ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

OCTOBER 2025

NEWSLETTER

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Mr.Dean MacInnis

Welcome everyone back to school, especially our Grade 9's and all other new students to Sir John. SJF has so much to offer, and we encourage all students to find a club or any of our many extracurricular activities to join. Trying something within the school that you are passionate about or want to experience for the first time will contribute to your sense of belonging here and will enrich your overall high school experience.

We are very excited to welcome back our graduating class: The Class of 2026. As the graduating class, you will provide leadership and purpose in all aspects of student life. Your role as leaders within our community is a significant responsibility and directly contributes to SJFs history of excellence. We are confident you will meet and exceed our expectations as student leaders. Grade 12 is a year where your hard work and dedication is celebrated and where you get to create many life-long memories. We are excited to share this important year with you.

School events and activities are already well underway. Ms. Martin and MJ Lafferty, along with many students organized our assembly recognizing the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 29. This event had our students proudly speaking Willideh Yati throughout the assembly. Our Outdoor Soccer team that competed in Hay River at the Annual Elks Tournament. Our Senior Girls came out in First Place, while our boys team received the silver medals. Volleyball is already underway. Our teams are preparing for the Lawrie Hobert Tournament in Ft.Smith October 17 - 19 and Spike It 2025 here in Yellowknife October 30 - November 2. Our Arts Department is working hard on the upcoming performance of Frozen Jr in November. Grad and Student Council are underway and many other clubs have started!

Thank you to the parents who attended Open House Night on September 11th. 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.

The Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) is made up of parents whose child(ren) attends SJF. The purpose of the PAC is to provide opportunity for communication between parents and school administration.

Any and all parents are welcome to be involved with this committee. Staff members and students are also welcome to attend the meetings. Our next meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday, October 16th. If you are interested in joining the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) attend our meeting. If you have any questions about th SJF PAC please email sjf@yk1.nt.ca.

Yours sincerely,
Dean MacInnis

IMPORANT DATES

October 13
Thanksgiving Day (no school)

October 17-19
Lawrie Hobart Volleyball Tournament

October 30-November 2
Spike It! Volleyball Tournament

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**

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

OPEN HOUSE

We're excited to kick off the school year by showcasing the wide range of programs and awesome facilities we have to offer.

From Language, Math, Science, Social Studies, Fine & Performing Arts, to Career & Technology Programs, Indigenous Education, Fitness Centre, and our competitive athletics - there's something for everyone, and we were excited to show it all off!

For more photos, visit our Flickr Page HERE!

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

This assembly was held in honour of Truth and Reconciliation Day, featuring presentations created and delivered by our students. We remember the survivors and those who never returned home.

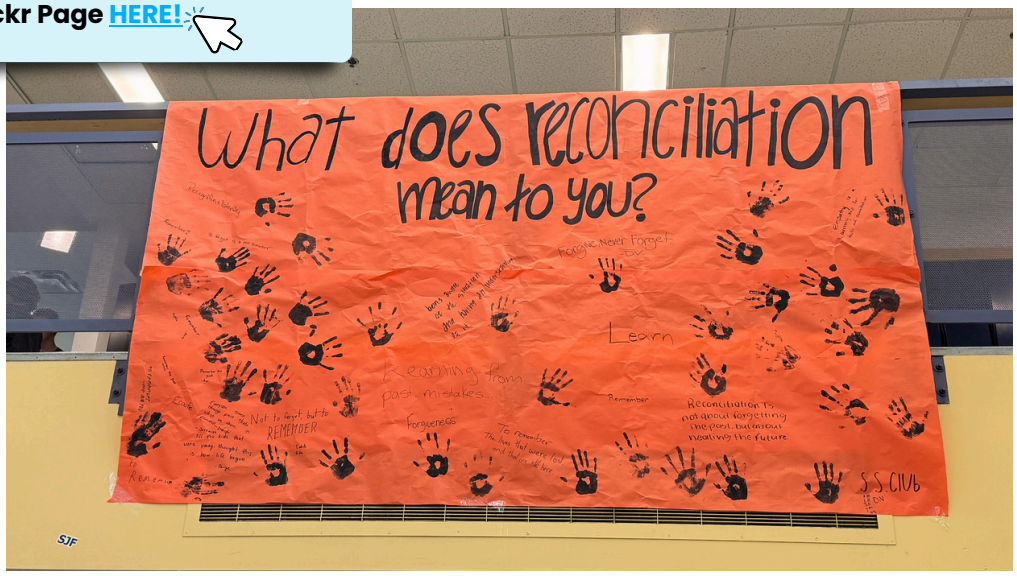
A heartfelt thank you to the YKDFN Drummers for leading a powerful drum circle with almost 700 participants! Together, we reflected on healing, unity, and the resilience of Indigenous peoples.

