

NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Mr. Dean MacInnis

CONGRATULATIONS to students, staff and coaches for a successful first semester! Semester 2 has begun and report cards are available on PowerSchool. If you have any questions about final marks please email the teachers.

With the **Arctic Winter Games** coming up in the next month we are excited to have **79 athletes from SJF** as part of Team NT. If your child is going to be missing school in preparation for this event please have them speak to their teachers prior to leaving about the work being covered in their courses. Making sure they are aware of the concepts that will need to be learned while away, making sure they have access to google classrooms, email communication with staff is set up, have copies of course outlines for each class, etc.

These students will need to understand that by missing class they will more than likely need to work with staff at lunch breaks and after school to maintain the pace of the course. We are asking all parents to please contact the main office about a child's absence, so it can be correctly recorded in PowerSchool.

We wish them all luck and are so proud of their accomplishments to get there! On the next page you will see a list of all the students from our school that made their respective sports. To follow the progress of event go to: <https://www.awg2024.org/>

Later this month our basketball teams will also be participating in the **Sr. Cager tournament. Go Falcons!**

Graduation photos will be happening this month as well from February 12-14. In addition photo retake day will be on February 14th.



Yours sincerely,
Dean MacInnis

IMPORANT DATES

- **February 2**
Report Cards posted on PowerSchool at 330pm
- **February 12-14**
Grad Photo Days
- **February 14**
Grad Photo Retake
- **February 15-18**
Sr Cager Tournament
- **February 20**
Grade 8 parent information Meeting
- **February 28**
National Pink Shirt Day (Anti-Bullying Day)

STAY CONNECTED:



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

Phone: (867) 669-0773 Fax: (867) 873-3630

Email: sjf@yk1.nt.ca



www.yk1.nt.ca/sjf



Sir John Franklin High School



@sirjohnfalcons



ARCTIC WINTER GAMES

CONGRATULATIONS to the following SJF athletes who participated in the tryouts!

Archery

Nyah Morin
Ella Skauge

Arctic Sports

Brian Ayalik-Pascal
Reanna Brownlee
Aubrey Sluggett

Badminton

Logan Doll
Melanie Messier

Basketball

Saia Brown
Janescy Brown
Mia Locke-Setter
Kaylie Locke-Setter
Talya Meserah-Zdyb
Nico Morin
Chizuko Robson-Hamilton
Leora Simms
Rex Turner

Biathlon Ski

Amanda DeCoste

Biathlon Snowshoe

Carys Lyall
Maisey Murray

Cross Country Ski

Joseph Curran
Anna Curran
Talia Ehrlich
Nikolas Hawkins
Benjamin Lothian
Neve Mahon
Leah McShane
Malachi Morin
Skyra Pike

Dene Games

Ariana Sundberg-Koyina

Figure Skating

Keira Clinton
Niobe Clinton
Brooke Durnford

Futsal

Yasmine Lei Angeles
Sheldon Bisailon
Adam Clinton
Giselle Deans
Chimezuru Duru
Chizitere Duru
Jean Emiel Garceau
Ashton Howard
Stephen Moore
Lucas Pedersen
Roald Peters
Jude Schaller
Nina Slagter





ARCTIC WINTER GAMES



CONGRATULATIONS

 to the following SJF athletes who participated in the tryouts!

Gymnastics

Annabella Churchill
Abby Hall

Short Track Speed Skating

Journey Bergman
Byran Clinton
Lochlan Dunn
Peter Mahon
Maica McEachern
Seiya McEachern
Rebecca Messier
Morgan Nelson
Kali Skauge

Table Tennis

Nikhilesh Gohil

Ice Hockey

Bradley Bartlett
Braden Brenton
Emma Carey
Ryan Harris
Riley Hodder
Griffin Jones
Calen Knight
Carter Kuchta
Elliott Loutitt
Adrena McDonald
Spencer Miller
Hayden Murray
Rylan Scarfe
Joshua Soloy
Finley Stewart
Cormac Stewart
River Whitehead

Volleyball

Fraser Dumont
Megan Smallwood
Sydney Smyslo
Cole Woodland

Snowshoeing

Emily Shears



YOU MAKE US ALL SO PROUD!





