August 2017							September 2017							October 2017							November 2017						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30		

 Non-school Day
 No Classes for Students
 First Day of Classes
 Early Dismissal - 2:30 pm

Yellowknife Education District No. 1
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Educating for Life! *Une éducation pour la vie!* Hèt aãöo Hoghãgoetöo

École Sir John Franklin High School Year

December 2017							January 2018							February 2018							March 2018							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
					1	2			1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3					1	2	3
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28				18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
31																					25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

 Non-school Day
 No Classes for Students
 Start of Second Semester
 Early Dismissal - 2:30 pm

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École Sir John Franklin High School Year

April 2018							May 2018							June 2018							July 2018							
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	5						1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
29	30						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					

 Non-school Day
 No Classes for Students
 Last Day of Classes
 Early Dismissal - 2:30 pm

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École Sir John Franklin High School Year

Welcome new staff!



Cora Brancato

Hello! I'm Cora Brancato and this is my first year teaching at SJF in the Knowledge and Employability Program.

I moved to Yellowknife from Toronto and have fallen in love with the north already. I have wanted to be a teacher since I was in preschool and am excited to start my career in education here at SJF. I completed my Honours Degree in History and Indigenous Studies at Trent University in Ontario and received my Bachelor of Education from Queen's University.

I enjoy hiking, kayaking and baking in my spare time. Thanks for taking the time to learn a little about me!



Laurene Head

I am so happy to be back at Sir John teaching English Language Arts! A graduate of Sir John (Class of '86), I attended the University of Saskatchewan and returned to Yellowknife to teach for two years. Since then I have taught in Montreal and Cochrane.

Last year, I was honoured to be inducted in the Sir John Athletics Hall of Fame for having been a team member of the Canadian National Volleyball Team.

My hobbies include any activity that allows me to be outside and my big dream in the next few years is to be on the Amazing Race Canada! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.



Debbie Morrison

Hi, my name is Debbie Morrison and I am an Educational Assistant at Sir John Franklin High School.

My adventure in the North started 10 years ago and I have had the pleasure of working at Kaw Tay Whee School in Dettah and Chief Jimmy Bruneau School in Edzo.

My year is off to a great start and I am enjoying working with the many wonderful students, teachers and staff here at Sir John.

In my spare time I love to do things with my family & friends and also enjoy cross-country skiing, playing games and painting. Cheers.



Jeremy Kielstra

Hello, my name is Jeremy Kielstra. I am joining the team at Sir John this year as a math teacher. Last year I taught English, Social Studies and CALM at K'alemi Dene School in Ndilo. Prior to moving to Yellowknife, I lived in Fort Providence where I taught mostly math for seven years.

In my last year in Fort Providence, I was also the Assistant Principal. After a year of teaching in the humanities, I am very excited to return to my passion of teaching math.

Outside of school I enjoy playing and coaching racquet sports. I coach badminton and table tennis; I play badminton, table tennis and squash. I also love listening to podcasts and have been known to start many a conversation with, "In a podcast I recently listened to, I learned..." If you ever see me walking around with headphones in, you can make my day by asking me what I'm listening to.

PAC Meeting Dates

Sir John PAC meetings will take place the second Thursday of every month from 12pm - 1pm in the SJF Boardroom.

Leadership and Team Building

Students in the High School Preparation Class attended a Leadership and Team Building Retreat Day on Thursday, September 14th at Long Lake. The activities throughout the day focused on developing leadership qualities and learning to work together as a team in an effective and efficient way. Students also learned to recognize strengths in themselves and others while working together to accomplish a common goal. It was a beautiful day spent outside with an effervescent group of Grade 9s!



Northern Studies student visits Ottawa

Last fall, Diana Rockwell participated in the mandatory class at Sir John called Northern Studies. As an end project to one of the units, she wrote a song about residential schools, called Home. Mr. Shawn Doherty, one of our former Northern Studies teachers, suggested she enter it into a national arts competition, done through the University of Manitoba, called Imagine a Canada. She was selected to be the recipient from the Northwest Territories and travelled to Ottawa at the end of June to be presented with an award by the Governor General. It was an amazing experience and one she won't be forgetting for a long time. She would like to encourage future Northern Studies students to enter the same competition, as it is an experience that is new, educational, eye-opening and fun.