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

In preparation for Truth and Reconciliation Day, students have been engaging in class activities and creating collaborative artwork.

For more photos, visit our Flickr Page HERE!



These pieces were displayed throughout the school and shared during our Truth and Reconciliation Assembly.
Together, we reflected, learned, and honoured the ongoing journey of truth and reconciliation.

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

SJF CLUB TRADE SHOW

This year marked the first-ever Club Trade Show at SJF, and it was a huge success!

Students explored a wide variety of clubs, collecting passport stamps along the way. What a fun, interactive way to learn about activities and decide which to join!

For more photos, visit our Flickr Page HERE!

ELKS SOCCER TOURNAMENT

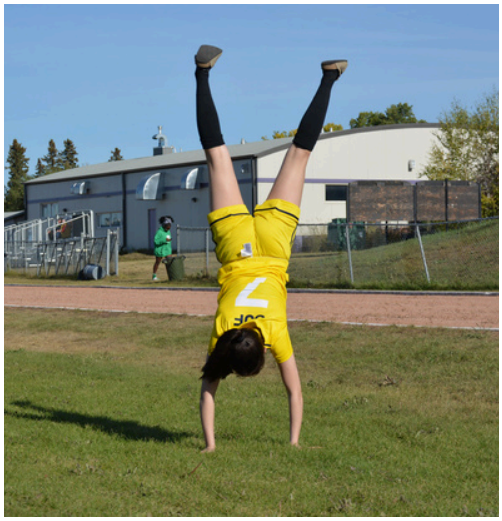
What an incredible weekend at the **Aurora Ford Elks Soccer Tournament** in Hay River! **The SJF Girls brought home the banner** - **HUGE CONGRATULATIONS!**

Our boys fought hard and made it to the finals. We're proud of your effort and know you'll come back stronger next time!

ELKS SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Shout out to our student, ***Luna Langlois*** for photographing the precious moments!

For more photos, visit our Flickr Page HERE!



SURPREME COURT VISIT

On September 15, students from the **Sir John Debate Club** and **Social Studies Club**, participated in the **Surpreme Court of Canada** visit to Yellowknife.

The morning featured a Q&A at the school.

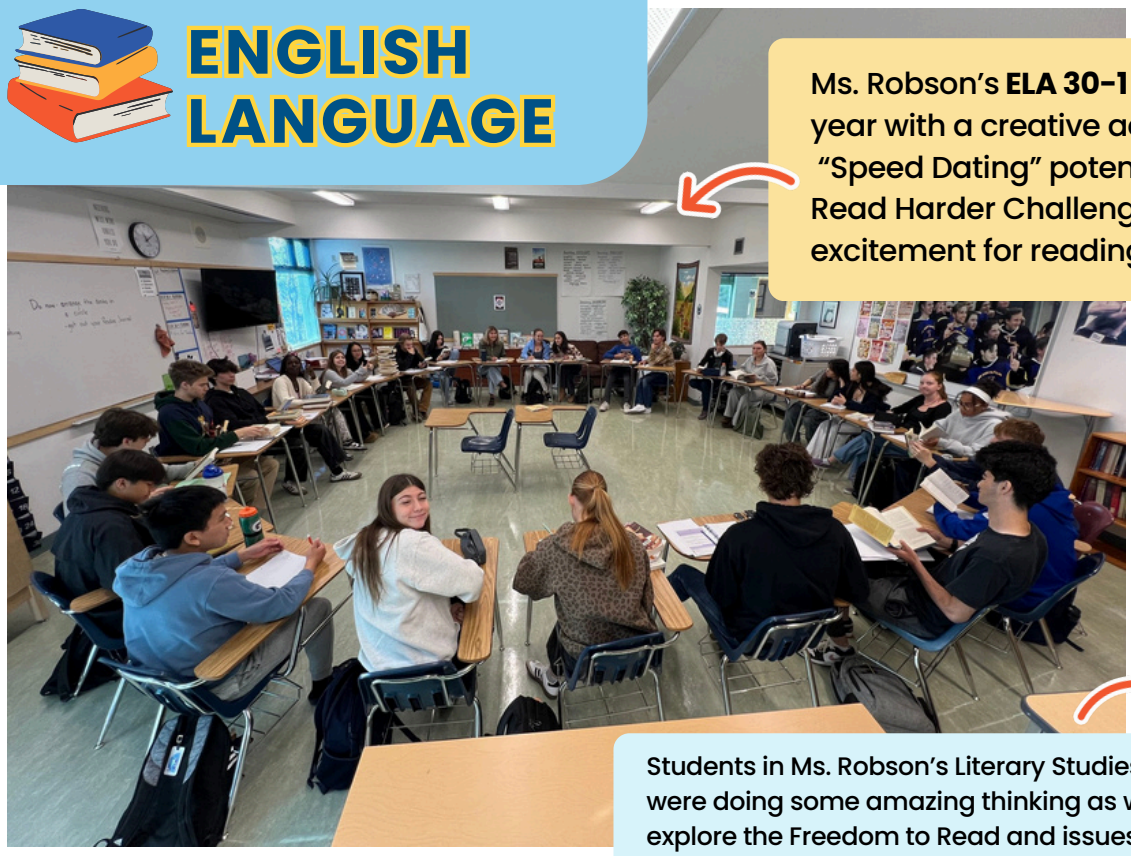
In the afternoon, 12 members of the **Debate Club** participated in a mock trial at the **Territorial Courthouse.**

