

**Ecole Sir John Franklin
High School**



**GRADBOOK
2022**

Janessa Henderso :)
 Adria Sundberg
 Brianna Brenton :)
 Samantha Zonneveld ♡
 Olivia Rockwell
 Katherine Smallwood
 Morgan Young (Salty)
 Hunter Villeneuve ♡
 Stella Wong
 Jeylin ★ Base-Smith
 Georgia Pellissey ♡
 Amber Gau
 Abby Kravitz
 Matt Brinson
 Haylee Trudsham ♡
 Hailey Froude
 Madison LeFrangais
 Ashkira Mohamud
 Connor Imman
 Gavin
 Elizabeth Watier
 Renate Chiasson!
 Alden Tomoth :)
 RIVKA
 Matteo ashley
 Neve Short
 John Vogel
 Emma Janz :)
 Geno Casaway



ABOUT THE COVER: The front cover was designed and created by SJF student, Stella Smyslo (Class of 2022!)

To see more of Stella's work, you can follow him on Instagram @sas.sketches



Principal's Message

Sir John Franklin High School opened its doors back in 1958, and today we celebrate the 63rd graduating class of SJF.

I remember the first day of kindergarten at Range Lake North School in September, 2009. You may not remember this, but I was your principal on your first day and now on your last. Carter Legge, Logan Cunningham, Hayden Pender, Mitchell Elliott, Zoe Clark – lots of kid tears (and also parent ones) I may have had to separate a child from a parent that day (his name may be Carter) but there were three Carters in the class so you will need to guess which one.

The next thought that comes to mind would be that crazy (maybe the craziest) Challenge Cup ever in November 2018. Down 4 – 2 with less than one minute left and SJF pulls it out of the fire – winning in overtime. Devon, Luke, Logan, McKinley you will tell that story for the rest of your life; I am sure as time passes, it will be less than 30 seconds when you pull it off.

I also think of our last school-wide assembly – Challenge Cup 2020 Hockey Day in Canada – that assembly and game providing a lifetime of memories – not only for Noah, McKinley, & Devin in the game, but the thought of that spirit – fabric of what being a part of SJF is all about.

Two weeks ago we started the graduation celebrations with our Indigenous Honour Ceremony. Individual indigenous grads came together with family and friends to celebrate in a traditional way an incredible accomplishment.

During that celebration we recognized Jaylen Base-Smith with the YK1 Sacred Feather Award. The award is for students that model strength and commitment towards their educational goals. Jaylen exemplifies this everyday. He leads by example for others. Congrats, Jaylen.

The students recognized at this ceremony are the inspiration for future generations of indigenous kids - they represent resilience, strength, success - you are a source of pride for your families, community and our school. You now have the responsibility to pass on what you know and use your strength of character to make a difference.

I want all of you to live with intention, purpose and meaning – you have been building your skills since kindergarten.

You are ready for that next step – no matter what it is.

I want you to realize the importance of your voice in your community – today and forever – this will define your character.

Getting involved in your community – it is one thing to challenge the norms of society; it is another thing to roll up your sleeves - get in there to educate people and create long-term change to better your community. You all know it takes hard work.

At this point in my speech, I usually dive into the events of high school that leave lasting memories - but it has been a different journey from what you

may have had in your mind. I do not want to use words or phrases like “be flexible”, “pivot your learning” or “do not take things for granted” – that is way too general and impersonal.

You may think that because the events were fewer and far between that your High School experience was not as memorable - if anything it would be the complete opposite. You have all connected with each other in more ways than imaginable. You may be the most resilient, well-equipped group of graduates ready to take on the world that we have ever had because of your high school experience over the last three years.

You have:

- learned new study habits
- asked for support
- learned to advocate for yourselves
- paid attention to your mental health
- become more independent
- learned virtually (and did it well)
- overcome extraordinary challenges and emerged stronger on the other side
- learned to make time to do things that you enjoy

Some of you even learned to turn on your cameras and change out of your PJs to come to class online.

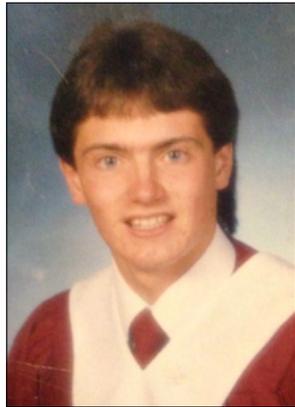
By getting here today, you must be proud of yourself - I could not be prouder of this class.

Always remember:

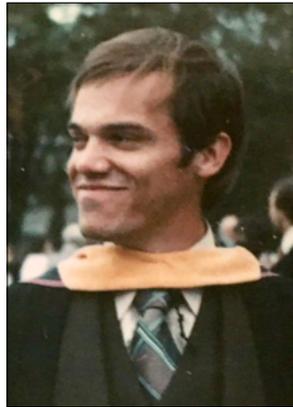
- to pass on your knowledge
- to live with intention
- to get involved with your community
- and to give thanks to the people in your world

Come back to visit, give us an update and we will tell stories about the old days.

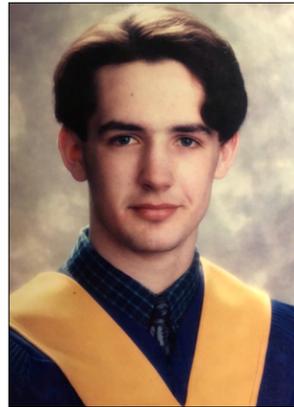
Congratulations to the Class of 2022 from the staff of École Sir John Franklin High School