READING CHALLENGE

The 2024 Reading Challenge runs from FEB 1 to MAR 31!

The Challenge is to get all SJF Students and Staffs hyped about reading!

- French books count
- Graphic novels count
- Audiobooks count
- Books in languages other than English count
- Short books count
- Manga counts
- Long books count
- Fiction, non-fiction counts
- Romance books that you don't want people to know you are reading count (no one but me sees the titles and I won't judge!)
- and... if it looks/sounds like a book, IT COUNTS!

Like last year, we will award weekly prizes to our MVPs!

Background:

For those of you who are unfamiliar with the Reading Challenge, it was born as a competition between Sir John and St. Pat's during the 2020 COVID lockdown and then was the premier (and only) sporting event in 2020-21 and 2021-22.

Two years ago, we acquired an awesome trophy...and lost it to St. Pat's. Heartbreakingly, we still don't have our trophy back. 🙏



Each year, I get questions about what types of books count.

The answer? **ALL BOOKS!**
We aren't discriminating!

Here's how it works:

- Read a book.
- Scan the QR code (on posters) to record your book.
- Repeat many, many times!



In the end, whichever school has the highest average reading (number of books read divided by the number of participants) wins!

IF you have any questions, please ask Ms. Robson or Janice!

Scroll to the next page to see how our staff have been participating so far!





READING CHALLENGE 2024



The SJF Staffs are fully committed to the Reading Challenge, make sure to JOIN US!



SOCIAL STUDIES

The **Social Studies Club** has partnered with **Yellowknife's Black Advocacy Coalition ("BAC-upNorth")** to engage SJF students in **Black History Month**.

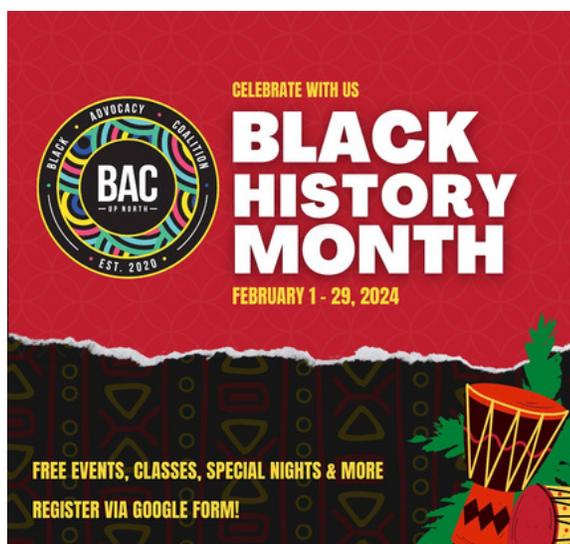
This year's theme is:

"Black Excellence: A heritage to celebrate; a future to build."

Throughout the month of February, the Social Studies Club will be providing information around the school about **historical figures**, events, and movements that have **made up more than 400 years of Black history and heritage** in Canada and the United States of America.

The Club will also organize a **school-wide writing contest** around the topic of this year's theme, and hold a **lunch-time trivia event**.

Prizes for participating students will include a variety of **books by Black authors** that were **donated to the school by BAC-upNorth**.



For more details, sponsorships or for volunteer info, email bacupnorth@outlook.com, or message us on Facebook @BACupNorth.



SOCIAL STUDIES

The **Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories** has invited all **SJF students in grades 9 and 10** to apply to participate in this year's session of **Youth Parliament**.

During this five-day experience in April, **students will assume the role of their Member of Legislative Assembly** to gain a deeper understanding of how consensus government works for northerners.



Pictured are from the Youth Parliament Sessions in April, 2023.

Applications can be found on the **social studies bulletin board**, or by contacting **Mr. Traynor**;

Applications must be submitted to Mr. Traynor by **no later than February 14**.

For more details, students can consult the social studies bulletin board, or contact Mr. Traynor.





