

NOVEMBER 2025

NEWSLETTER



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE Mr. Dean MacInnis

I trust the first two months of this school year have been an exciting journey for you all. We already embarked on a bustling start to the academic calendar and there is plenty more in store.

Our volleyball athletes and coaches have had a triumphant run this season in Fort Smith in the Lawrie Hobart Tournament and Senior Spike It here in Yellowknife this year. It was amazing to see over 180 Falcons participating in our volleyball program. Congratulations to all!

November is one of our busiest months of the year. To ensure you stay informed about upcoming events, please refer to our website calendar or follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Our Remembrance Day Assembly is scheduled for Monday, November 10th starting at 10:45am in our gymnasium.

PowerSchool access for parents and students is shut down while teachers work on progress reports. The Report Cards will be available at the end of the day November 10th. If you are having any issues with downloading or seeing the report card, please contact our front office. If you have any questions about your student's progress, please reach out to the teachers or guidance counselor team anytime.

For those who have not yet secured their tickets to the SJF Drama production of "Frozen Jr.", I urge you to promptly visit the NACC Box Office or www.naccnt.ca. We are thrilled to announce five shows scheduled for November 20th – 22nd at the Northern Arts & Cultural Centre (NACC).

The 41th Annual Wade Hamer Challenge Cup will be held on Wednesday, November 19th at 1pm at the Ed Jeske Arena. The Falcons Pep Rally will start at 11:45am.



Yours sincerely,

Dean MacInnis

IMPORANT DATES

October 30 – November 2

Spike It! Volleyball Tournament

November 5

Take Your Kids To Work Day
(Grade 9s)

November 11

Remembrance Day (no school)

November 12-13

Parent-Teacher Interviews

November 14-15

Table Tennis Championship

November 19

Challenge Cup

November 20-22

Frozen Jr. Musical

December 3

Winter Concert

STAY CONNECTED:



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

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Email: sjf@yk1.nt.ca



www.yk1.nt.ca/sjf



Sir John Franklin High School



@sirjohnfalcons



LAWRIE HOBART MEMORIAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



For more photos, visit our
Flickr Page [HERE!](#)

Huge congratulations to our Falcons for bringing home the **19U Girls Champion Banner** from the **Lawrie Hobart Memorial Volleyball Tournament** in Fort Smith!

Our Junior and Senior Boys both earned bronze, our Junior Girls took silver, and our two Senior Girls teams faced off in the finals once again — with SJF Blue edging out SJF Gold in two very close sets.

Your hard work and dedication paid off! Way to go, Falcons!





LAWRIE HOBART MEMORIAL VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

For more photos,
visit our Flickr Page [HERE!](#)





SPIKE IT! PEP RALLY

For more photos, visit our
Flickr Page [HERE!](#) 

The action began with an epic **Students vs. Staff Game** packed with BIG energy!





FAREWELL MR. KNOX

After teaching science at Sir John for the better part of two decades, late in October Mr. Dan Knox accepted a teaching position at another district school, and in doing so has helped YK1 address an important and acute need. His new job starts in the coming days, so we will have to say good-bye. Anyone who has ever had Mr. Knox knows that he brings extensive experience, unwavering intensity, scientific sensibility and a deeply-rooted paternal care to everything he does.

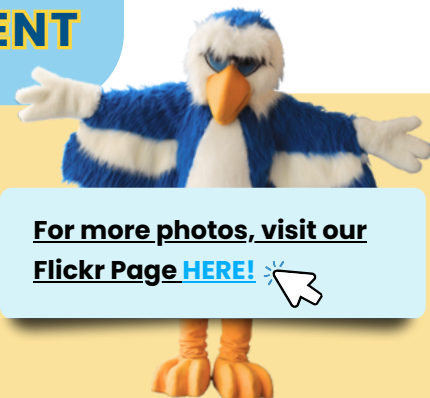
Staff and students will miss him greatly, but we wish him the absolute best!

We will miss you





SPIKE IT! VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT



For more photos, visit our
Flickr Page [HERE!](#)

Congratulations, Falcons! We are so proud!