Dean MacInnis,
Principal
Class of '88



Paul Bennett,
Asst. Principal
Class of '73



Peter Curran,
Asst. Principal
Class of '94



Jacqueline Arthur
Class of '09



Kodi Bauldry
Class of '09



Dominique Bennett



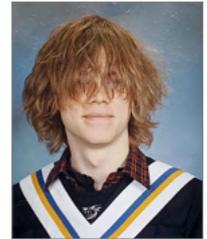
Dale Bouchard



Cora Brancato
Class of '12



Jan Byrne
Class of '74



Aidan Cartwright
Class of '04



Lindsay Chiasson
Class of '88



Matt Craig
Class of '10



Janice Daly



Nathan Doering



Shaun Doherty



Jean-Yves Drouin



Obed Duru



Chloé Duval
Class of '16



Mitch Grady



Hannah Griffin
Class of '12



Ben Grimes
Class of '18



Shamus Hagen
Class of '09



Chantal Hamel-Bouchard
Class of '03



Sermin Heyck



Denise Hurley
Class of '99



Russell Ives



Jeremy Kielstra
Class of '98



Mark Kilbride
Class of '99



Steve Kirkham
Class of '01



Dan Knox



Robin Kooymans
Class of '05



Mary-Joan Lafferty



Lynn Lalonde
Class of '86



Carrie Lauder
Class of '93



Nicole Lawlor



Carina Lee
Class of '07



Sonia Longchamps
Class of '94



Spencer Lyman



Paul MacDonald



Wendy Malkin
Class of '86



Angela Martin
Class of '06



Bridget McLeod



Nikita Morozov
Class of '12



Mindee Naismith



Lea O'Keefe



Stephen Offredi



Sharon Oldford
Class of '88



Shweta Pal



Andrea Pellerin
Class of '95



Kim Poitras
Class of '00



Kate Powless
Class of '98



Kirstin Prescott



Colleen Pura



Micheline Ricard



Isabelle Robidas



Tomiko Robson
Class of '96



Jerome Rondeau



Pam Schlosser
Class of '87



Robyn Scott



Susan Shantora



Logan Shupe
Class of '18



Greg Skauge



Travis Stewart
Class of '94



Evelyne Straker
Class of '95



Shannon Traynor
Class of '00



Brianna Tremblay
Class of '10



Gillian Waugh
Class of '10



Alycia Wilson
Class of '06



Gwen Young



Erin Zacharias
Class of '04

GRADBOOK COMMITTEE



Katherine Smallwood, Cassie Rogers, Alden Tumoth

GRAD COUNCIL



Back Row: *Pretty Ngo, Luke Kotaska, Kiran Fox, Logan Hayward, Grace Christie, Janessa Henderson, Robert Derry-Ring*
Front Row: *Haylee Fradsham, Cassie Rogers, Alden Tumoth, Avery Dragon, Kristen Grey*

HOCKEY DAY IN CANADA 2020





MERRY CHRISTMAS



All the memories made with people from elementary or middle school including sports and travel (when we could) or just being in class. Those are the best ones because you have connections that go so far back.

-Brianna Brenton

My favourite memories made in high school are the ones with my friends. There's never a dull moment with them. They put the "cool" in "school".

-Dashiel Valdriz

Spending time in the art room and painting my very first original

-Hailey Froude

Drama class
-Robert Derry

Finding myself and learning how to be independent and strong

-Abigail MacDonald

FAVORITE MEMORIES FROM HIGH SCHOOL

Seeing all my friends after the 2020 lockdown

-Zoe Clark

Meeting my favourite group of people who I love

-Amber Gau

Building a camp during lockdown

-Everett Fox

Winning C cup in grade 9

-Luke Kotaska

The weekends

-Mckinley Talbot

My grade nine BC exchange trip

-Georgia Pellissey

Cooking in chef's class

-Kristen Grey



DECORATING EASTER EGGS

Not making challenge cup
in Grade 10.
-Morgan Young

Tripping on the stairs
in front of a really cute guy,
at which he laughed.
-Abigail Kravitz

Being accidentally
unmuted in front of the
entire zoom class.
-Amber Gau

I got sprayed in the eye
with Virex and had to get
an emergency eye wash.
-Zoe Clark

Literally any
presentation.
-Georgia Pellissey

Most embarrassing moment in high school

Falling off a treadmill.
-Matthew Brinson

In 9th grade I tripped
up the stairs in front
of a huge group of people.
-Elizabeth Watier

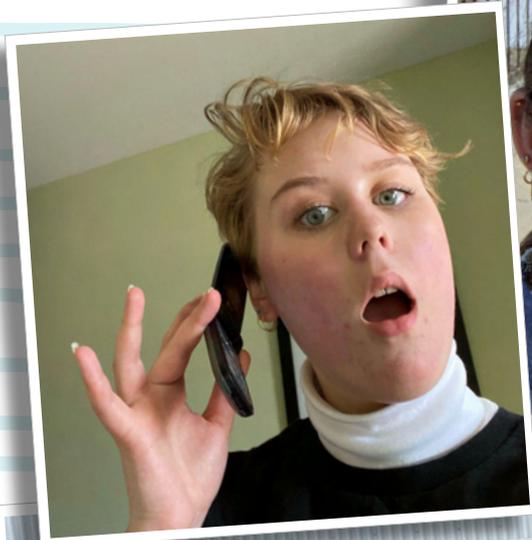
I fell in the hallway
in front of a lot of people.
-Neve Short

When I ripped my pants
in drama class.
-Abigail MacDonald

Morgan's dad telling me
I need to shave.
-Everett Fox







Many lessons
learned.
-Bryce Bessette

Fast, purple
and chaotic.
-Haylee Fradsham

Please
Just End.
-Geno Casaway

A roller
coaster.
-Pretty Ngo

Late late late.
-Matteo Ashley

One star
rating.
-Neve Short

Fun, boring, confusing.
-Connor Inman

Would Not
Recommend.
-Madison Lefrançois

Was fun sometimes.
-Stella Wong

Way to much.
-Devin Vogel

Would not
recommend.
-Matthew Brinson

Exhausting,
Fun, Coffee.
-Elizabeth Watier

Memorable,
challenging,
worthwhile.
-Amber Gau

High school in three words

Long, Hard, and
Enjoyable ;)
-Abigail Kravitz

Not that bad.
-Everett Fox

Whirlwind, Unique,
Memorable.
-Abigail MacDonald

Kirkham, Curran,
Schlosser.
-Luke Kotaska

Covid, Challenging,
and Exciting.
-Dashiel Valdriz

Tiring, Stressful,
Exciting.
-Kristen Grey

Terrible,
covid, long.
-Brianna Brenton

Not super horrible.
-Georgia Pellissey

Difficult, covid,
worthwhile.
-Zoe Clark

Meaningful,
challenging, stressful.
-Hailey Froude

Stressed but fun.
-Robert Derry

Many bathroom
breaks.
-McKinley Talbot



DRY GRAD



Class of 2022



Mohamed Abouhager
Everything is possible, you just
have to believe in yourself.