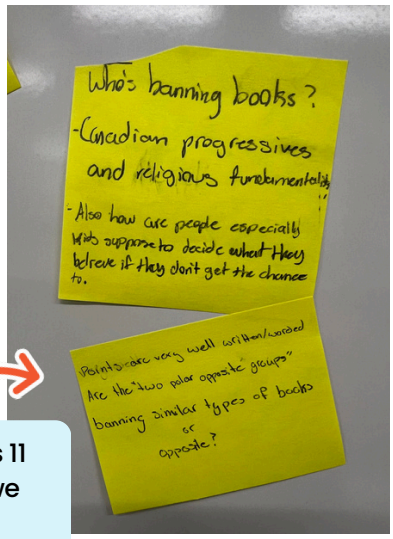
It was a wonderful day and they did a great job!

Pictured in Front Row: L-R: Nina Slagter, Sagan Power-Thériault, Anna Curan, Neve Mahon

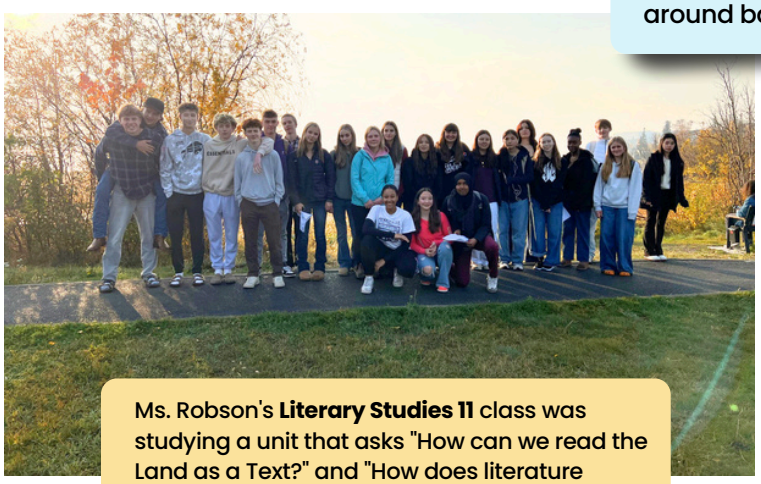
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Ms. Robson's **ELA 30-1** class kicked off the year with a creative activity: "Speed Dating" potential books for their Read Harder Challenge. A fun way to spark excitement for reading right from the start!



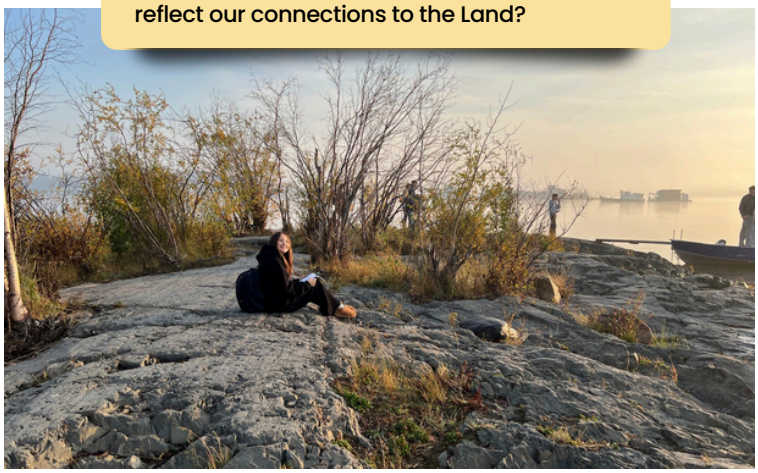


Students in Ms. Robson's Literary Studies 11 were doing some amazing thinking as we explore the Freedom to Read and issues around banned and challenged Books!