HOME

Lyrics written by Diana Rockwell

On my own at last
Nowhere to turn don't look back
The one thing on my mind
No, look ahead, not behind

They can push, they can pull
But I won't fall
I won't budge, I won't break until I finally
make it home
Home

Sunlight glints off the trees
So removed from my realities
Pray, obey, don't make a sound
Lose my voice, watch my friends become a
mound

They can push, they can pull
But I won't fall
I won't budge, I won't break until I finally
make it home
Home

You know what I learned those years in that
school?

How to fight and how to be cruel
If I could tell you something that'd last
I'd say child, remember your past

Because

They can push, they can pull
But you won't fall
You won't budge, you won't break until you
finally make you can fight, you can win forget
if it's called a sin you won't stop, you won't
wait until you finally make it home home
home home

Oh look, there's home.

Sir John European Trip (SJET) News

Fundraising for the next European trip is underway!
Below is a list of the ways you can help SJET:

- **Purdy's Chocolate Sales** - look for tables around SJF!
- There will be a huge, multi-family **Garage Sale** on Saturday, September 30th from 8am - 1pm in the Sir John gym. Come and find some treasures!!
- **Sushi Lunches** - Watch for posters with details!
- **50/50 Tickets** - Your chance to win \$10,000!
- SJET has a group recycling account at the **Bottle Depot!** If you would like to drop off any recycling our account number is 4466568.

SJET 2018 Italy and Croatia will have mandatory, meetings every Tuesday at lunchtime in Room 22.

Students are expected to attend all meetings, or touch base with staff if they are unable to attend.

Music News

Plans for our trip to Vancouver are underway! Band and Choir members have the option of travelling to Vancouver over the May long weekend, May 17-21, 2018. Students will be kept busy sight-seeing, including trips to the Vancouver Aquarium and a tour of the city, performing at three different locations around Vancouver, participating in a workshop with University of British Columbia music faculty, hearing two Vancouver Symphony performances and taking a trip across the Capilano Suspension Bridge before heading home. Interested students should see Ms. Shantora for more information.

The Sir John Franklin Music Department is pleased to announce the addition of a choral music class this semester. The class will meet at lunch hour on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. Students interested in joining the class should speak with their counsellor.

There have been 14 enthusiastic players at our most recent band practices. We are super pleased to have not one but three drummers this year! All students who are comfortable playing a band instrument are encouraged to join the group whether or not they have instrumental music in their timetable this year. Practices take place on Wednesdays after school.

The Yellowknife Community Foundation generously gave the music department \$2000 recently, which Ms. Shantora will put towards new instruments for band students to use.

Choir members travelled to Calgary in March 2017 to participate in Choralfest where they received Gold medal standings! The video of their performance is now on youtube. Check our website for the link!

YK1 Student Spotlight of the Week



TRISHAWNA NEYELLE

Trishawna is a polite and good-natured student who never hesitates to lend a helping hand. She is also a hard worker and exemplifies the qualities of a falcon through her respectful and responsible nature. She is often early for class and stays late not only to work on her studies, but also to connect with her teachers. Trishawna leads by example both in the class and in the community and is a positive role model for others. Her uplifting attitude and willingness to help others is a positive and welcome contribution to the school spirit at Sir John Franklin High School!



YOUth Matters Conference

This summer I attended a week-long youth conference in Inuvik called YOUth Matters. During the week we participated in different workshops. The workshops that stood out for me were learning about tobacco/smoking, self harm, and suicide prevention.

After the conference we would do activities, like 3-on-3 basketball. We also made beaded earrings, played ping-pong, and practiced yoga, among other things. The final night we were there we had an old timers folk dance and it was so fun! A lot of people from Inuvik came and a lot of people danced. By the way, the food was also incredibly delicious!