Here are the results:

1 Senior Girls

- Team Blue — Tier 1 Champions
- Team Yellow — Tier 2 Champions
- Team Gold — Tier 1 Silver, after a close 4-set match against Team Blue

1 Junior Boys

- Team White — Tier 2 Champions

2 Junior Girls

- Team Gold - Tier 1 Silver
- Team Grey - Tier 2 Silver

2 Senior Boys

- Team Black — Tier 2 Silver, after a tight 5-set game

**In total, 18 teams and 160 athletes
proudly represented SJF.**

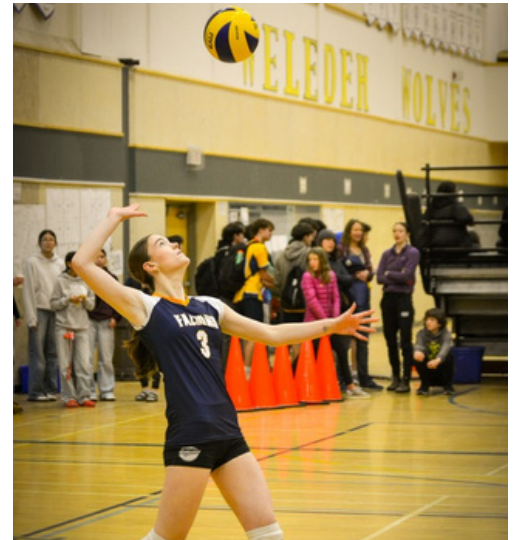
**What an amazing turnout, such an
impressive effort from everyone!**





SPIKE IT! VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

For more photos,
visit our Flickr Page [HERE!](#)





SPIKE IT! VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT

For more photos,
visit our Flickr Page [HERE!](#)





DRAMA

Frozen Jr. hits the stage November 20–22!

Here are some behind-the-scenes shots of our rehearsals. Our talented cast and crew have been hard at work bringing this magical production to life — and how can you not love the hand-painted billboards by Mr. Peters?





Behind the Scenes...

Our Drama Technologies team is hard at work bringing the magic to life! From painting backdrops to designing sets and creating props, every detail is coming together beautifully. We can't wait to see it all on stage soon!





École Sir John Franklin High School Drama Department Presents:

Disney
FROZEN JR.