Kyle Adamache
Thank you all for
believing in me!



Michael Alhemash
On short margins.



Matteo Ashley
A journey of a thousand miles
begins with a single step.



Tanner Barabonoff
The road to success is always
under construction.



Rachelle Bartlett
Nothing is impossible.



Jaylen Base-Smith
"Bad biscuits make the baker
broke bro." -Jake the Dog



Yamoza Beaulieu
You can't move forward without
saying goodbye to the past.



Bryce Bessette
Be yourself,
everyone is already taken.



Brianna Brenton
It's been terrible, terrifying and
terrific all at the same time.



Matthew Brinson
Not too many know what it
took just to get here.



Samantha Burton
Happy, free, confused and
lonely at the same time.

Class of 2022



Jackson Caisse

"I'll be standing outside.
If you need me, I'm outstanding."



Geno Casaway

"When did everyone decide to
become an adult?" - Jake Peralta



Renald Chiasson

"I'm a rubber duck,
you won't crack me"
- Falklands Commando



Grace Christie

Even this was late.



Zoe Clark

"People who use quotes have
nothing interesting to say"
- Stephen Kirkham



Cole Clinton

3 cities, 2 countries,
1 diploma... 0 regrets.



Dawson Craig

I'm outta here!
See you guys later!



Marie Cronk

"Accept no one's definition of
success, define it for yourself"
- Someone Smart



Logan Cunningham

Perfect attendance.



Aeva-Grace Dempster

Is this also due at 11:59pm?



Robert Derry

"May your hats fly as high as
your dreams" - Micheal Scott



**Graham
Diveky-Suchlandt**

"I did it my way" - Frank Sinatra

Class of 2022



Avery Dragon

"I have no idea what I'm doing, but I know I'm doing it really, really well." -Andy Dwyer



Mitchell Elliott

You don't get what you wish for, you get what you work for.



Everett Fox

"There are none so deaf a those that will not hear."
- Leonardo DiCaprio



Kiran Fox

I parked in staff parking every day of the winter. Spot 21.



Haylee Fradsham

I've already forgotten everything :)



Rosalyn French

Googling grad quotes the day they're due quite nicely sums up this whole experience.



Hailey Froude

"Time you enjoy wasting is not wasted time." - John Lennon



Amber Gau

"Success is not final. Failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts."
- Winston Churchill



Kristen Grey

My contribution to the school was slaying every single day; you're welcome.



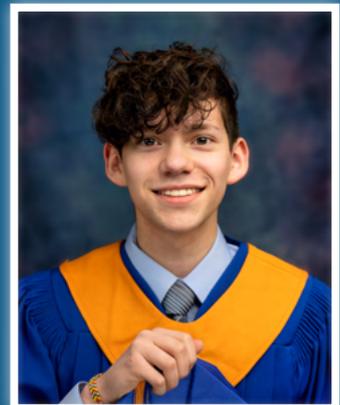
Logan Hayward

The game.



Janessa Henderson

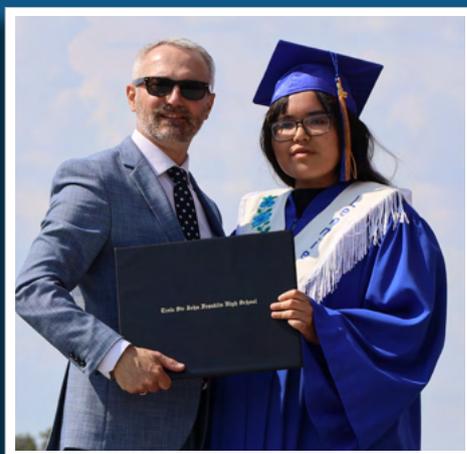
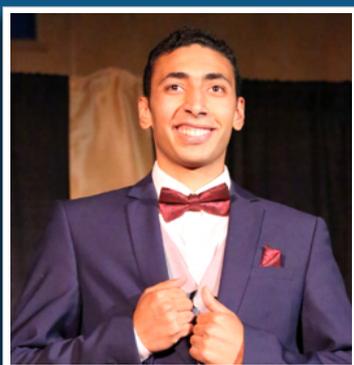
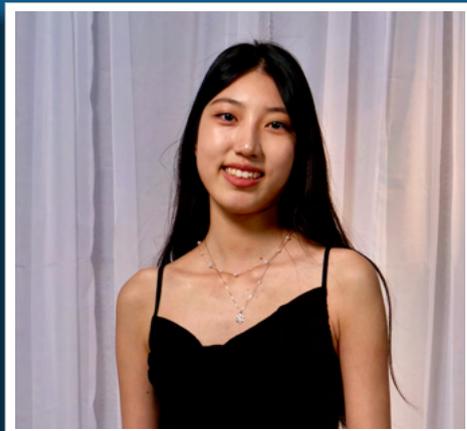
"What day is it?"
"Today", said Piglet "Ah", said Pooh, "my favourite day"



Connor Inman

My body is young, but I'm an old soul trapped in the 21st century. Stay true to yourself and don't change for anyone.





Class of 2022



Jessica Jacobs
"A winner is a dreamer
who never gives up."
- Nelson Mandela



Aaron Jeremicka
The saddest thing
in life is wasted talent.



Gabriel Juntilla
lol



Luke Kotaska
"It's better to burn out
than to fade away."
- Neil Young



Tyrome Koyczan
We have our memories,
now let's go make our future!



Abigail Kravitz
I'm feeling (class of) '22.



Oberon Lee
High School Musical was
pretty unrealistic.