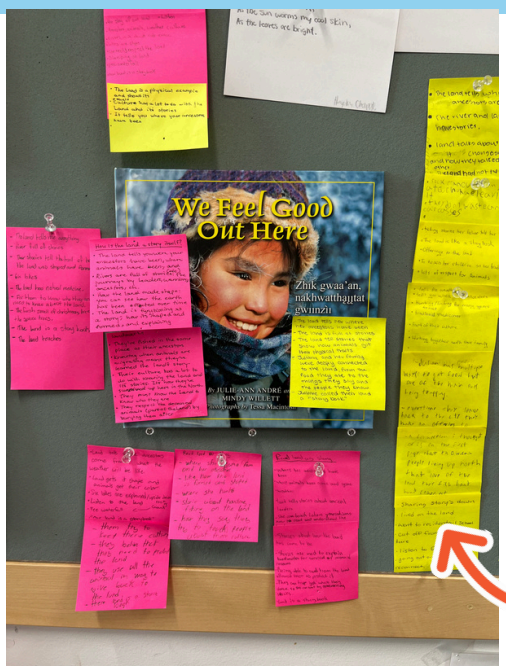


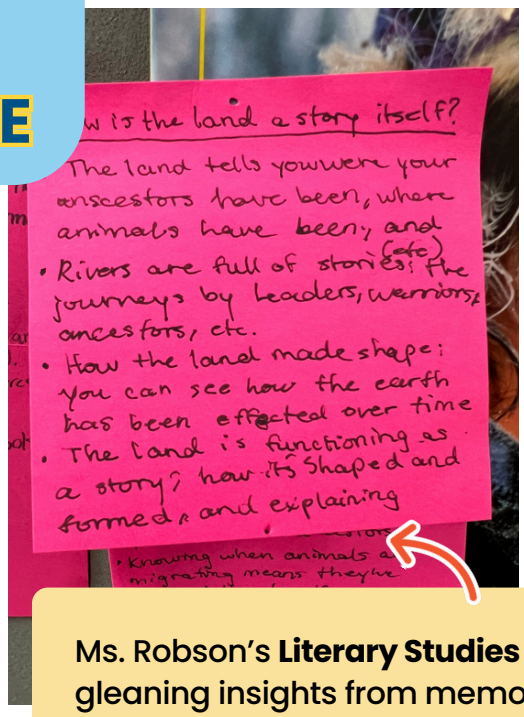
Ms. Robson's **Literary Studies 11** class was studying a unit that asks "How can we read the Land as a Text?" and "How does literature reflect our connections to the Land?

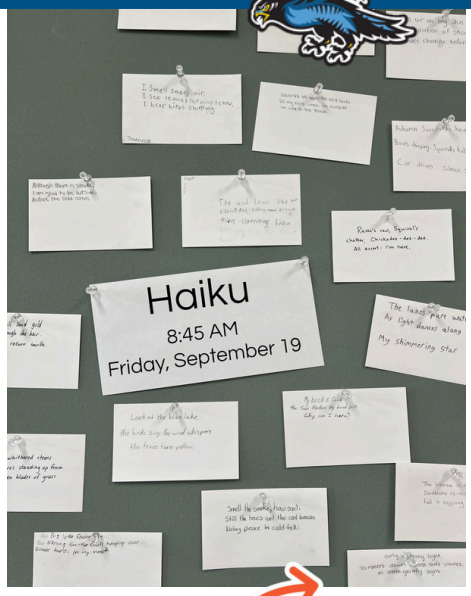
These photos capture the class harvesting observations at Rotary Park, to inform our descriptive responses in the style of Tomson Highway's essay "What a Certain Visionary Once Said"