November 20, 21 – 7:00 pm

November 22 – 1:00pm, 3:30pm, 7:00pm

**The Broadway Smash Hit
making its way back to
the NACC stage!!!**

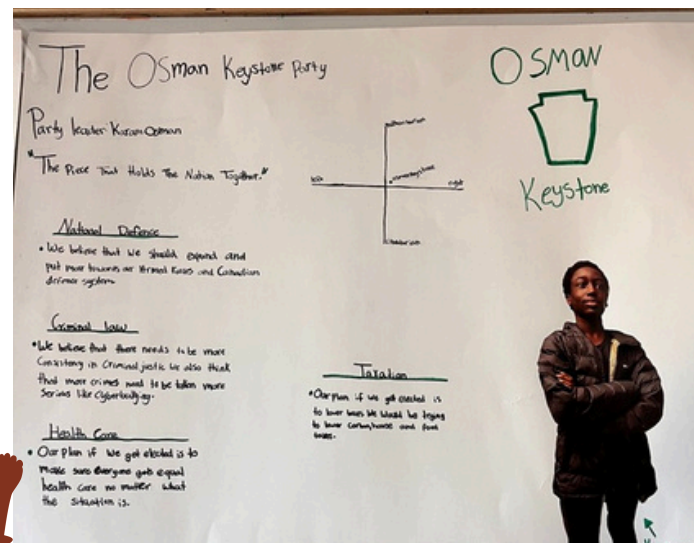
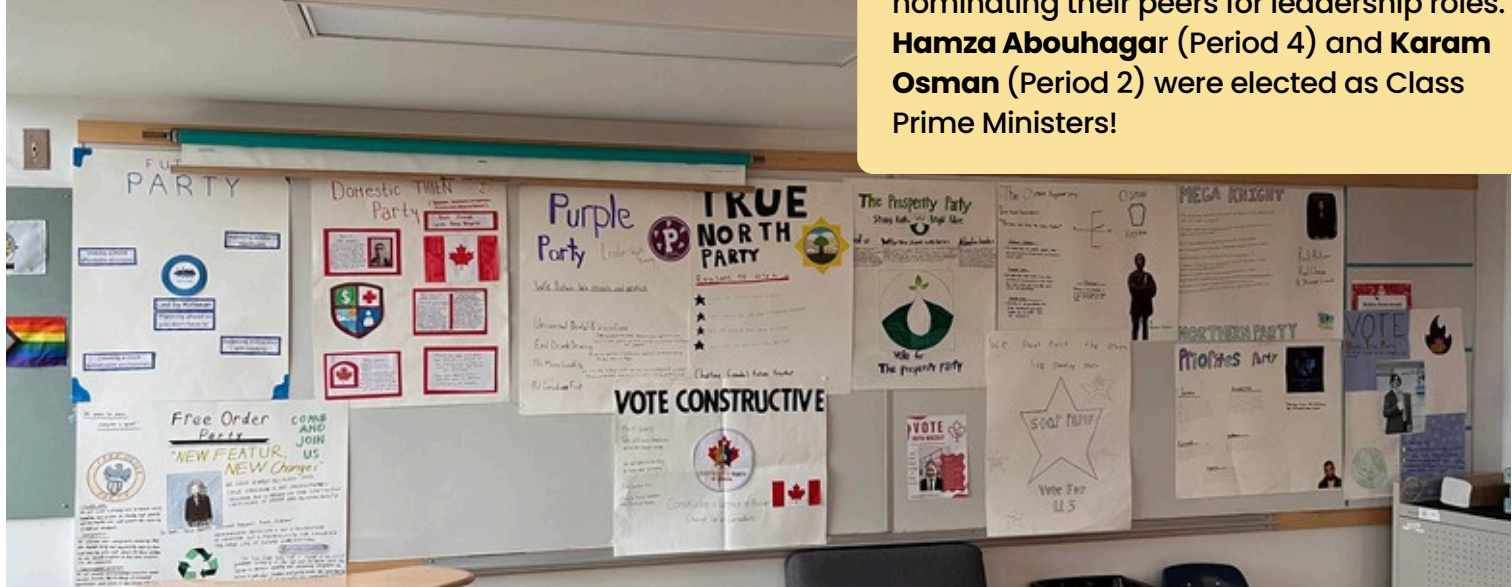
Tickets available at the
NACC Box Office
or visit www.nacnt.ca





SOCIAL STUDIES

Mr. Kooymans's **Social Studies 10** classes held their own class elections, with students nominating their peers for leadership roles. **Hamza Abouhagar** (Period 4) and **Karam Osman** (Period 2) were elected as Class Prime Ministers!



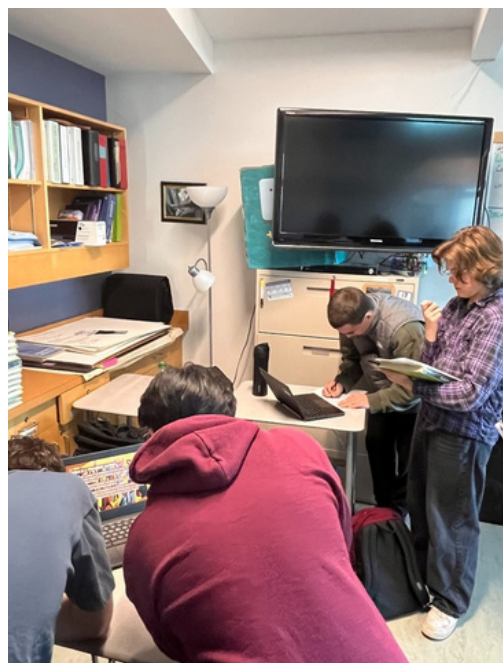
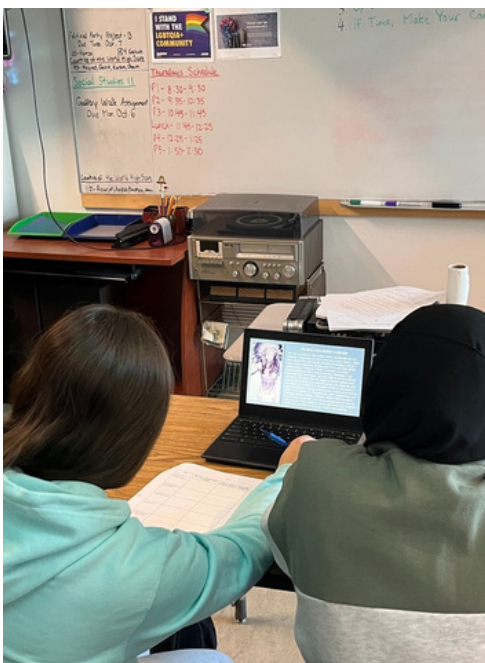


SOCIAL STUDIES



Students in Mr. Kooymans's **Social Studies 11** class completed a Gallery Walk assignment focused on globalization. Each group researched a unique topic, created their own slideshow presentation, and then walked around the classroom to explore and learn from what others had created.