I really appreciate the time and effort the members of GTC (Gwich'in Tribal Council) took to make this conference happen. I would 100% recommend participating in this conference!

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Sir John Franklin High School Drama Department proudly presents...



**November 8 - 11, 7pm
with a Saturday 2pm matinee at NACC**

This is the junior version and lasts approximately 65 minutes (no intermission). Perfect for all ages!



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Abigail (below) loves baking in Chef Stewart's class. And we love that she shares her baking with the staff!





YK1 Staff Spotlight

JANICE DALY

Janice has been a member of YK1 since the fall of 1989. She has worked at JH Sissons, NJ MacPherson, Range Lake, Mildred Hall and William McDonald before moving to Sir John in 2000 as our school librarian.

Janice Daly is not just a librarian at Sir John. She designs and paints all the flats for the graduation ceremony in June. Janice lends a hand in the drama department coordinating the school shows and with the set painting, she has been involved and helped over the years to operate and run the Sir John talent show. And on top of all this Janice is a wonderful baker and provides cookies and squares for the Sir John Open House.

THANK YOU, JANICE, FOR ALL THAT YOU DO FOR SIR JOHN!

Hay River Elks Outdoor Soccer

This year we didn't bring home any banners but the playing quality was outstanding. We had our girls and boys AA teams both playing in the finals. The boys lost 3-2 to PWK and the girls lost 2-1 in a shootout against St. Pats. Our boys and girls A teams both came home with 3rd place.

We had some early games that were super cold with frost on the field but the kids didn't let that stop them from working hard. It was a short but great season and look for us in 2018 to bring home many banners!!



Staying connected to your child's school is as easy as ever!

See below for a list of ways you can stay up-to-date on what's happening at Sir John:

SCHOOL WEBSITE

The Sir John website is updated daily with announcements and school calendar. The special "NEWS" button is filled with activities and news that we are proud of. Sections on Fine Arts, Athletics and Grad highlights photos, news, team or club rosters, practice schedules, travel forms, etc. The program of studies is also available which provide an overview of high school program and NWT requirements. You will also find a list of staff members and links to their contact information, PAC news and minutes, links to Facebook, Twitter, District Website, other Yk1 schools.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter is printed monthly and highlights events, activities, guest speakers, student achievement, etc. To subscribe to our newsletter, enter your email address on our website or respond to this email.

SOCIAL MEDIA

SirJohn2Go App - This app is a convenient way to check on announcements and upcoming events
Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Flickr - These are updated regularly with daily announcements, photos, news flashes (CBC, Yellowknifer), important notices, etc.

POWERSCHOOL

Parents and students can stay connected by checking the parent/student portal on powerschool which will provide updated marks and attendance information. If you don't have access to PowerSchool please call the school at (867) 669-0773 to gain Access ID's and passwords.

AUTO DIALER CALLOUT SYSTEM

Messages and specific news for clubs, teams, grad, grade level announcements, etc. and daily attendance are sent out via text, email, phone (cell, work, home). If you have not received a callout from Sir John, please call the school to make sure we have your current contact information.

SPORT SCHOOL Star of the Month



Wren Acorn

Wren has had an outstanding start to the Falcon Sport School Semester. She is very focused in all her workouts and definitely gives the impression she wants to improve every day, at everything she does.

Additionally, it is always nice to see someone coming into the school in grade 9 and showing their leadership. Wren was leading warm-ups for the group in the first week of classes.

Well done, Wren. We look forward to following your development throughout the remainder of the semester.

Congratulations on being named the Falcon Sport School Athlete of the Month!

VOLLEYBALL Star of the Month



Jennifer Lalonde

Jennifer has had a great start to the semester in the SJF Volleyball Academy. She has taken the lead in warm-ups and also leads the agility ladder training for the group.

Both on court and in the weight room, Jennifer is remaining focused on her own training, but lends a hand to some of the newer athletes in the class when she thinks she can assist.