ENGLISH LANGUAGE

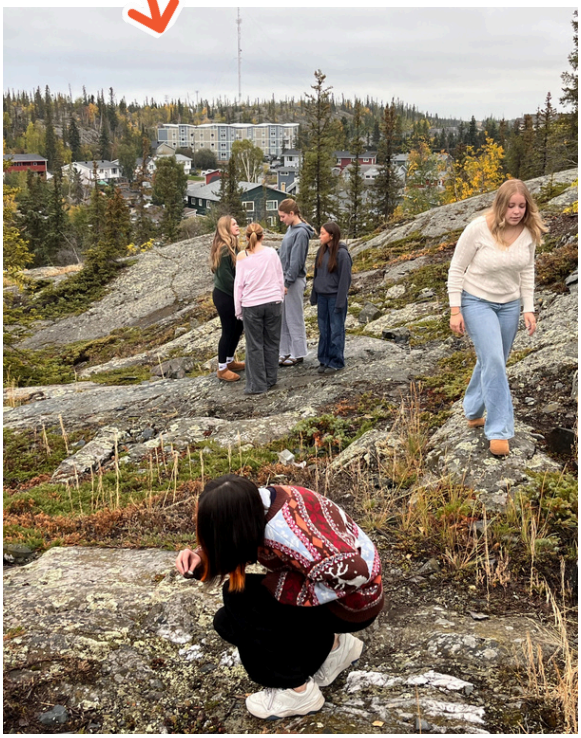






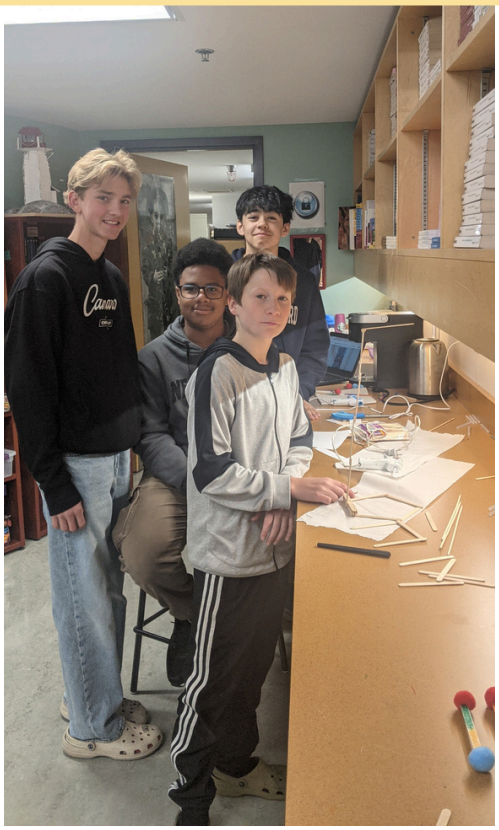
Ms. Robson's **Literary Studies 11** students have been gleaning insights from memoirs, essays, poems, and the land itself, and are drafting their own responses (haikus, stories, descriptions) that connected to the land.

Mr. Kooyman's **ELA 9** class stepped outside to explore the five senses in action. Students noted what they saw, heard, touched, tasted, and smelled, and then integrated those sensory details into writing a descriptive paragraph.



FRENCH

Durant le mois de septembre, les élèves d'immersion française ont été très occupés en sciences: compétition en équipe, laboratoires, création de maquettes, création de clé dichotomique et étude sur le terrain. Voici quelques photos d'élèves en action!



During the month of September, the French Immersion students have been very busy in science: team competitions, labs, model building, creating dichotomous keys, and conducting field studies. Here are some photos of the students in action!

TŁĮCHǪ

Tlicho class lately - berry picking and games

On the land students used the language they've been learning in class, helped each other, shared their learning, shared what they picked and had a great day!

Mahsi

SCIENCE

First Bio 30 Lab! Our Grade 12 students kicked off Biology 30 by exploring the nervous system - testing pupil reflexes with light and examining patellar reflexes with the reflex hammer.

From "playing doctor" to discovering how our bodies respond, this hands-on lab was a fun way to dive into the science of human responses!

MUSIC

Surprise Lobby Concert!

Ms. Shantora's music class surprised everyone with a flash-mob style performance in the lobby! Only two songs... but it left us all wanting more.

Can we make this a regular thing, please?

DRAMA

Stay tuned for more details!!!

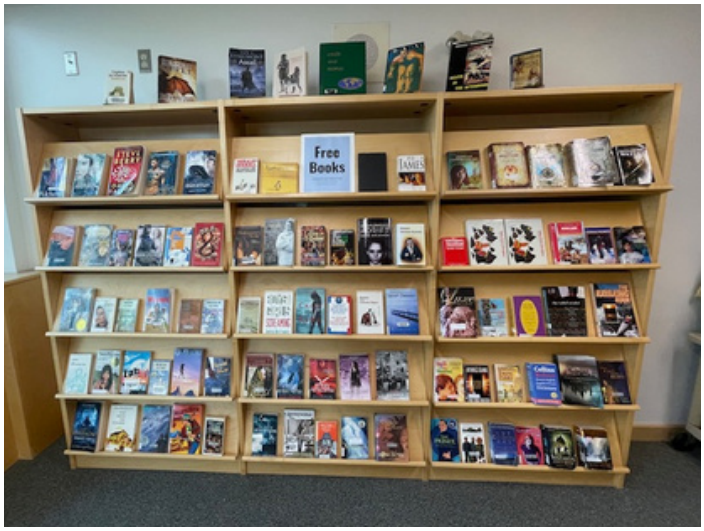
LIBRARY

Welcome to the École Sir John Franklin High School Library!

The library is more than just a place to find books - it's a space designed for you to read, relax and connect.

Here is what you will find when you stop by:

- Free books to take home and keep.
- A wide range of books to sign out - from fantasy to biographies and everything in between.
- Board games for a fun break with friends.
- Comfortable seating that makes it easy to settle in with a good story.
- A peaceful, bright environment, filled with plants and good vibes - perfect for studying, unwinding and spending time with friends.
- Chromebooks to work on and access to printing.