What a fun and interactive way to share ideas, practice presentation skills, and dive deeper into global issues!





SOCIAL STUDIES CLUB



Women's History Month

Social Studies Club members celebrated Women's History Month with a lunch hour of trivia in the foyer. Congratulations to Nyah Morin (represented by Becky Pol) for winning first place, Ava Maurice and Emily Hutchings (not pictured) for placing second, and Konstance Pedro for finishing third.



Also, thank you to the Social Studies Club members that helped organise the event, especially Cora Almond, Journey Bergman, Yasmin Mohammad, JaeWon Lee, and Sharon Nhengu. Great job!

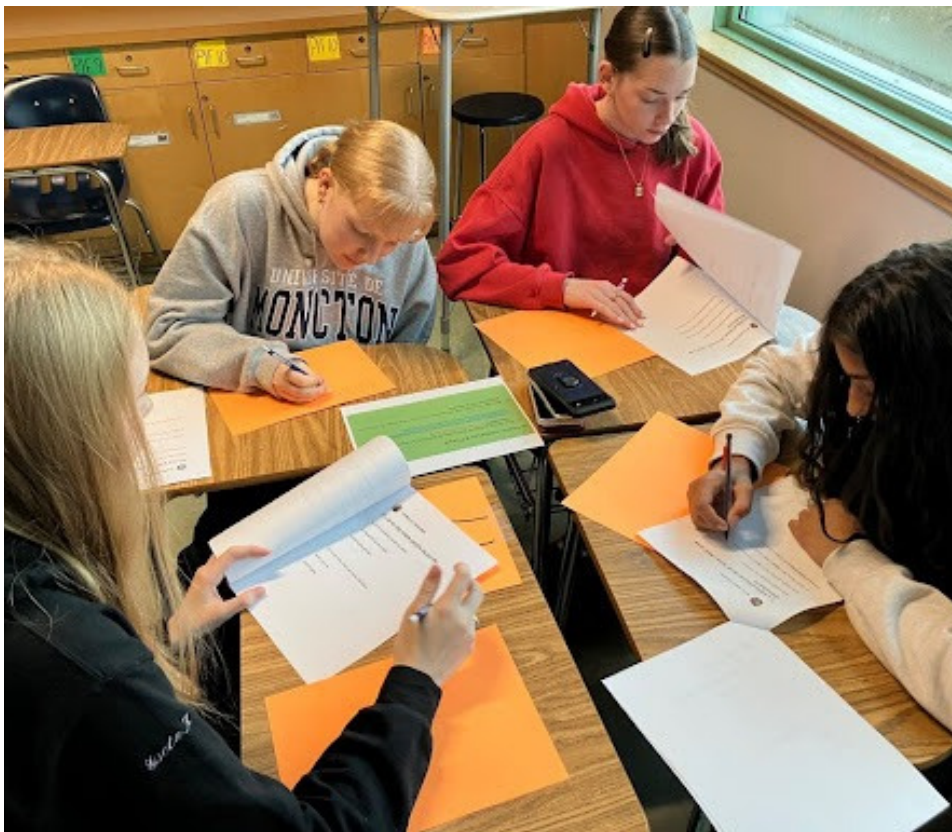
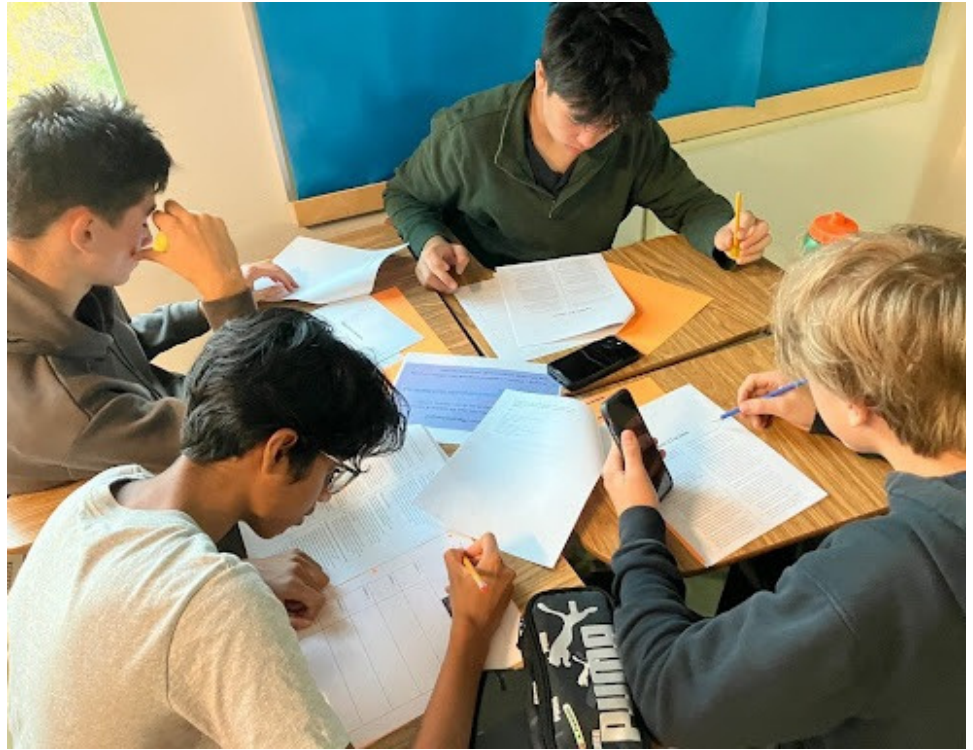