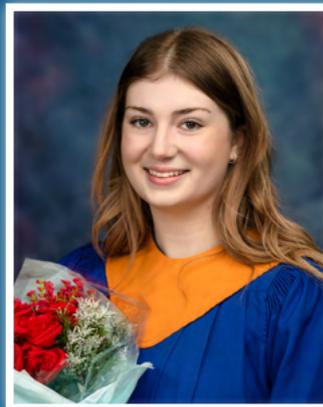
Madison Lefrancois
Hustle in silence and let the
money make the noise;
I will deal with my problems
by becoming rich.



Carter Legge
Keep my pride on my hip,
that's a weapon I can't lose.



Marie Lennie
Shrek is love, Shrek is life.



Abigail MacDonald
My stress level over the last 4
years: Kim Kardashian losing her
diamond earring in the ocean.



Joenelle Mackenzie
Don't live someone else's dream,
find your own.

Class of 2022



Draydan Mantla
Opportunity is missed
because it's dressed in overalls
and looks like work.



Robin McCormick
High school was a
7/10 experience.



Riley McKeddie-Peffer
Graduation is not the end,
it's the beginning.



Emma McManus-Janz
I'm not great at senior quotes.
Can I interest you
in a sarcastic comment?



Karsen Mercredi
High school musical
was pretty unrealistic.



Zayd Mohamed
"I used to pray for times like this,
to rhyme like this so I had to
grind like that to shine like this"



Mohammed Mohammed
Waking up in the morning was
harder than graduating.



Ashkira Mohamud
My computer screen is
brighter than my future.



Pretty Ngo
"Slive your best life,
sliving always, loves it."
- Paris Hilton



Samara Nickerson
There are no regrets in life,
only lessons.



Ryder Ouellette-Landry
These are the nights
that never die.



Matthew Patzer
If you're reading this,
my quote didn't make it,
quite disappointing.

Class of 2022



Gavin Payne

When the last bell rings, I might actually miss this place!



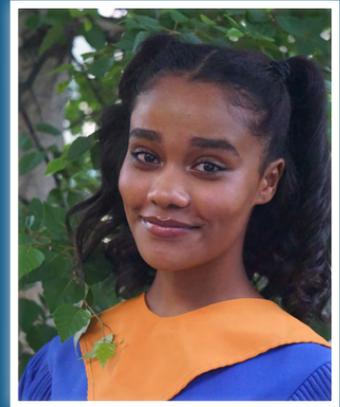
Georgia Pellissey

Nothing like Degrassi.
Disappointed. But it was fun.
6/10.



Hayden Pender

Your opinion of yourself becomes your reality.



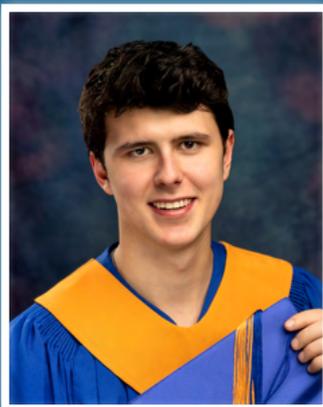
Rivka Peters

"School was very hard." - tay k



Jarrett Rabesca

Know without a doubt that you were made for great things.



Colton Robertson

Spent more time on my SLEDS than my ASSIGNMENTS.



Olivia Rockwell

Gaslight. Gatekeep. Girlboss.



Cassie Rogers

"Life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."
-Ferris Bueller



Owen Rylott

"It's a little childish and stupid, but then, so is high school."
- Ferris Bueller



Chase Saunders

You don't get what you wish for you get what you work for.



Qianying Shen

"Put something inspirational."
- Mom



Neve Short

You were born confused and you'll die confused."
-My Mother

Class of 2022



Katherine Smallwood

"The speed of light travels faster than sound. Proven when people may appear bright until they speak." -Sheilah Martin



Stella Smylo

I've come out more times than I've shown up to class.



Tanisha Steinwand

They say good things take time, that's why I'm always late.



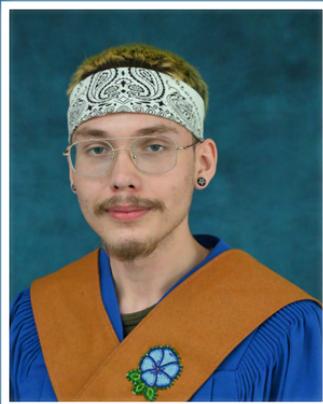
Shannon Stewart

When you've got a dream, grab on to it and never let go.



Kyle Stuckless

Don't stop thinking about tomorrow. It'll be here soon.



Chase Straker

If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.



Adria Sundberg

"If you're not scared, you're not taking a chance. If you're not taking a chance, the what the hell are you doing?" - Ted Mosby



McKinley Talbot

I'd like to thank Alberta Education for making exams only worth 10%, true life saver.



Noah Thompson

"I haven't even begun to peak" -Dennis Reynolds



Sofie Tovar-Hastings

Submitting this quote 10 days after it's due hoping it'll still be accepted... similar to how I handed in a lot of assignments.



Alden Tumoth

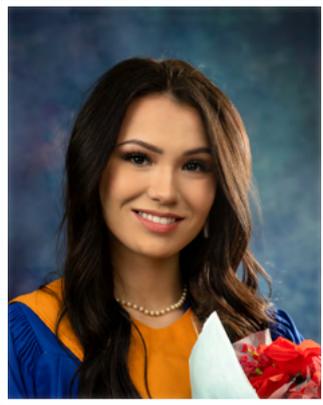
"Why do you even need a grad quote?" -Mom



Dashiell Valdriz

"Ang hindi marunong lumingon sa pinangalangan ay hindi makakarating sa paroroonan." - Jose Rizal

Class of 2022



Hunter Villeneuve

Know without a doubt that you were made for great things.



Devin Vogel

Hey Siri, delete alarms for school.



Justin Vollenweider

Is this due at 11:59 as well?



Charnita Washie

I'm proud of my accomplishments and the person I've become.



