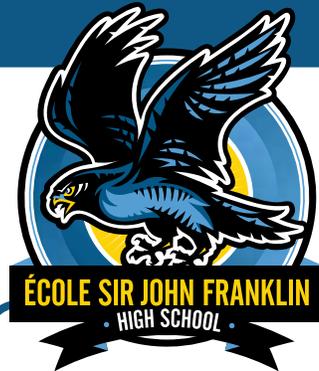
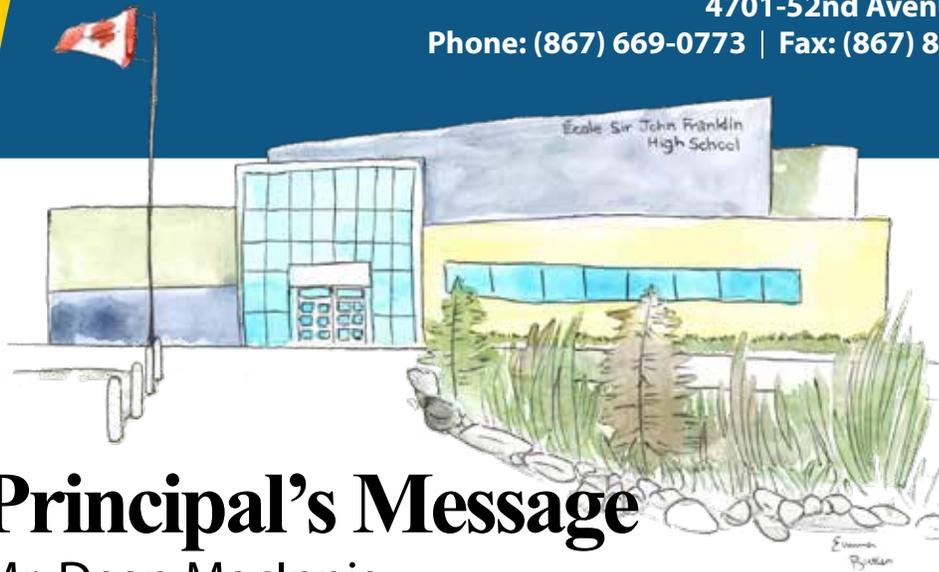


# FEBRUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

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

Phone: (867) 669-0773 | Fax: (867) 873-3630 | [www.sjf.yk1.nt.ca](http://www.sjf.yk1.nt.ca)



## Principal's Message

Mr. Dean MacInnis

Congratulations to students, staff and parents for a successful first semester! If wasn't without challenges, but with everyone's understanding and hard work, we made it through and teachers are now more than ready for Semester 2.

Report cards were handed out on February 1st. If your child didn't bring home their report card, please call the school at 669-0773.

Staff and students are invited to join the 2021 SJF Reading Challenge Group! Any current Sir John student or staff can join, read lots of books between February 1 and March 31. Any books that you finish should be recorded on our GoodReads group bookshelf and yes, ELA novel studies count! See more inside.

Student Council has a number of events coming up in celebration of Valentine's Day. They are also organizing a 'Spread the Love' food drive for the month of February. If you would like to donate please bring food to your homeroom teacher.

Congratulations to SJF's Minister Award winners! Isabelle Boucher, Safiya Hashi, Hannah Inman and Jack Kotaska each received top marks on the Alberta Diploma exams in the NWT. We'd also like to congratulate Chidubem Duru for receiving the Governor General's Award. She achieved this by maintaining the highest academic average over her final two years of high school. We are proud of you!

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the school at (867) 669-0773.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### February 1