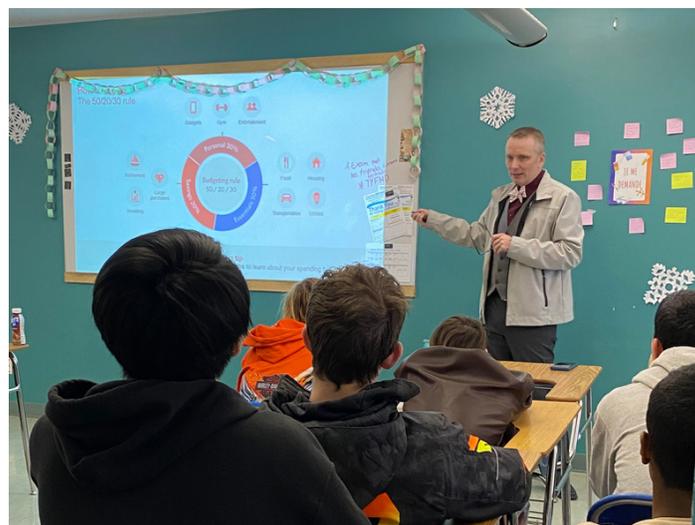
FINANCIAL LITERACY

Our Grade 9 Math classes welcomed a number of guest speakers who presented on a variety of topics dealing with Financial Literacy.

The presentations delved into topics such as **rates of interest**, **investment options**, **budgeting**, and **fraud**.



The **Math Department** extends a big "thank you" to **Shawn Talbot** and **Janet Murray** of **Adapt Financial** and **Yanik D'Aigle** of **CIBC**.

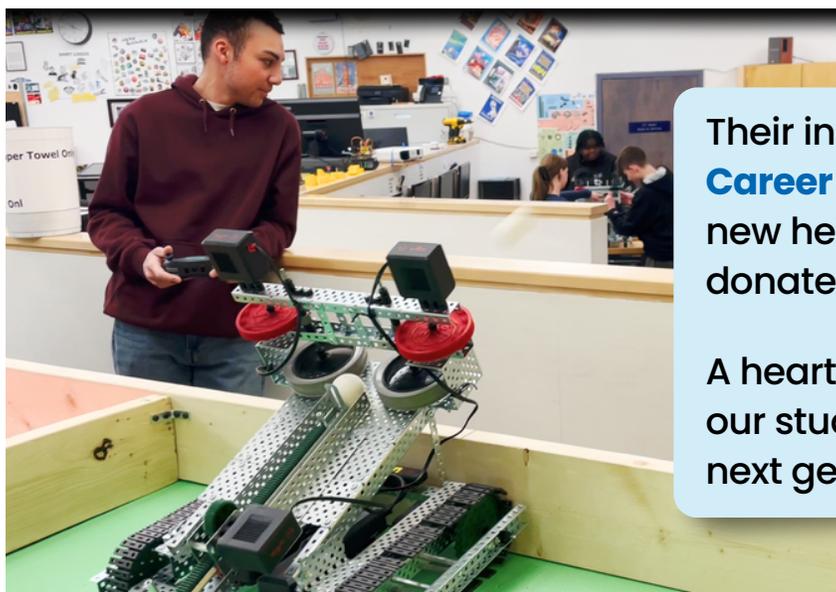
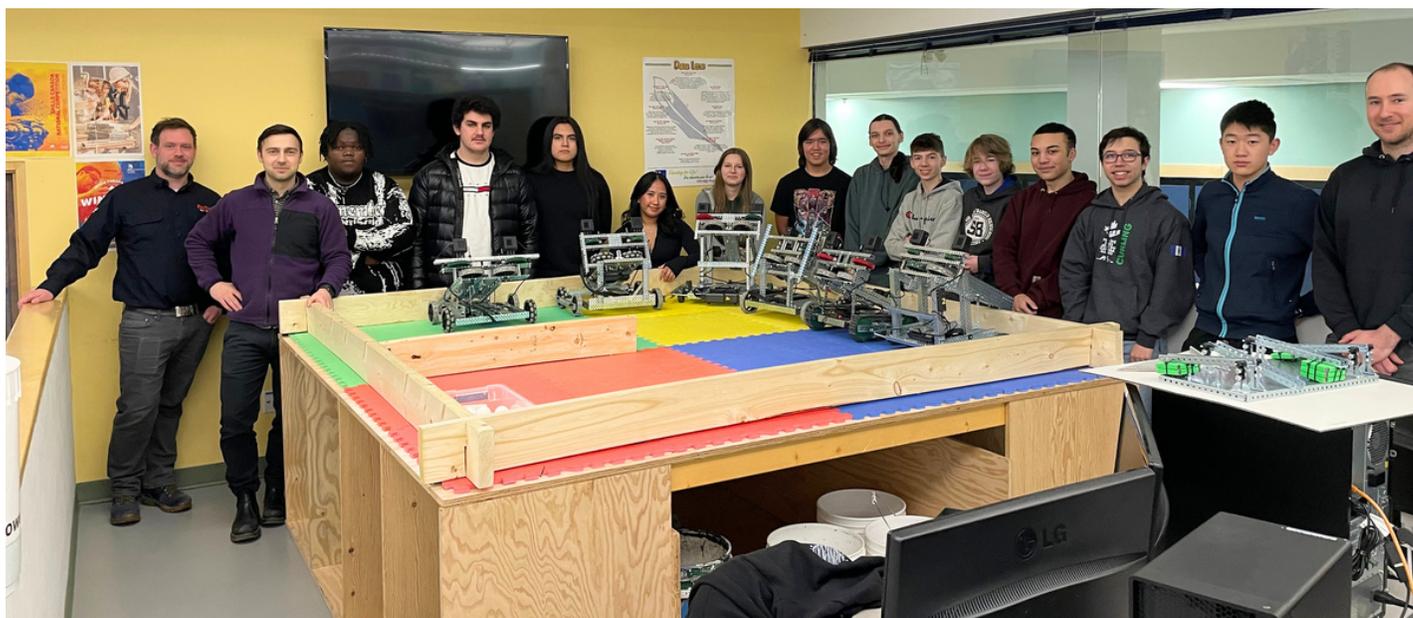