Elizabeth Watier

"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, that's why it is called the present" - Master Oogway, Kung Fu Panda



Alyx (McKenzie) Wedzin-Brazeau

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=dQw4w9WgXcQ>



Stella Wong

Eat spaghetti to forgetti your regretti.



Morgan Young

You miss 100% of the shots you don't take.



Noah Zoe

May the good times never be forgotten, and may good times continue to roll.



Samantha Zonneveld

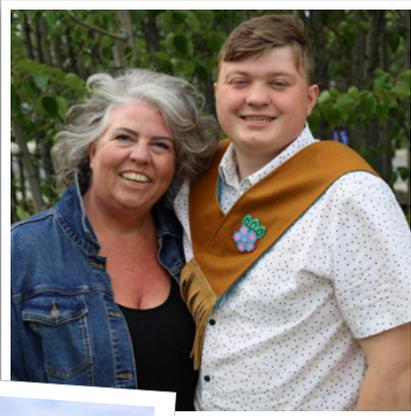
I forgot.

Not pictured:
Ait Ahmed Ayoub
Annabella Boylan
Conor Johnston
Tyrah Nataway
Chevy Oakes
Skye Poitras
Natasha Stenzel



**ÉCOLE SIR JOHN
FRANKLIN HIGH
SCHOOL**

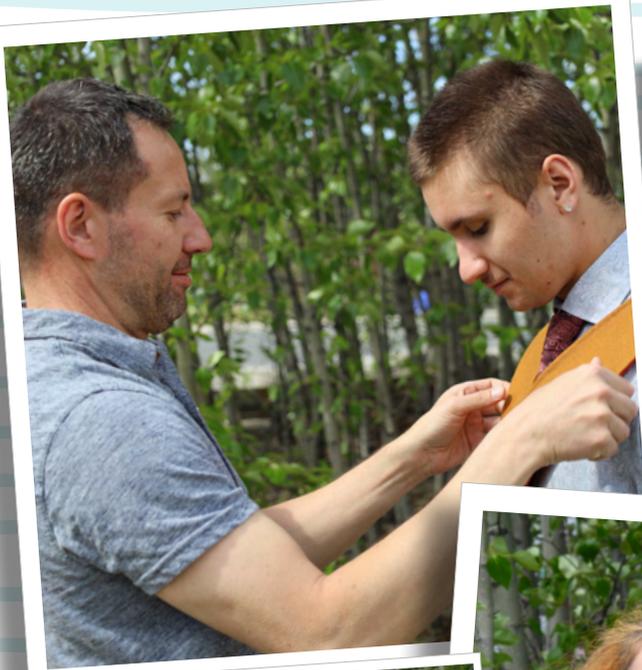
INDIGENOUS



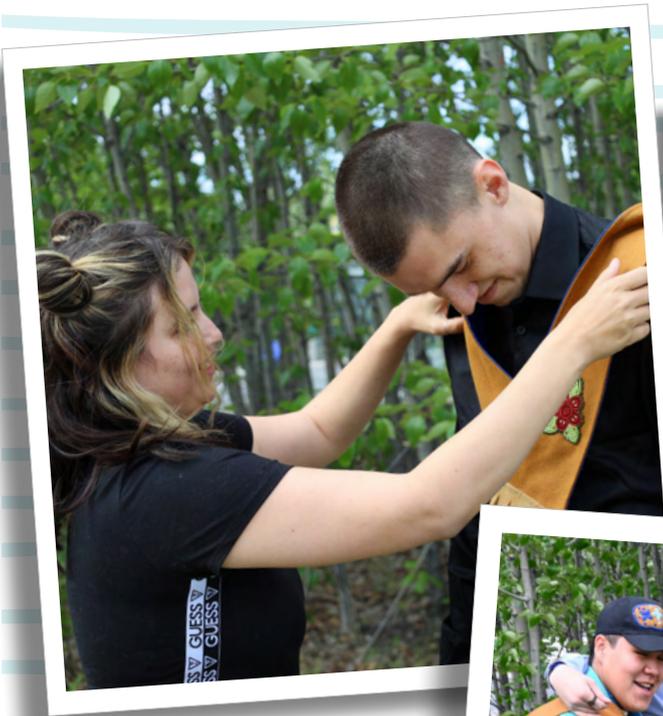
HONOUR CEREMONY



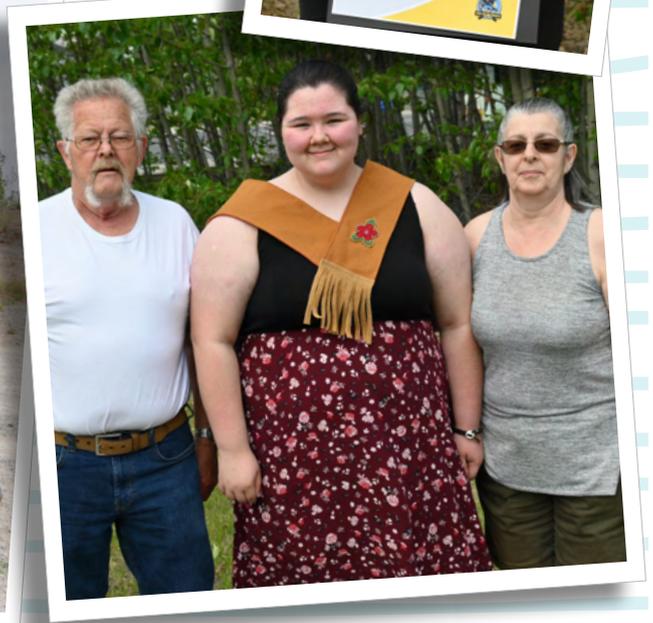
INDIGENOUS HONOUR CEREMONY



INDIGENOUS



HONOUR CEREMONY



MOST LIKELY TO

Be named "Canada's Worst Driver"