FRENCH LANGUAGE ARTS



The French Language Arts 9 class participated in five stations in honor of Truth and Reconciliation Day. Each station was activated with a QR code. The stations were: testimonies, visual art, music and songs, the 94 Calls to Action, and poetry. At each station, students were asked to respond to a creative thinking question. Students will then share their responses with the class.



Dans le cours de Français Langue Seconde de la 9e année, les élèves ont participé à 5 stations pour honorer la Journée de vérité et de réconciliation. Chaque station était activée par un code QR. Les stations étaient les suivantes: les témoignages, l'art visuel, la musique, les 94 Appels à l'action et la poésie autochtone. À chaque station, les élèves devaient répondre à une question de pensée critique. Leurs réponses seront ensuite partagées avec la classe.





TŁIǪHǪ



Ms. Lafferty's Tłıchǫ classes have been learning through hands-on cultural activities.

Here, students are working with caribou and learning how to make dry meat, while exploring its cultural significance and traditional practices. Mahsi!





PLAY TO LEAD SUMMIT



A group of our amazing female athletes joined Mrs. Julian at the Play to Lead Summit, an inspiring initiative by Canadian Tire Jumpstart that focuses on building strong female leaders through the power of sport.

This experience was more than just a trip; it was truly a game-changer. The friendships formed, lessons learned, and confidence gained will last a lifetime. What an empowering journey! 🙌💙

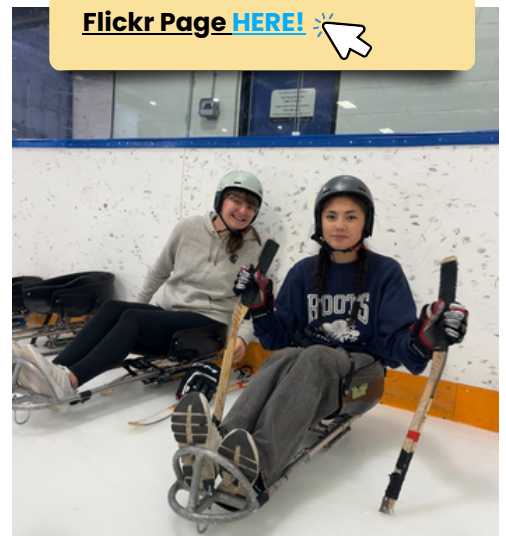


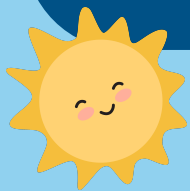


PLAY TO LEAD SUMMIT



For more photos, visit our
Flickr Page [HERE!](#)





SUNSHINE CLUB

On October 23, the Sunshine Club hosted a **Murder Mystery** event in the library. While enjoying Halloween-themed baked goods, we banded together to figure out who 'murdered' Shrek at his party in Toon Town!