Pictured is **Mr. D'Aigle** from **CIBC** offering his expertise in **Ms Schlosser's Grade 9 Math Class**.



CAREER & TECHNOLOGY

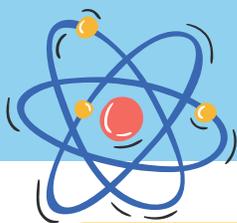
Launching into the future with the power of innovation!
Our **Ping Pong launchers** stole the show at **Mr. Morozov's** class,
where **engineers from Diavik** joined the fun!



Their incredible support has taken our **Career and Technology program** to new heights, as they generously donated **\$14,000!**

A heartfelt thank you for believing in our students and empowering the next generation of tech leaders!





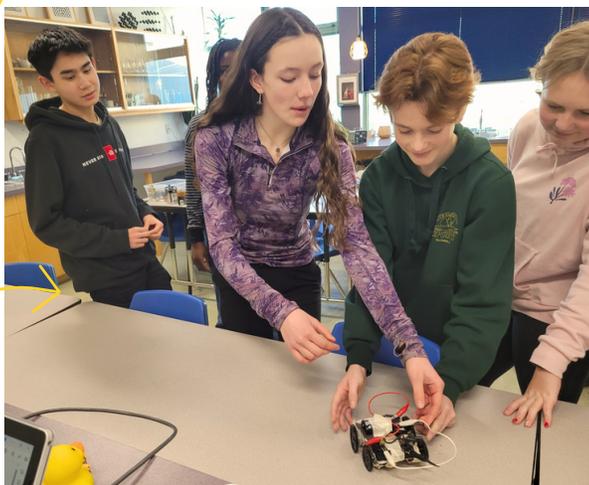
SCIENCE

The **SJF Science Department** invites you to take a science course this semester! Labs and activities give students hands on experience. Students can **dissect fetal pigs** and learn the systems of the body or do **circuits in electricity units**. Time to have some fun and join in!