OWEN RYLLOTT

Be late to graduation



LUKE KOTASKA

Use 2022 slang in 2042



MATT BRINSON

Own 30 cats



EVERETT FOX

Become a teacher at Sir John



MORGAN YOUNG

End up on Broadway



OLIVIA ROCKWELL

Become a PTA parent



ALDEN TUMOTH

Star in reality TV



KRISTEN GREY

Be the new Jeff Bezos



JESSICA JACOBS

Become a professional athlete



GRACE CHRISTIE

Go viral



KIRAN FOX

Become the new Van Gogh



STELLA SYMSLO

MOST LIKELY TO

Win an Olympic medal



CASSIE ROGERS

Become a stunt person



RENNIE CHAISSON

Release a Fitness Video



BRYCE BESSETTE

Write a best-selling novel



AVERY DRAGON

Create a non-profit



PRETTY NGO

Work for NASA



PRETTY NGO

Use Emojis in every text



SHERRY SHEN

Use Emojis in every text



ZOE CLARK

Set a World Record



JAYLEN BASE-SMITH

Have a productive quarantine



BRIANNA BRENTON

Become an astronaut



STELLA WONG

Reach all their ambitions



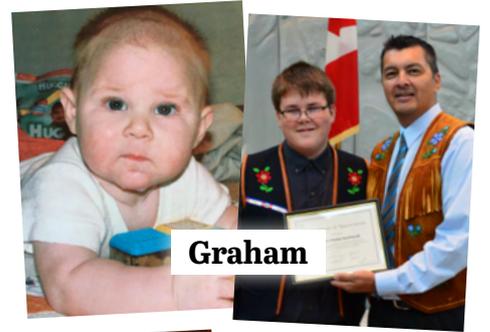
DASHIEL VALDRIZ



Dashiel



Olivia



Graham



Bryce



Hunter



Adria



Jessica



Pretty



Madison

GRAD GLOW UP



Zoe



Chevy



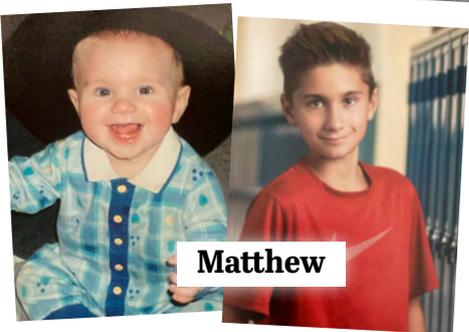
Samantha



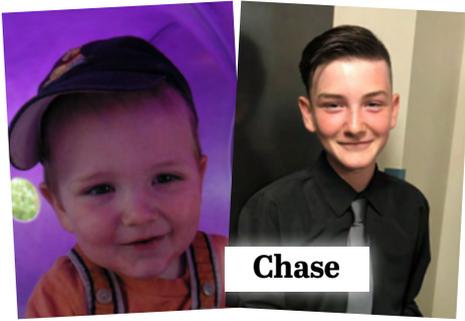
Emma



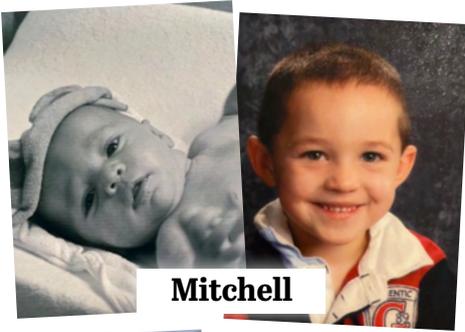
Katherine



Matthew



Chase



Mitchell



Kyle



Sherry



Hunter



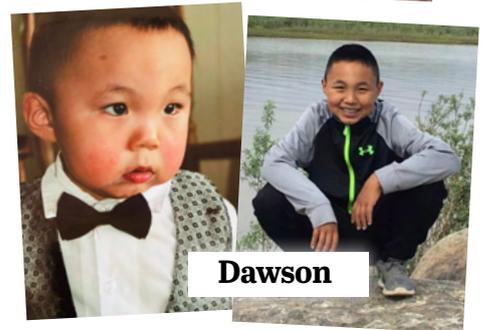
Avery



Cassie



Renald



Dawson

GRAD GLOW UP



Matthew



Gavin



Owen



Alden



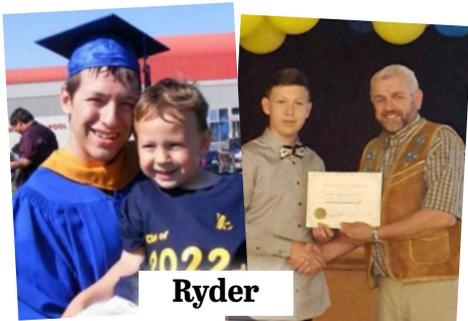
Abigail



Hailey



Stella



Ryder



Shannon



Jarrett



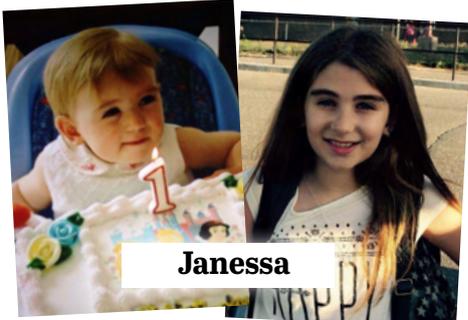
Brianna



Grace



Connor



Janessa



Karsen

GRAD GLOW UP



Kristen



Elizabeth



Abigail



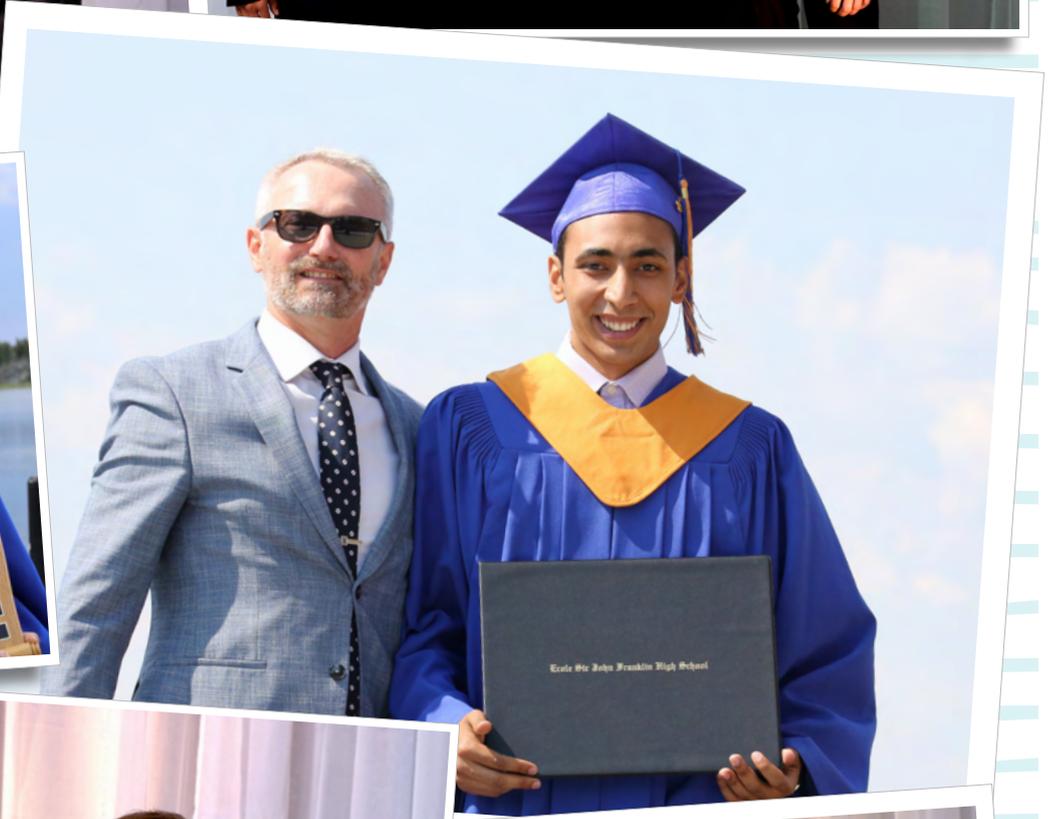
Amber

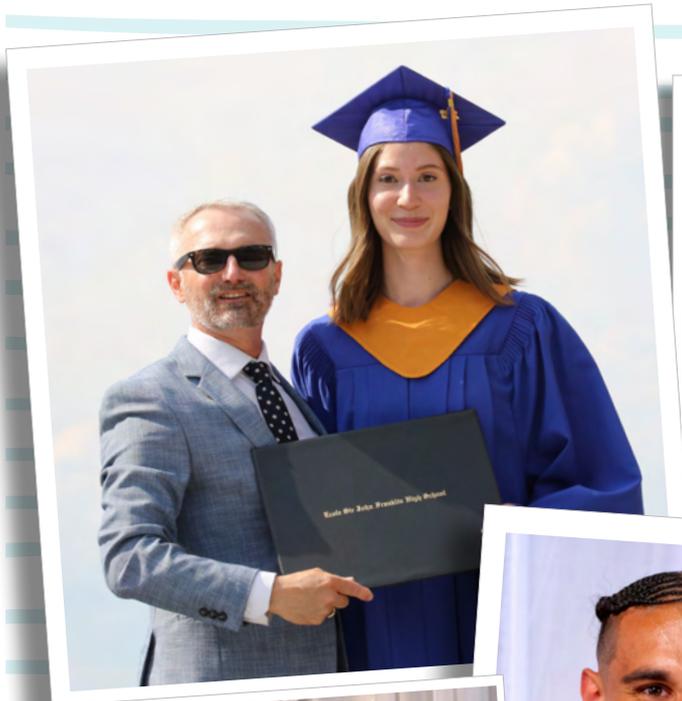


McKinley



Morgan











Thank you Parents!

by Cassie Rogers

This community is made vibrant and welcoming by the wonderful people in it. So, I'd like to thank each and every one of you for coming out to support the grads tonight. Of course, we couldn't have made it here without our biggest supporters, our parents.

In kindergarten, our parents brought us to meet our new teachers and encouraged us to go talk to the kids playing connect four or jenga. For some of us, we played the same games with the same kids on our last days of school when our teachers let us off the hook of actually studying.