It was a night filled with tragedy, and twists! Then we moved forth to find out that there were Werewolves among us. As we played multiple rounds of Werewolf, we snuffed out the Werewolves who hid among us during the day, and hunted us at night. The whole thing was a blast, and we are very grateful to all who participated!

- Scarlett Anderson





PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST



The Grads had a blast at this year's annual Pumpkin Carving event. Prizes were awarded for the top pumpkins in the categories of "Scariest," "Funniest," and "Most Creative" carvings. Thank you to the Grad Council for organising a fun time for all!



Paige Hawthorne: Scariest Pumpkin.



Nina Slagter and Adrina McDonald: Funniest Pumpkin.



Ani Ghulyan, Dawnelle Valdriz, Kirsten MacLellan, Yasmin Mohammed, and Lena Nguyen: Most Creative Pumpkin.



Honourable Mentions:
These are Mr. Traynor and Mr. Curran... according to the Grade 12s !!!





PUMPKIN CARVING CONTEST

Here are more highlights from our Annual Grad Pumpkin Carving Contest — so many creative and spooky designs from our talented grads!

To see the full photo album, visit our [Flickr page](#) [here!](#) 





HALLOWEEN AT SJF!

For more photos, visit our
Flickr Page [HERE!](#)



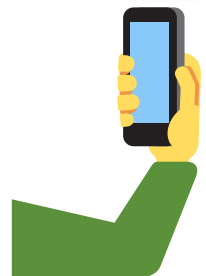


SPECIAL SPEAKER

We had the honour of welcoming inspirational speaker **Kendal Netmaker** to our school, joined by students from Kaw Tay Whee School, Range Lake North School, and École William McDonald Middle School!



"Your life may be difficult because you are meant to help others in the same situation. We use that and turn it into a blessing."
— Kendal Netmaker



Students were fully engaged throughout his inspiring presentation and left feeling motivated to make a difference — and, of course, we wrapped up the day with the biggest selfie ever with Kendal!





MUSIC



École Sir John Franklin High School Presents:

STAR LIGHT STAR BRIGHT

WINTER CONCERT

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 3, 2025
7PM @ NACC



Admission by Donation



FEATURING:

Concert Choir, Concert Band, Band Class, and Fiddle Ensemble





NEW GRADUATION REQUIRMENTS



What do you need to graduate?



New NWT graduation requirements for students entering Grade 10 in the 2024-2025 school year.

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.





NEW GRADUATION 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)	5	• A Language Arts 10 (4 credits)	4
• A Language Arts 20 (5 credits)	5	• A Language Arts 11 (4 credits)	4
• A Language Arts 30 (5 credits)	5	• A Language Arts 12 (4 credits)	4
• Northern Studies 10 (5 credits)	5	• Northern Studies 11 (4 credits)	4
• A Social Studies 10 (5 credits)	5	• Social Studies 10 (4 credits)	4
• A Social Studies 20 (5 credits)	5	• A Social Studies 11 or 12 (4 credits) (NEW Northern Studies 12 included as a Social Studies 12 option)	4
• A Mathematics 10 (5 credits)	5	• A Mathematics 10 (4 credits)	4
• A Mathematics 20 (5 credits)	5	• A Mathematics 11 or 12 (4 credits)	4
• A Science 10 (5 credits)	5	• Science 10 (4 credits)	4
• A Science 20 (5 credits)	5	• A Science 11 or 12 (4 credits)	4
Required Core Courses - Subtotal	50	Required Core Courses - Subtotal	40
• Career & Life Management 20 (3 credits)	3	• Career Life Education (4 credits)	4
• Career & Program Plan (1 credit)	1	• Career Life Connections (4 credits)	4
• Community Service (1 credit)	1	(Includes 30 hours of community service)	
• Physical Education 10 (3 credits)	3	• Physical & Health Education 10 (4 credits)	4
• Career & Technology Studies (5 credits) (At any level)	5	• An Arts Education and/or an Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies 10, 11, or 12 (4 credits)	4
• A Fine Arts (3 credits) (At any level)	3		
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	• Chemistry 30	• Grade 10 Numeracy Assessment	
• FLA 30-1, 30-2	• Physics 30	• Grade 10 Literacy Assessment	
• Français 30-1, 30-2	• Biology 30	• Grade 12 Literacy Assessment	
• Mathematics 30-1, 30-2			
• Social Studies 30-1, 30-2			
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.	