**Ms. Young's
Biology 20 Class**

**Ms. Wilson's
Science 9 class**





😊 TASTE OF THE NORTH

Ms. Waugh's **Natural Resource class** has been working hard on prepping "**Taste of the North**", a pop up restaurant, to provide SJF students and staff the opportunity to taste test some foods that are significant to the North.



MUK TUK is the outer skin and fat later of a whale from Beaufort Sea. **Bowhead whale, beluga** and **narwhal** are all used.

Beluga is being served here.

Muk Tuk is commonly served cold and eaten from frozen.



Stay tuned for our next pop up!





DRAMA

OLIVER TWIST^{ed}

January 17th and 18th were the **Drama 10/Technologies** and **Drama 20/30 exam plays** in the **Black Box Theatre**. This year's offerings consisted of two very different one act plays.



The **Grade 10 class** put on "**Oliver Twisted**", a comedy about Private Eye "Chuck Dickens" and his quest to find the orphan "Oliver". The show was triple cast, with a variety of students playing the parts of Chuck, Nancy, Agatha Low, Ms. Bumble, Monk, Bill Sikes or Faye Gunn.

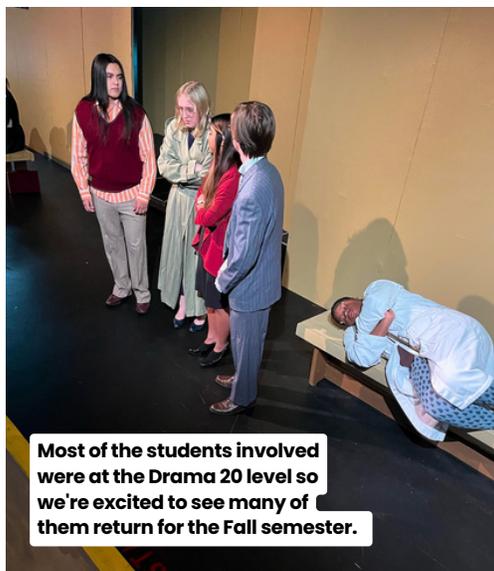




DRAMA

TRACKS

The **Senior class** put on the drama **"Tracks"** about 10 people who find themselves in a subway station after their deaths with the decision to get on the train, not knowing where it goes.



Most of the students involved were at the Drama 20 level so we're excited to see many of them return for the Fall semester.



"Grease" is the word for 2024! Talk to your academic counselor, enroll in one of the drama classes, and be a part of this Sir John musical experience!



ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS' CLUB



The ELL (English Language Learners') Club

worked very hard at building English language skills and preparing for exams in the first semester.

The group will take some time to celebrate **Lunar New Year** this month.

Lunar New Year falls on the first day of the lunar calendar which goes with the moon cycle, which falls on a different day of the western Gregorian calendar each year.

This year, it falls on February 10, and it's the **Year of the Dragon!**

Lunar New Year is widely celebrated by many cultures, including people from: **China, Vietnam, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia... and many more!**

Whether you've celebrated Lunar New Year before or not, everyone is welcome to join in the festivities!

Let's learn, share, and embrace the diverse traditions that make our SJF community so special!





STUDENT SERVICES



MENSTRUATION SHOULDN'T BE TABOO. PERIOD.

Don't be shy – we're here for you. Feel free to talk to us anytime with your questions.

Make sure to visit Student Services if you are in need of Menstrual Products!

SJF Student Services

CHOOSING MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS



MENSTRUAL PADS

Disposable or reusable pads that are worn inside underwear to absorb menstrual blood.

TAMPONS

Cylindrical products made of absorbent material that are inserted into the vagina to absorb menstrual blood.



MENSTRUAL CUPS

Reusable silicone or rubber cups that are inserted into the vagina to collect menstrual blood.

PERIOD PANTIES

Underwear designed with special absorbent fabric that can be worn without additional period products.



REMEMBER:

It's important to change pads, tampons, menstrual cups, and sponges regularly.