Library Hours:
Open on weekdays from 8:15 AM to 4:00 PM
Open during lunch

Library Guidelines and Expectations to keep the library welcoming for everyone:

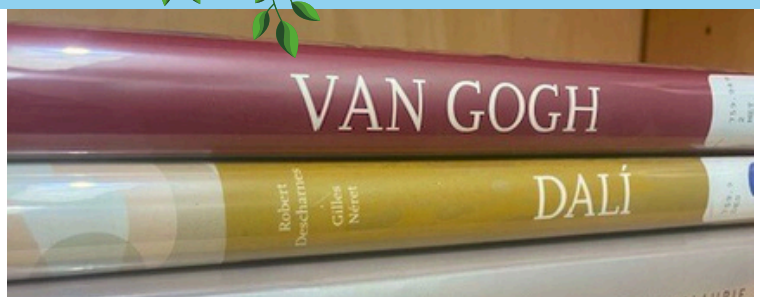
- Clean up after yourself - leave the space as you found it.
- Put things back where you found them, whether it's a chair, a book, or a board game piece.
- Respect others - use quiet voices and be mindful of the shared space.
- Use the space responsibly so everyone can enjoy it.

Grayson Klein, our Library Assistant on Period 2 !

Come by to discover something new, take a break, or just enjoy the calm. The library is here for you to enjoy!

Mrs. Straker
Librarian

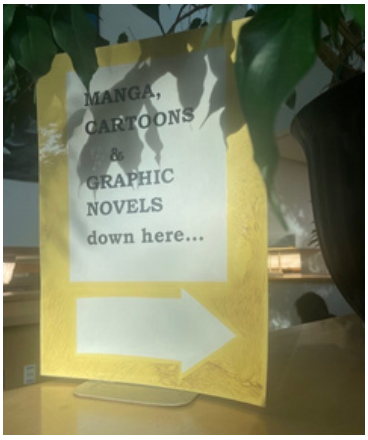
LIBRARY


VAN GOGH
DALÍ
Robert Descharnes
Gilles Néret

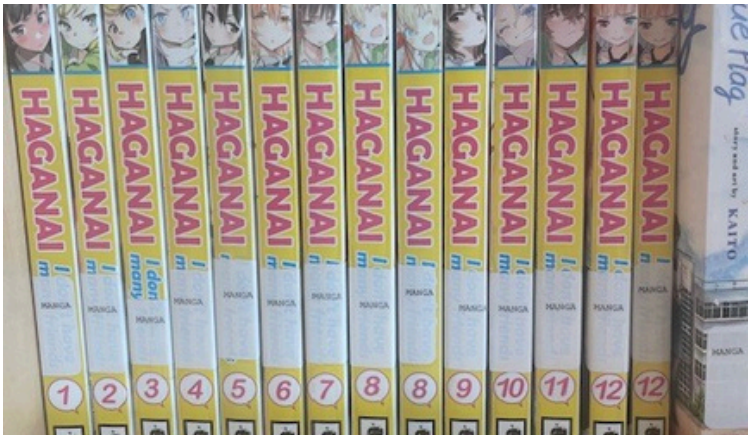
Free Books

SCRABBLE

ABORIGINAL
HONOUR
CEREMONY


MANGA,
CARTOONS
&
GRAPHIC
NOVELS
down here...

French Fiction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12

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

STUDENT SERVICES

We are well stocked with all kinds of personal hygiene and menstrual products!

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

GRAD COUNCIL 2026

We are pleased to introduce the 2025–2026 SJF Grad Council! 🎓🦅

From left to right:
(Back Row): Morgan Miller, Marie-Luna Langlois, Ani Ghulyan, Ava Maurice.
(Front Row): Isabel Christopherson, Émilie Gagne, Lena Nguyen, Anna Curran, Keira Stuckless, Isabel Rogers, Tana Rukunda, Sharon Nhengu, and Alysha Brown.
(Not Present): Adrena McDonald.

Stay updated through our Instagram account 👉 @sjf_grad2026.

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

NEW GRADUATION 2027 REQUIREMENTS

What do you need to graduate?

English Language Arts
10, 11, 12 Level
(4 credits each)
12 Total Credits

Social Studies
10,
11 or 12 Level
(4 credits each)
8 Total Credits

Mathematics
10,
11 or 12 Level
(4 credits each)
8 Total Credits

Science
10,
11 or 12 Level
(4 credits each)
8 Total Credits

Northern Studies
11 Level
4 Total Credits

Career Education
Career Life Education
(4 credits each)
Career Life Connections
(4 credits each)
8 Total Credits

Physical Education & Health
10 Level
4 Total Credits

Applied Design, Skills & Technologies or Arts Education
- ADST Courses
- Fine Arts Courses

4 Total Credits

Additional Credits
16 Total Credits

Additional Grade 12 Credits
8 Total Credits

A minimum of 80 credits is required for NWT graduation.