Watching her take on this leadership role is great to see and a sign of her personal growth as a young athlete.

Congratulations on being named the SJF Volleyball Academy Athlete of the Month!

We love hearing how our former students are doing! Read below for an article that recently appeared in the Canadian School Counsellor magazine about Aimee Yurris, a former falcon, who took a CTS course on a whim and turned it into a passion.

Aimee Yurris is a prime example of how one initial choice combined with the right guidance and paired with creativity, intelligence and ambition can open unimagined vistas for a student. Aimee is from Yellowknife, NWT. While in high school she serendipitously filled an open spot on her schedule by taking the Foods Program. "It was a random choice, but I found that I loved the baking module." She then joined an after-school baking club that offered her the opportunity to compete in Skills Canada. She won the silver medal in the Northwest Territories Skills in Grade 9. At this point it occurred to her that, "this might be something I would like to do forever." The following year she participated in the Baking Club again, and won the gold medal at the Northwest Territories competition. She baked a lemon meringue pie, a vanilla sponge cake, and cream puffs. By now she was hooked.

Aimee received a lot of encouragement from her mom and Arnold Krause, her guidance counsellor. She was always strong academically and graduated from École Sir John Franklin High School in Yellowknife. Her next step was to study Culinary Arts at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) where she graduated in 2016. Aimee is now at the University of Lethbridge studying Public and Aboriginal Health. She hopes to return to the North to work in the community. Her take on success: "It takes courage, passion, practice and more practice." Aimee has all three of these qualities in spades.

Ms. Tonge's Art Class is enjoying the warm weather while they can by creating sidewalk art!



Clubs and Activities at Sir John *con't on next page*

MAGNANIMOUS ADVOCATES GENERATING MENTAL AWARENESS (MAGMA)

MAGMA stands for Magnanimous Advocates Generating Mental Awareness. Magma strives to build the foundations for a solid, anti-stigma society, one hot surge at a time! The group was created to promote mental health awareness in our school and community, to reduce the stigma surrounding mental health, to disseminate knowledge about stigma and mental health and to help students build healthy relationships and maintain strong mental health. Magma members not only generate awareness and educate others, they also take action to end the stigma! Magma meets every Thursday during lunch (11:40) in the Health Haven. Come join us and help #endthestigma!

PROJECT KENYA

Sir John students, in partnership with A Better World Canada, continue to support projects in schools in rural Kenya. In 2012, they funded the construction of three classrooms at Simotwet Primary School and in 2015 added a kitchen/food storage facility to the school. In both 2012 and 2016, students in this group traveled to Kenya to see their projects first-hand and visit other schools, orphanages and clinics, where they distributed much needed supplies. This group is currently supporting a girl they met while on their travels and helping to fund her rehabilitation after she suffered a stroke at fourteen years old. Donations of school supplies (not books) are always welcome. Please contact project coordinators Dean MacInnis or Pam Schlosser

COMBINED ARMS CLUB

The Combined Arms Club began as the Sir John Archery Club, and was formed back in 2011. In 2014, Fencing equipment was purchased, and both sports were amalgamated into the SJF Combined Arms Club. Since then 100's of students have learnt the basics of the bow and the sword. In 2016, Olympic 10 metre air pistol, and in 2017, Olympic air rifle, were added to our repertoire, and students now enjoy all three disciplines. The club is supervised by Mr. Kennedy, along with Ms. Trimble and Ms. Couture, with Dawson Giroux as senior Range Officer. It meets every Friday at 3:30 in the Sir John gym.

LEAVING A LEGACY

The Leaving a Legacy Portrait Project was born in 2013, when former Sir John principal Ed Lippert approached Senior Art Teacher Maureen Tonge about creating with her students a display that would highlight the main entrance of the school. In discussion with former administration, Social Studies teachers, Landon Kowlalzik, Scott Willoughby, DiAnn Blesse and counsellor Doreen Cleary, the first phase of "Leaving a Legacy" was born. To date, we have had four phases of Leaving a Legacy: "Northern Aboriginal Leaders", "Northern Women Educators", "Northern Elders & Educators" and "Falcon Alumni". This project is only open to Senior Art students and is coordinated by Maureen Tonge.