SJF Student Services

We are very well stocked with all kinds of menstrual products!

Please feel free to take whatever you need, and ask us if you have any questions!

Speaking of which... Hi, I'm Ms. Au!

I'm the creator of this newsletter, and the new face at Student Services! You'll often find me here in the mornings.

I really enjoy creating content for SJF's social media and newsletters. I love bringing you the latest updates and stories!

A bit about myself: I'm of Chinese descent, fluent in both Cantonese and Mandarin. Yellowknife has been my home for six years now, and when I'm not at Student Services, you might catch me playing the saxophone, a passion of mine since forever.

Feel free to drop by and say hello!





WHAT WE WEAR TO SCHOOL



Falcon Pride Sports Here

Throughout Exam Week, the vibe was all about **cozy comfort!** We got the sweet suggestion to don our coziest attire for some extra feel-good vibes...

The majority of us effortlessly slipped into our favorite hoody sweaters our unofficial daily attire, let's be honest!).



In an unplanned twist, check out **Mr. Doherty, Miss Lewis, and Ms. Martin** all decked out in maroon/burgundy.

When did this shade become the unofficial SJF colour? Matching vibes just happened!



Who is this SJF "grad"? It's Ms. Au, new to SJF and eager to embrace the school spirit and feel right at home.

She stumbled upon her old sweatshirt, and what do you know – it perfectly sports the SJF colors!





MONTH OF FEBRUARY

IMPORTANT AND COMMEMORATIVE DAYS

INDIGENOUS
LANGUAGE
MONTH

February is **Indigenous Languages Month** and we are recognizing the importance of preserving our Indigenous languages.

This year's slogan is *Wiliideh Yatı k'e gonde*.
(Say it in Wiliideh)

Create social media content and TAG your posts with **#IndigenousLanguagesMonth** and tag **@GNWTece!** they will be happy to share your posts!



Every February, people across Canada participate in **Black History Month** events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in Canada and their communities.

The 2024 theme for Black History Month is: **"Black Excellence: A Heritage to Celebrate; a Future to Build"**. This theme celebrates the rich past and present contributions and accomplishments of Black people in Canada, while aspiring to embrace new opportunities for the future.



February LGBTQ+ History Month is a dedicated period to celebrate and honor the achievements, contributions, and struggles of the **2SLGBTQIA+ community**, recognizing key historical events and figures that have shaped the fight for equality and acceptance.





MONTH OF FEBRUARY

IMPORTANT AND COMMEMORATIVE DAYS



FEB 10

This year, **Lunar New Year** falls on February 10, and it's the **Year of the Dragon!**

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FEB 14

Valentine's Day isn't just about romantic love—it's a time to **celebrate all kinds of love**. Whether it's with family, friends, or colleagues, this day is for appreciating the people who make life special, no matter their race or gender.

It's a reminder that love comes in many forms, and everyone deserves to feel valued and appreciated.



FEB 28

Pink Shirt Day, also known as **Anti-Bullying Day**, is an annual event dedicated to raising awareness and taking a stand against bullying.

People wear pink shirts to demonstrate their commitment to fostering a culture of kindness, compassion, and inclusivity, sending a powerful message that bullying has no place in our schools or society.

It originated from a small act of solidarity and has grown into a global movement advocating for empathy and safe spaces in schools and communities.

Let's make February a month of celebration, education, and unity!



GET INVOLVED AT SJF!

