



APRIL 2011

THUNDERHAWK MONTHLY

STUDENTS GO HUNGRY



30 Hour Famine

The 30 Hour Famine is fast approaching and DFC students are busy working on collecting donations for this event. It takes place **Friday, April 8** and finishes the following day, **Saturday, April 9, 2011**.

The participants will go 30 hours without any food in order to experience hunger first-hand while helping those who live with hunger every day. This year the funds raised will go towards programs that:

- Feed starving children
- Save exploited and trafficked girls
- Build schools and classrooms
- Bring safe drinking water to communities

How can you help? It's not too late to give a donation to support these programs and our DFC students that are willing to take a stand against world poverty. Cheques can be made payable to "World Vision Canada" and mailed to Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School, c/o Tara Beacham, 315 North Edward St., Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7C 4P3. Donations of \$20 or more will be automatically receipted after year-end.

Miigwech in advance for your support!

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SPORTS CORNER

Badminton

Afterschool Badminton practices have been progressing as we prepare athletes for the SSSAA badminton Tournament to be held at Superior Vocational High School on April 7.



Boys Indoor Soccer

DFC's Indoor Soccer team has been busy getting prepared for the upcoming season. We have been holding regular practices on Friday nights at The Sports Dome throughout the year. This should benefit our team as this year will be the first season that games are played at "the Dome." We are very excited to start the season in our brand new DFC red and black uniforms!

The team is counting on veteran leadership from our returning players; Jonathan Crane, Michael Semple, Davery Bottle, Donny Nayotchkeesic and Dakota Sakchekapo, as well as dedicated goalkeeping from Kevin Anderson. Each team member should be proud of their commitment to the team. We are hoping to build on the success that the team had last year and sneak up on a few teams this year!

The four week season will surely go by very quickly. You can follow their progress through the Wawatay news online edition. Stay tuned to our next newsletter issue for some pictures and game results.

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Professional Learning Communities at DFC

In our continued efforts to meet the needs of our students, we have begun to implement Professional Learning Communities into our school. The goal of a PLC is to improve student learning through collaboration and monitoring results. Teachers have been divided into PLC teams according to similar subject areas to look at their teaching practices and focus on finding new and effective methods to engage the students and promote student success.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It is amazing how time flies when you are busy and having fun. We only have a little more than 5 weeks left of school! I want to take this time to encourage all of our students to stay on track in your studies and ensure you have completed all assignments and the required class-time for each of your courses. Ask your teachers for help and be active in your education plan. We are starting our boys' indoor soccer season and they look "mighty" fine in their new uniforms. What is special this year, we have two of our female students playing with the boys! Great stuff!! Lastly, spring will be coming whenever winter decides to leave. Take care of each other each evening and weekends! Never leave one behind.

SCHOOL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

DFC Art Club

Art Club will continue to run on Wednesdays after school from 4:15 to 6:00 in Room 107. The art room is available for you to work on any independent art projects, or if you have any ideas or suggestions for a project you'd like to tackle, please speak with Tara Beacham. And remember, everyone is welcome, whether you are the next "Michelangelo" or just someone who wants to work on becoming more creative—come join us for some fun!



Elder's Program – Moosehide Project

DFC students and staff had the unique opportunity to participate in a moosehide scraping activity. Scraping and preparing moosehide is a traditional skill that is slowly dying out in many communities so it was great to see the students and Elders working together to preserve this knowledge. Under the supervision of school Elder Bella Patayash, the students used scrapers to prepare the hide for softening and tanning. Other Elders, Jessie Mckay and Maggie Linklater, were also on hand to give assistance when needed. The hide will be used for the students to do beadwork on and to make beautiful crafts such moccasins, mittens and gloves. Kiche-Miigwech to Larry Baxter for donating the hide and to Tara Beacham and Kevin Vesa for preparing the poles that were used in the frame.



SCHOOL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES (CONT.)



Girl in da Hoodie

The Drama Club put on another production for the student body, as well as an evening performance for the general public, on Tuesday, March 1st. Entitled *Girl in da Hoodie (Little Red Riding Hood)*, it was a lot of fun for both members of the Drama Club and the audience. The play put a modern spin on a classic tale. This performance included music, courtesy of Greg Chomut, which helped to set the mood for the scenes. Tara Beacham and Ken Liddicoat did a great job on the set. All students involved in the production put forth a stellar effort. Each performance demands dedication and hard work from its members, but is very enjoyable and rewarding for them too!



FNSSP – FIRST NATION STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

For FNSSP it has been a positive school year at DFCHS. In a month's time we will be preparing to end the school year. This second term was a great opportunity to promote the school through student retention and to promote the school in the north and region. For student retention it was a pleasure to keep students engaged in activities such as drama, cooking club and sports. It was a pleasure to participate in a high school girls' volleyball tournament in Kenora, ON, and play and coach with the girls and boys team at a Pelican Falls tournament. FNSSP also supported the girls' broomball team and hockey team in their exhibition games in the northern communities. As for the Numeracy, Literacy and Native Language programs under FNSSP, it had been a learning experience to find new strategies to enhance the programs. We feel very confident in the research and implementation of new resources and technologies that will benefit the students in the classroom.