FALCON VOICES

The school choir meets every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 11:45 all year long. The choir takes part in the Yellowknife Music Festival, school assemblies and concerts and at various community performances.

Student Council

Congratulations to Hunaifa Malik and Robert Paddock who were recently elected Sir John's Student Council President and Vice-President (respectively). Their first meeting will take place this week and the student council retreat will be happening soon. Stay tuned for more information!



Clubs and Activities at Sir John

SJF UNPLUGGED

The school band meets every Wednesday from 2:45-3:45pm all year long. The band participates in school assemblies, concerts and at various community performances.

SCUBA CLUB

The primary objective of the SCUBA CLUB is to educate youth about the beauty and fragility of the marine environment. This club is for students who have an interest in Marine Biology and in learning more about marine environments. There are five main components to the club. They are:

- **Marine Biology:** Students will participate in a learning opportunity focussed on the marine environment they will be in on our trip. Credits will be awarded for participation.
- **First Aid/CPR:** You will complete a St. John Ambulance First Aid and CPR course. Students who already have valid first aid/CPR need not retake the course.
- **PADI Open Water Diver Certification:** The Scuba portion of the club is instructed by Colin Baile, a dive instructor with over 25 years of experience. Certification will be completed after students complete four open water training dives to be done on site during the field trip.
- **Field Trip:** Students will complete the four open water training dives and become certified open water divers. The rest of the time will be spent observing (in the field) what has been studied in the Marine Biology class.
- **Fundraising:** In order to fund our trip, members of the Scuba Club will participate in fundraising events. Who can go? Space and equipment is limited. Students must be successful in the Marine Biology component, the PADI course (pass is 80%) and the First Aid/CPR course as well as being in good standing within the club and in all other classes in the school.

YOGA CLUB

Will be starting on Friday, Oct. 21st and run on Fridays from 3:45 - 4:45 PM. Coordinator: Maureen Tonge

SIR JOHN EUROPEAN TRIP (SJET)

The Sir John European Trip (SJET) takes place once every two years during March Break. Each year a different European destination is chosen. The trip is open to all Sir John students who are maintaining good attendance and are being successful in their courses. It is a chance for students to travel and learn about different cultures. This year, 37 students and 6 teachers are travelling to Italy and Croatia. Coordinator: Kirsten Prescott

SKILLS COOKING & BAKING CLUBS

Chef Stewart offers an extension to his Culinary Arts program for students interested in competing in either Cooking or Baking. The Skills Clubs usually meet once per week for 4 hours to practice cooking and baking for the Territorial Skills Competition (TSC) that occurs every year in April. The winner of the TSC then continues to work with Chef Stewart to prepare for the Canadian Skills National Competition (www.skillscanada.com) which happens in June. Chef Stewart encourages any students interested in developing their cooking and baking skills to come and talk to him directly.

GSA CLUB

We are an anonymous group of students and staff that meet several times during the school year to listen to each other and make recommendations regarding school life. In the past, we have successfully put forward the idea of having gender free washrooms located in the school. This year, we are electing to have a student on the city's Rainbow Coalition of Yellowknife. It's all about making this a better, more caring, and more respectful world to live in! For more information, see Mr. Bennett or Ms. Hurley.

OCTOBER 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 Staff Meeting 3:45pm	4 Early Dismissal 2:30pm	5	6	7
8	9 Thanksgiving NO SCHOOL	10	11 Early Dismissal 2:30pm	12 PAC Meeting 12noon	13	14
15	16	17	18 Early Dismissal 2:30pm	Fort Smith Volleyball Tournament		
22	23 NWT Principal Conference		25 Early Dismissal 2:30pm	26	27	28
29	30	31 Halloween				