For more information, please contact your SJF Academic Counsellor.

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

NEW GRADUATION 2027 REQUIREMENTS

Government of Northwest Territories

NWT Minimum Graduation Requirements

The NWT will be moving from a 5-credit to 4-credit system; *this simply means that the credit values for courses will change and does not reflect reduced academic expectations of students.*

Current Requirements		NEW Requirements	
Credits must be earned in the following subject areas or courses:		Credits must be earned in the following subject areas or courses:	
• A Language Arts 10 (5 credits) • A Language Arts 20 (5 credits) • A Language Arts 30 (5 credits)	5 5 5	• A Language Arts 10 (4 credits) • A Language Arts 11 (4 credits) • A Language Arts 12 (4 credits)	4 4 4
• Northern Studies 10 (5 credits)	5	• Northern Studies 11 (4 credits)	4
• A Social Studies 10 (5 credits) • A Social Studies 20 (5 credits)	5 5	• Social Studies 10 (4 credits) • A Social Studies 11 or 12 (4 credits) *(NEW Northern Studies 12 included as a Social Studies 12 option)*	4 4
• A Mathematics 10 (5 credits) • A Mathematics 20 (5 credits)	5 5	• A Mathematics 10 (4 credits) • A Mathematics 11 or 12 (4 credits)	4 4
• A Science 10 (5 credits) • A Science 20 (5 credits)	5 5	• Science 10 (4 credits) • A Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)	4 4
Required Core Courses - Subtotal	***50***	***Required Core Courses - Subtotal***	***40***
• Career & Life Management 20 (3 credits) • Career & Program Plan (1 credit) • Community Service (1 credit)	3 1 1	• Career Life Education (4 credits) • Career Life Connections (4 credits) *(includes 30 hours of community service)*	4 4
• Physical Education 10 (3 credits)	3	• Physical & Health Education 10 (4 credits)	4
• Career & Technology Studies (5 credits) *(At any level)* • A Fine Arts (3 credits) *(At any level)*	5 3	• An Arts Education and/or an Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 10, 11, or 12 (4 credits)	4
Additional Required Courses - Subtotal	***16***	***Additional Required Courses - Subtotal***	***16***
• **Electives** (34 credits) at any level and in any course areas. *Once the credits for required courses have been met, additional courses in that subject area count as elective credits.*	34	• **Electives** (24 credits) at any level and in any course areas. *Once the credits for required courses have been met, additional courses in that subject area count as elective credits.*	24
Total # of Credits Required for Graduation	**100**	**Total # of Credits Required for Graduation**	**80**
Level 30 Credits (15 credits)- *Of the 100 total credits, students must complete a minimum of 15 credits at the 30-level including a required English or Français 30 course.*		**Grade 12 credits** (16 credits) - *Of the 80 total credits, students must complete a minimum of 16 credits at the grade 12 level including a required Language Arts 12 course and Career Life Connections.*	

Departmental Exams		Provincial Graduation Assessments
• English 30-1, 30-2 • FLA 30-1, 30-2 • Français 30-1, 30-2 • Mathematics 30-1, 30-2 • Social Studies 30-1, 30-2	• Chemistry 30 • Physics 30 • Biology 30	• Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment • Grade 10 Literacy Assessment • Grade 12 Literacy Assessment
Note: A passing mark in English 30-1 or 30-2 is required to graduate (combination of exam and classroom mark).		*Note: Completion of all assessments is required to graduate; however, a passing mark is not required.*

Department of Education, Culture and Employment www.ece.gov.nt.ca

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL CALENDAR

EDUCATING FOR LIFE!
HÒT'ALǪ̀Ǫ HOGHÀGOTEǪǪ
UNE ÉDUCATION POUR LA VIE !

Grades 9 to 12
2025 - 2026
École Sir John Franklin High School

EDUCATING FOR LIFE!
HÒT'ALǪ̀Ǫ HOGHÀGOTEǪǪ
UNE ÉDUCATION POUR LA VIE !