Report Card Day

### February 8-9, 11

Grade Level Assemblies

### February 8-17

Course Selections  
for Next Year

### February 18

PAC Meeting 7pm

### February 25-26

PD Days  
No School for Students

### March 1-5

Grade 8 Camp Akaitcho

### March 12

No School

### March 12-18

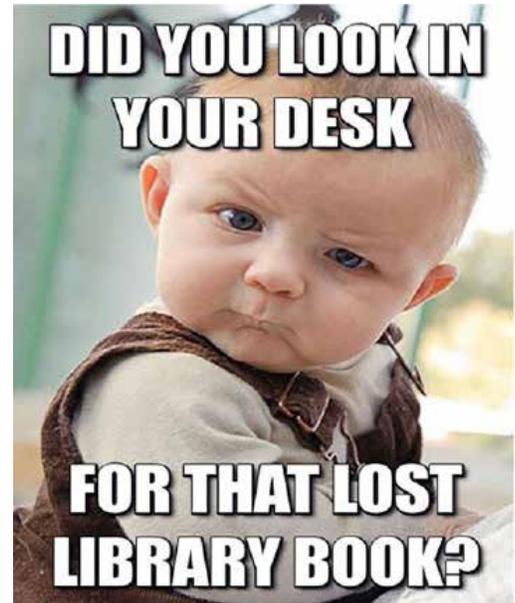
March Break

FOR MORE DETAILS SEE  
CALENDAR ON LAST PAGE.



KEEP CALM & LOVE WHOEVER YOU WANT!

SHHH... STUDENTS ARE QUIETLY WRITING EXAMS IN THE GYM!



## Student donates 100% to Black Lives Matter

For her Social Studies 20-1 citizenship project, Stella Smyslo sold custom art commissions and donated 100% of the proceeds to Black Lives Matter. Stella was inspired by the BLM movement over the summer and wanted to contribute in a tangible way. She raised \$1558 for BLM and was able to refine her art skills in the process. You can follow Stella's artwork on instagram @stella\_drawss

*of, and it all went to support an outstanding organization that helps eliminate white supremacy and systemic racism while supporting black-owned businesses. I trust that the money raised has gone to a great place that can assist in changing the world for the better. I will forever be grateful for everyone who shared my project or commissioned me directly."*



### This is what Stella had to say about her project:

*"I am very proud of my project this year because I believe that it really helped make a difference. The support I got was more than I could have dreamed*





# FALCON SWAG WINNERS

Congratulations to Devlin Thompson,  
Jessica Lafferty and Lotus Scott,  
winners of the Falcon Swag Contest!  
They each won a prize from  
the Falcon's Nest.



## Mme. Poitras' Grade 10 class builds a curling rink!



# Christmas at SJF

Christmas this year, looked a little different than other years. Although we weren't able to have our annual Christmas assembly and luncheon, staff and students still wore their favourite Christmas sweater and we still decorated the Christmas tree in the foyer. Many of our music students took turns playing beautiful Christmas music in the morning and at lunchtime. It was such an uplifting treat to hear and we hope it becomes just one of our many Christmas traditions here at Sir John.



LOVE  
IS  
LOVE

# Grade 8's using homemade skating rink

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We have now added a new facility to our fold, thank you to Mr. Craig and Mr. Skauge for the extensive time and energy they have put into creating an outdoor rink at Sir John. Thank you as well to Mr. Curran for jumping on board with land clearing, hoses and so much more. We've heard many great comments from the students and teachers who have used our outdoor rink.



**THANK YOU  
TO DEBEERS FOR  
THE DONATION  
OF LAPTOPS FOR  
OUR STUDENTS!**



# 21st Century Learning

21st century learning is based around student centered learning, collaboration, real world context and practice.

In these photos, Ms. Waugh's Grade 8 students are working on vertical surfaces to solve real world problems related to our current math unit. Their challenge was to get to all 10 problems around the class but no more than two students could be at one challenge at a time and whoever finished first with all the correct answers would get a chocolate. This naturally forced them to work in small groups and change who they were working with continuously as they scrambled to find open spaces.

In the end they all finished at about at the same time and they had a 90% average grade without even realizing it!



**Grade 8 students fishing and learning on the land while other SJF students write exams! How is this fair???**





## Thank you Ms. Schlosser!

This all-girl math class celebrated the last day of Semester 1 by giving their teacher, Ms. Schlosser, a drawing and a brand new, colourful calculator.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Peter Curran:

Peter is a graduate of Sir John Franklin High School. He has taught English for many years and continues to do so but is also in his 4th year as Assistant Principal of Sir John. He has played a key role in the Challenge Cup, coaching the boy's team to many victories over the years. Peter also volunteers every year to help with Grad. When Covid-19 hit, Peter spent time, both teaching online as well as endless hours at Sir John, preparing for the safe return of staff and students.

In Peter's free time, he enjoys coaching minor hockey and minor fastball. He also enjoys spending time with his family and running his trucking company.



## YK1 STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Gordon Kwong

Gordon is an incredibly diligent and hard-working student. He always comes to class prepared, and often even over-prepared as it is not unusual for him to have done extra work on assignments (like a printout of additional notes and information for a presentation, for example).