Throughout elementary school, our parents pushed us to make new friends, read with us for hours for those darn reading logs, or made us wait just as long for them to stop talking with each other so they could drive us home after school. Or after hockey games. Or after dentist appointments. You get my point.

There was also the middle school years: a battle of our parents wanting to walk us up the hill while we whispered "no, no, I'm fine!" and tried to straighten out what was probably a fashion disaster of an outfit on the first day of grade six. There was also the Bella Dance Shows where we begged for the most dramatic makeup out there. Thanks to all the parents who dealt with the endless glitter for weeks afterwards!

Indulge in your parent's sentimental moments. Maybe it's them sending embarrassing photos to everyone else's parents and having a little moment of "aww" and "look how small you used to be!" Or, maybe they want an extra long hug on those special days, especially this weekend. You only graduate high school once, but we didn't do it alone.

So to every grown-up in our life, thank you for the memories and teachings you have given us. Thank you for shaping us into the people we are today, and for giving us unconditional love. We'll miss you, and we promise not to get into too much trouble when we're away!



Thank You Teachers!

by Zoe Clark

I know these past few days have been all about the grads, but I think it's important to acknowledge why we all walked across the stage yesterday.

Of course, we put in the work, and of course, our parents supported us, but let us take a moment to reflect on just how much extra work the teachers have put in over these past few years.

Being a teacher is tough, and teachers at the high school level are already posed with a variety of complex challenges.

More often than not, teachers have to step out of their official roles as educators and become our voices of reason, counsellors, parents, and most of all, our advocates.

These past few years, teachers have had to adopt even more roles as we shifted in and out of online learning.

While we were sitting behind our laptops with our cameras off and our PJs on, you guys were always up, prepared with a lesson, and ready to answer questions.

Though few of us said it, we all appreciated the positivity, creativity, and charisma you brought to online learning.

In-person as well, you have all been incredibly supportive and I can say with confidence that my teachers at Sir John have always tried their best to ensure our success.