August '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

September '25

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

October '25

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

November '25

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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

School Office Opens | First Day of Classes | No Classes for Students | Non-school Day

December '25

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30	31			

January '26

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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

February '26

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

March '26

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Non-school day | Semester 2 start | No Classes for Students | Early Dismissal

April '26

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May '26

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

June '26

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

July '26

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

Non-school day | No Classes for Students | Last Day of Classes | School Office Closes

Notes:

Yellowknife Education District No. 1
5402 50 Avenue, PO Box 788 Yellowknife, NT X1A 2N6
Phone: 867.766.5050 Email: info@yk1.nt.ca Website: www.yk1.nt.ca

Yellowknife Education District No. 1
2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR
Grades 9 – 12 SJF

Important dates at a glance

School office open: Aug 14, 2025
First day of classes: Thursday August 28, 2025
Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews: November 12 and 13, 2025 (4-7pm) **Winter Break**: Monday Dec 22, 2025 - Friday January 2, 2026 Semester 2 start: Jan 28, 2026
Spring Break: Monday March 9, 2026 – Friday March 20, 2026
Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews: April 15 and 16, 2026 (4-7pm)
Last day of classes: Wednesday June 24, 2026
Last day for school staff: June 26, 2026

Student total days: 178 **Staff total days: 192**

Statutory and Scheduled School Holidays

Labour Day ..... Mon Sept 1, 2025
Truth and Reconciliation Day ... Tue Sept 30, 2025
Thanksgiving ..... Mon Oct 13, 2025
Remembrance Day ..... Tue Nov 11, 2025
Winter Break..... Mon Dec 22, 2025-Fri Jan 2, 2026
Spring Break..... Mon Mar 9, 2026-Fri Mar 20, 2026
Good Friday ..... Fri Apr 3, 2026
Easter Monday ..... Mon Apr 6, 2026
Victoria Day ..... Mon May 18, 2026
National Indigenous Peoples Day..... (day in recognition) Mon Jun 22, 2026

Number of instructional days per month		
Aug: 2	Sep: 20	Oct: 22
Nov: 17	Dec: 15	Jan: 19
Feb: 17	Mar: 11	Apr: 19
May: 19	Jun: 17	Total: 178

Professional Development Days*

Early dismissal on most Thursday afternoons (STIP time)

All SJF students have no school on the following dates:

Mon Aug 25, 2025 (STIP)
Tue Aug 26, 2025 (Culture)
Wed Aug 27, 2025 (STIP)
Mon Nov 3, 2025 (STIP)
Fri Nov 28, 2025 (lieu for Nov 12 & 13, 2025 P/S/T)
Tue Jan 27, 2026 (STIP)
Wed Feb 18, 2026 (PD)
Thu Feb 19, 2026 (PD)
Fri Feb 20, 2026 (PD)
Fri Apr 10, 2026 (STIP)
Fri Mar 6, 2026 (in lieu for Apr 15 & 16, 2026 (P/S/T)
Fri May 1, 2026 (Culture)
Thu June 25, 2026 (STIP)
Fri June 26, 2026 (STIP)

*Professional Development Days include:

-Strengthening Teacher Instructional Practices (STIP)
-Professional Development (PD)
-Time in lieu of evening Parent/Student/Teacher Interviews (P/S/T)
-Cultural Orientation days (Culture)

EDUCATING FOR LIFE!
HÒT'ALǪ̀Ǫ̀ HOGHÀGOETǪǪ
UNE ÉDUCATION POUR LA VIE!

ÉCOLE SIR JOHN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

GET INVOLVED AT SJF!

Clubs/Teams	Day of the Week	Time	Location	Contact
Art Club	Friday	Lunch	Rm. 15	Mx. Ellie
Choir	Monday	3:30-4:30pm	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
	Tuesday	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Club Euclid	COMING SOON!	TBA	TBA	Ms. Schlosser
Concert Band	Monday	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Concert Band	Wednesday	3:30-4:30pm	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Debate Club	Friday	Lunch	Rm. 40	Mr. Curran, Ms. Robson, Ms. Griffin
Fiddle Folks	Friday (Except Thursday)	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Bettger
Fitness Club	Everyday	3:45-5:00pm	Fitness Room	Mr. Skauge
Gender & Sexuality Squad	Monday	Lunch	Rm. 22	Ms. Wilson
Grad Council	Thursday	Room	Rm. 36	Mr. Traynor
Green Team	Thursday	Lunch	Rm. 32	Mr. Drouin
Intramurals	Monday to Friday	Lunch	Gym	
Knitting and Crochet	Wednesday	Lunch	Rm. 41	Ms. Griffin, Ms. Lafferty
Music Council	Thursday	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Rock Band	Thursday	2:40 -3:40	Music Room	Mr. Robson
Science Surfers	Wednesday	Lunch	Rm. 28	Mr. Kirkham
Social Studies Club	Wednesday	Lunch	Rm. 36	Mr. Traynor
Student Council	Tuesday	Lunch	Rm. 14	Mrs. Oldford, Ms. Martin
Sunshine Club	Thursday	Lunch	Rm. 29	Ms. Ryan
Weight Lifting	Wednesday	3:40-4:45pm	Rm. 13	Ms. Waugh

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WANT MORE INFO?

SCAN ME

SCAN our QR CODE and FOLLOW us on SOCIAL MEDIA!

STAY CONNECTED:

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