He also carries himself in a very respectable manner, always sharing his knowledge and opinions when and where it is appropriate to do so. And, in addition to this, he is kind and helpful to his classmates whenever he can be.



# Breakfast is served

Members of the SJF staff were treated to a week-long breakfast room at the school during the first five days of exams. As a gesture of appreciation for all the hard work during our return to in-person classes this semester, SJF veterans Travis Stewart, Jan Byrne and Janice Daly planned, prepared and served breakfast to their colleagues (as well as to some guests from IT and District Office) from 7:30 am – 8:30 am each day in the foods room. The menu included homemade cinnamon buns, waffles from scratch, eggs made to order, baked granola and yogurt as well as 'Frittatas on Friday'.

A huge thank you to Jan, Janice and Travis for getting here each morning at 6:00 am and making sure the staff was well-fed for the work week.



## You want me to tip the canoe?? On purpose?

Les élèves de 8<sup>e</sup> année ont eu la chance de participer a une formation sur la securité en canot en collaboration avec Narwal Northern Advantures. Au cours de ces sessions, ils ont eu la chance de mettre en pratique la théorie apprise durant la formation virtuelle sur les mésures de securité ainsi que de se familiariser avec les parties du Canot.

In collaboration with Narwal Northern Adventures, our grade 8 students were able to participate in two sessions in preparation for our class canoe trip. Everyone participated in a virtual class to review theory and practices before their pool training. During the virtual and practical session(s), we had a chance to examine each part of the canoe and their use, safety protocols, and open water extractions.



## Asexual versus Aromantic: What do they each mean? A Knowledge Drop from the Gender & Sexuality Squad

February holds Valentine's Day, which in modern times is strongly associated with love, hearts, and romance. However, not everyone experiences romantic or sexual feelings.

There are many different representations of the LGBTQ acronym. Sometimes seen as LGBTQIAP+, the A stands for both asexual and aromantic, both part of the "a-spec" (asexual spectrum) identities.

Romance and sexual attraction are two different things, and it is possible to experience one without the other. The Split Attraction model (or SAM) was brought forth by folx to better describe and explain their identities to themselves and to others. What the SAM does is split sexual and romantic attraction into two separate things. For every sexual orientation, there is a romantic orientation counterpart.



This is the asexual flag. Someone who is asexual does not experience sexual attraction or desire towards anyone of any gender. Remember two things, though, 1) attraction and action are not the same thing, and 2) everyone experiences their asexuality differently.



This is the aromantic flag. Someone who is aromantic does not experience a romantic attraction to anyone; they do not need or want a passionate or loving connection with another person.

Beyond asexual and aromantic, there are individuals who describe themselves as grey-sexual or greyromantic. These people fall between being sexual and asexual, and between romantic and aromantic. Others may identify as demisexual or demiromantic, where they will not feel a primary attraction but will feel secondary attraction once a significant bond has already been established. Again, there are a plethora of other identities within the asexual spectrum.

If you would like to read more about the colours, meanings, and history of the flags, visit <https://www.unco.edu/gender-sexuality-resource-center/resources/pride-flags.aspx>

Sources: [www.glaad.com](http://www.glaad.com) (explore the spectrum: guide to finding your ace community), [www.health.com](http://www.health.com) (Asexual vs. Aromantic: What's the Difference?)



# Grade 8's studying for their first exams!



NS10 TREATY CARD DEFINITION ACTIVITY - students study vocabulary and prepare for final exams!





# Counselling Services at Sir John

Nicole Lawlor, Laura Coatsworth and Stacey Thurman, Child and Youth Counsellors (CYCC)

Did you know counselling support is available at SJF to any student, for any cause and in a variety of ways to best support the mental health and well being of our students?

SJF has three CYCCs, Nicole Lawlor, Laura Coatsworth and Stacey Thurman, all registered and certified counsellors, who provide individual, drop-in and group counselling at the school. Counselling is at no cost, available as long as needed, and entirely confidential.

If you're looking to get connected, there are a variety of ways to do so depending on an individual's needs. No problem is too big or too small!