Whether it was Mr. Curran accepting my third rough draft of a ten-page essay, Mrs. Schlosser spending her lunch break helping me study, Mr. Kirkham answering my 100th question of the day, or Mrs. McLeod listening to me rant about social studies, they always did so with unwavering patience and kindness.

These types of gestures don't go unnoticed, and from the graduating class of 2022, thank you for helping us make the most out of our education.



Grad Historian

by Olivia Rockwell

Good evening, Grad Class of 2022! As your Grad Historian, I have the privilege of looking back on all of our trials, tribulations and triumphs. I'm not going to lie to you... I cringe at the small amoebas we used to be.

I think back to all of the terrible art we made that our mothers refuse to throw out, despite our insistence, all of the outfits we thought made us look cool in middle school, but let's face it: the choker you bought at Hot Topic and the Triple Flip bimple hoodie didn't hide your ever-present acne.

Grade five passed and soon came the biggest choice yet in your life: deciding which middle school to go to. For the people in Range Lake and Mildred Hall, it was easy, they would continue to vibe in the same school they pooped their pants in as a youngster.

When grade 9 rolled around, it was now your friends and classmates who were in the SJF drama productions. You would go to the show during one of your periods and in the next period you would see Bryce Basette in drag makeup or Avery Dragon covered in half-washed-off yellow and blue Flounder face paint trying to understand how our government works in Socials or working through an algebra question in math...

This last semester of our time in High School has been pretty good. We've had spirit week, where Justin Vollenwider brought a wheelbarrow instead of a backpack and somehow got to Ms. McLeod's Socials class before I did. We had two Humans vs. Zombie nights, the first featuring Owen Rylott packing a trunk's worth of nerf guns. I know now not to underestimate him in the apocalypse. And kudos to Stella Smyslo for somehow winning the game by hiding in the science hallway stairs.

Our lives, so far, have been interesting, and I couldn't have asked for anything else.



Valedictorian Address

I would like to begin by taking the time to thank all the teachers who helped us get to where we are today. With the many lockdowns that our class experienced throughout the past three years of school, we faced many challenges that none of us could have foreseen. But our amazing staff at Sir John went above and beyond to provide all the support possible. Whether it was constantly emailing Mr. Kirkham with physics questions and getting a response back in minutes (now feels like the time to publicly apologize for the sheer number of emails I sent, especially all of the late-night ones...but it's kind of on you for choosing to answer at 1 am) Or one-on-one Zoom meetings with Mme Ricard where she made me read my essays aloud line by line, and as much as I love Ricard, it made me realize just how little I truly understand french. Countless more stories come to mind, but if I were to share them all, we would be here way too long. Just know that I and the rest of the class are truly grateful for all of our teachers, before and during covid. Without you, none of us would be wearing these silly hats and gowns today.

I'd also like to express my gratitude for growing up in the North and how it has enriched us culturally in immeasurable

ways. We are so fortunate to have been immersed and educated in Indigenous culture and traditions. I'm sure we all remember the many adventures we have had together over the years, whether it was catching and cleaning fish or the impact of the Blanket exercise, these lessons will stay with us forever. To be able to learn and experience so much of the Indigenous heritage provides us all with an amazing and unique perspective that will only prove to be advantageous as many of us move all across the country.

The North has also provided us with countless opportunities to grow and develop as scholars, athletes, and citizens that may not have been available to us in other parts of Canada. The fact that we are such a small town, means that we are able to form such a strong-knit community. It has allowed us to form the types of bonds that will be life-long and taught us to work together and to rely on each other and our community. I don't know how many times I've had to borrow baking supplies from Adria (I think your rolling pin is actually still in the backseat of my car), asked Cassie to meet up with me at Starbucks to study for hours on end, or to pick up friends for early morning training shifts at the pool. (but Everett...I refuse to sit outside your house at 545am anymore trying to wake you up) Sure living in an isolated community sometimes means that we can't always run to a store and grab what we need easily, but it means that we learned how to rely on one another, which I believe is much more valuable.

Our high school experience was unique from anyone else's. We didn't get to experience the moments we've seen in movies

or heard from past grad classes. Lockdowns, restrictions, and splitting our grade last year were all crucial measures that needed to be taken, but it's ok to feel disappointed that our high school career wasn't normal, I know that I was. But by coming to terms with these setbacks, we can see some of the positives that came from it all. We all learned to be flexible and took the constant changes with grace and positivity (some of us better than others, I definitely sent many emails to MacInnis about coming back in the first semester and starting grad events).

So, even though we didn't get to see Avery and Abby perform in a senior production, Olivia sing in concerts, Hunter and Stella's creations in art showcases, Luke and Mckinley playing in challenge cup, Brianna and Kiran playing at Elks soccer, or so many other memories that we may have missed, we worked together to create a unique high school experience, and it gave us all life skills that will help us flourish as we follow our new paths.

But most importantly, I am so grateful for every single person graduating with me today. The beauty of growing up in Yellowknife is that I have known so many of you since our very first day of school in kindergarten. We've gotten to see each other grow into the graduates that we are sitting beside right now. We have been able to see each other work so hard to get where we are today, and I am immensely proud of all of our accomplishments. Whatever our future endeavors may hold, I wish us all luck, and I cannot wait to see what each of you achieve in the years ahead. Thank you, and congratulations once again to the grad class of 2022!



Hunter Villeneuve

Yamzha Beavie

Owen Rylott

Samantha Burton

Cassie Rogers

Avery

Wah Zoc

Stella Smyslo

Ava Dempster

Rachelle Bartlett

Pelt Dery

Mohamed Absuhageer

Chay Carter

slive your best life!
Kirsten Greys

Jarrett Robessa

McKinley Talbot

SLAY!
Mwah

Jessica Jacobs

Rosie French

Sofie Lower-Hastings

Grace Christie

Dashiell Valdriz

Justin Vollenweider

Zoe Clark

Michael Sadler

Qianying Shen

Everett Fox
Hasbulla McKinley Talbot
Luke Kiran Kotaska Fox