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!





SCHOOL CALENDAR



Grades 9 to 12 2025 - 2026

École Sir John Franklin High School



August '25							September '25							October '25							November '25							Notes:	
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4							1	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13					8	9	10	11							8	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20					12	13	14	15							15	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27					19	20	21	22							22	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30									26	27	28	29							30	
31																													
School Office Opens							First Day of Classes							No Classes for Students							Non-school Day								
December '25							January '26							February '26							March '26								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2						1	2	3					1	2	3					1	2	3	
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10					4	5	6	7					4	5	6	7
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17					11	12	13	14					11	12	13	14
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24					18	19	20	21					18	19	20	21
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31					22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		
Non-school day							Semester 2 start							No Classes for Students							Early Dismissal								
April '26							May '26							June '26							July '26								
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S		
					1	2							1	2													1	2	3
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9					4	5	6	7					1	2	3	4
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	10	11	12	13	14	15	16					11	12	13	14					12	13	14	15
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	17	18	19	20	21	22	23					18	19	20	21					19	20	21	22
26	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30					25	26	27	28					26	27	28	29
							31																						
Non-school day							No Classes for Students							Last Day of Classes							School Office Closes								

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

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 (P/S/T)
Tue Jan 27, 2026 (STIP)
Wed Feb 18, 2026 (PD)
Thu Feb 19, 2026 (PD)
Fri Feb 20, 2026 (PD)
Fri Mar 6, 2026 (P/S/T)
Fri Apr 10, 2026 (STIP)
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)

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





GET INVOLVED AT SJF!