## Individual Counselling

- Meet at Sir John or Goga Cho
- Monday-Friday, 8:30-4:30
- Unlimited support
- Scheduled sessions
- Same counsellor every time
- One hour sessions
- Access through guidance

## Drop-in Counselling

- Meet at Sir John in the Health Haven
- Monday-Friday, 8:30-12, 1-3:30
- Come anytime
- Unscheduled sessions
- Meet with one of three counsellors
- Sessions as long as needed
- Come on your own (we'll confirm you aren't marked absent)
- Consultation and education

## Group Counselling

- Meet with other students
- Meet at Sir John
- Weekly over 6-8 weeks
- Support and connection around shared experiences
- Same group members every time
- 1.5 hour sessions
- Reach out to a counsellor, teacher or guidance if interested
- Meet with a counsellor first to make sure group is a good fit

For teachers and parents seeking advice on any topic related to mental health. Please contact a CYCC staff (contact info below).

**Looking for more info?** Please don't hesitate to reach out with any question you may have on the programs and services being offered at time.

**Nicole Lawlor (Monday-Friday):**

nicole.lawlor@yk1.nt.ca

**Laura Coatsworth (Monday-Friday):**

laura.coatsworth@yk1.nt.ca

**Stacey Thurman (Mondays only):**

stacey.thurman@yk1.nt.ca



# Congratulations!



**Isabelle Boucher**  
French Language Arts 30-1



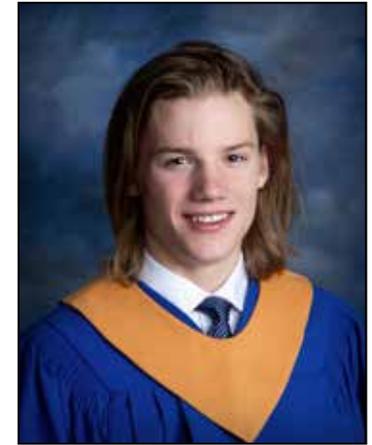
**Chidubem Duru**  
Governor General's Award



**Safiya Hashi**  
English Language Arts 30-1



**Hannah Inman**  
Mathematics 30-2



**Jack Kotaska**  
Physics 30

Every year, the Department of Education, Culture and Employment presents the Minister's Awards to high school students achieving the top marks on the Alberta Diploma Exams. Awards are given to students for performance in the ten core academic subjects.

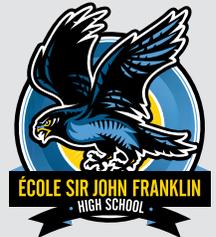
**We are pleased to announce that this year École Sir John Franklin High School students have won four awards.**

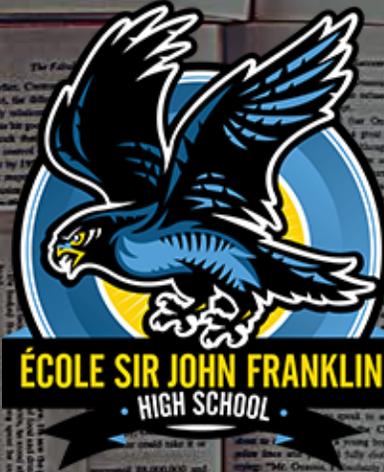
**This is an impressive achievement, and the SJF staff is very proud of the young people recognized.**

**Each recipient will receive a \$500 scholarship from YK1 for each Minister's Award earned.**

SJF would also like to acknowledge Chidubem Duru for being awarded the Governor General's Award.

This award is presented to the graduating student who has maintained the highest academic average over her final two years of high school.





# 2021 READING CHALLENGE

1. Sign up for GoodReads at [goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com) (you can sign up using your YK1 google account).
  2. Join the "2021 SJF Reading Challenge" GROUP
  3. Add any books you finish between February 1 and March 31 to the 2021 SJF Reading Challenge group's bookshelf. \*This is easier to do on the desktop version of GoodReads.
  4. Recruit your (SJF) friends and teachers to join
- \*Need help? Email Ms. Robson - [tomiko.robson@yk1.nt.ca](mailto:tomiko.robson@yk1.nt.ca)



# FEBRUARY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Report Card Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
<b>Course Selections for Next Year</b>						
	Grade Level Assemblies	Grade Level Assemblies		Grade Level Assemblies		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	<b>Course Selections for Next Year</b>			PAC Meeting 7pm		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
				PD Day No School for Students	PD Day No School for Students	
28	<b>Important Upcoming Dates</b> March 1-5: Grade 8 Camp Akaitcho March 12: No School March 12-28: March Break					