Boys Hockey

Mr. Curran

Girls Hockey

Mr. Killbride

Olympic Weight Lifting

Ms. Waugh

Retro Video Games

Mr. Cartwright

Social Studies Club

Mr. Traynor

Green Team

Ms. Robson

Debate Club

Mr. Curran

Gender Sexuality Squad

Ms. Wilson

MAGMA

Ms. Ryan
& Mr Doherty

Drama

Mr. Peters

Band & Choir

Ms. Shantora

Student Council

Mrs. Oldford
& Ms. Brancato

Grad Council

Ms. Martin

Fitness Room

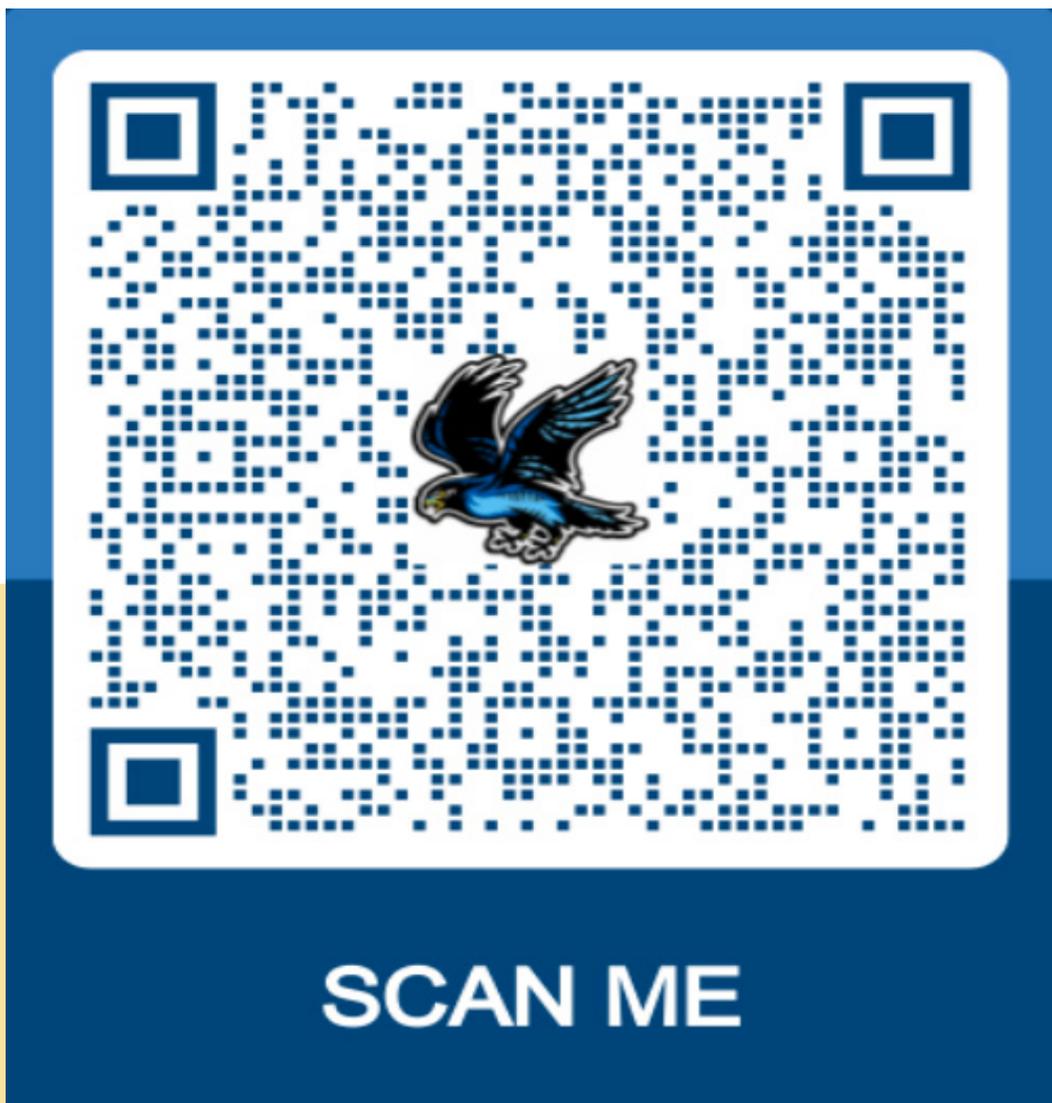
Mr. Eastcott

**Check in with
the teachers
listed above to
learn more!**





WANT MORE INFO?



***SCAN our QR CODE and
FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA!***

STAY CONNECTED:

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

Phone: (867) 669-0773 Fax: (867) 873-3630

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 @sirjohnfalcons