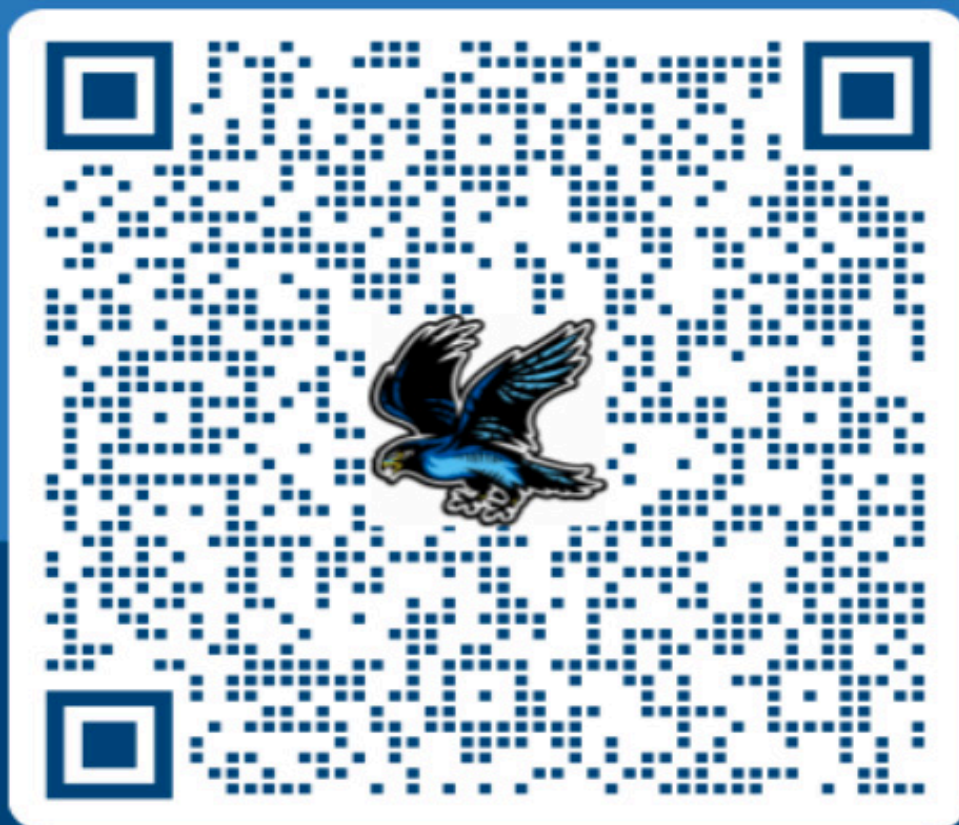


Clubs/Teams	Day of the Week	Time	Location	Contact
Art Club	Friday	Lunch	Rm. 15	Mx. Ellie
Choir	Monday	3:30-4:30pm	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
	Tuesday	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Club Euclid	COMING SOON!	TBA	TBA	Ms. Schlosser
Concert Band	Monday	Lunch	Music Room	Ms. Shantora
Concert Band	Wednesday	3:30-4:30pm	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





WANT MORE INFO?



SCAN ME

***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

Email: sjf@yk1.nt.ca



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Sir John Franklin High School



@sirjohnfalcons



SOCIAL STUDIES CLUB



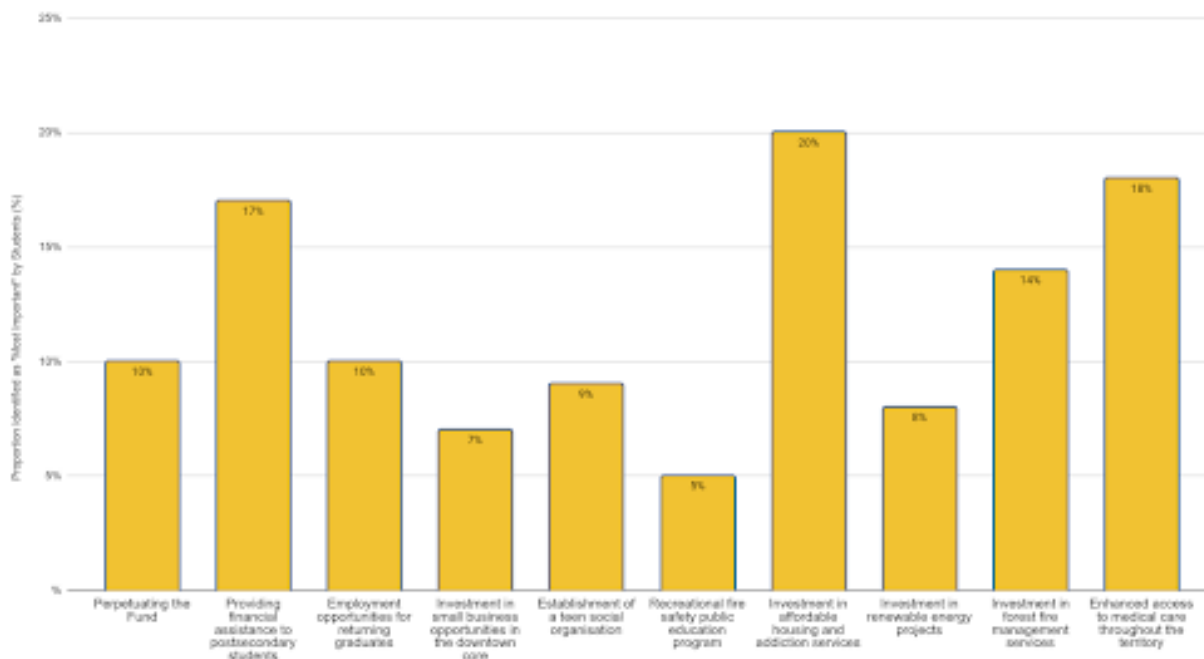
Heritage Fund Feedback

Since the Spring of 2025, the Social Studies Club has been creating a feedback report for the NWT Legislative Assembly in response to their request: how would students like to see the 2033 disbursement of the Heritage Fund spent?

The NWT Heritage Fund is an amount of money generated from nonrenewable resource revenue. The intention of the Fund is to ensure that future generations of NWT residents benefit from the development of nonrenewable resources.

By consulting with students around the school, members of the Social Studies Club identified 10 key areas of interest, and ranked the priority of each interest in a school-wide plebiscite. The results are shown in the chart, below, and were included in the 8 page report.

Proportion of Student Preference



Thank you to the NWT Legislative Assembly for contacting our students for feedback on this matter, and thank you to the Social Studies Club for organising this project to provide valuable data to our territorial representatives!