- Kevin Kakegamic (FNSSP Special Assignment Teacher)

Literacy

The Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test (OSSLT) was written on the morning of March 31st. All high school students in Ontario must pass the literacy requirement for graduation – either the OSSLT or the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course (OSSLC). The Literacy Test is written on the same morning all across the province. Once a student has passed it, they do not need to write it again. The Literacy Test contains reading and writing tasks that a student should be able to complete with a minimum experience of Grade Nine English. To prepare students to write the OSSLT, DFC Literacy Leads Katie Adams and Nancy Currie met with this group once a week to practice each type of task encountered on the test. A preparation session also occurred the day before the test to allow students the opportunity to attempt a practice test. Once OSSLT results are finalized, an Individual Student Report will be mailed to each student and their parent or guardian, which will indicate whether the student was successful on the test.

DFC Literacy Week ran from February 28th – March 4th 2011. The literacy activities happening each day included a Hidden Message Challenge where students solved three different word puzzles to reveal clues about the location of a hidden prize card somewhere in the school (won by Brandon Wright's Grade 12 Business Class). Other activities included a Boggle Challenge (won by Jimmy Monias), Word Ladder Puzzles (won by Duane Mathews), Word Picture Puzzles (won by Aneeta Meekis-Fiddler) and a Balderdash Challenge (won by John Eves' Grade 9 Math class).

In addition to these daily activities there was also a "Get Caught Reading" contest happening throughout the week where school staff gave tickets to any student they saw reading. Congratulations to Kirk Meekis for winning the prize.

A Scrabble tournament also happened during Literacy Week between Aaron McKay, Davery Bottle, Jimmy Monias and Kevin Kakegamic. In the end, Jimmy Monias took the prize. Congratulations Jimmy!

- Katie Adams (FNSSP Literacy Lead)

Numeracy

Numeracy Week is scheduled to take place April 4th to 8th. Throughout the week, teachers and students will be participating in a variety of games, challenges, and activities all based on basic numeracy skills. DFC is also very pleased to be welcoming two special guests to talk to our students about numeracy and Math related issues. Deputy Grand Chief Les Louttit will be putting on a small workshop for students regarding housing and other financial issues. John Mighton, creator of the Math program "JUMP", will be presenting a key note speech to the entire school as well as putting on a short workshop for teaching staff on how to fill gaps in numeracy.

On April 20th and 21st, Grade 9 Math students will be participating in the EQAO Mathematics test. This test is not a graduation requirement but the results provide detailed information about how students progress through the Grade 9 Math course. The data collected is used to guide instruction and support individual students' Math needs.

- Alyssa Saj (FNSSP Numeracy Lead)

LITERACY WEEK



Working on Balderdash



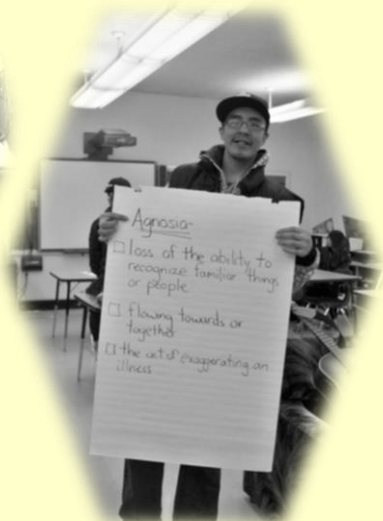
Winning team: Hidden Message Challenge



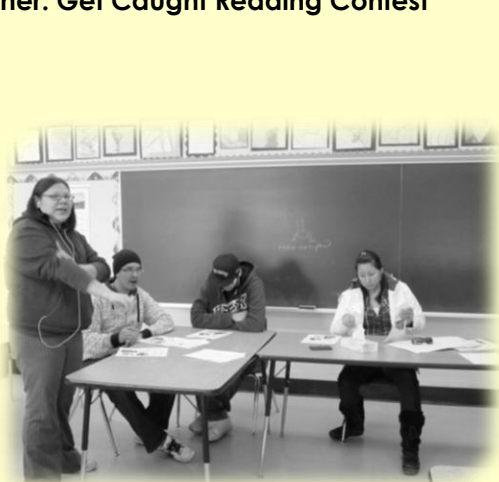
Scrabble Tournament



Winner: Get Caught Reading Contest



Balderdash Definitions



Working on Word Game Challenge



Working on Word Game Challenge

CLASSROOM UPDATES

Katie Adams

OLC 40 – Grade 12 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

Students have been working on assignments for Unit 3 - Reading and Writing as Community Action. Throughout this unit we have been looking at the ways that community action can be achieved through the empowerment of literacy skills. Students have been analysing various community and global issues through a variety of reading and writing tasks including news reports, opinion paragraphs and letters to the editor.

ENG 1P – Grade 9 English

We have finished our novel study on Jimmy Comes Home from the Green Star Lake Series, which students really enjoyed - some of them even continued on to read the entire series of books! Now we are moving into our Media Studies unit focusing primarily on the elements of advertising. Students have analysed the elements of various types of advertising including print advertisements, public service announcements, movie posters and music videos. Students have also had the opportunity to create their own advertisements incorporating the elements learned.

Nancy Currie

ENG 2P – Grade 10 English

The Grade 10 English class is beginning a poetry unit. In the poetry unit, students will study various types of poetic devices, including form, rhyme, rhythm, and imagery. Students will read, write, and explore poems and songs to demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of poetic forms. An assortment of Aboriginal poems will be included in the unit. The themes and issues found in modern music and poetry will be examined and discussed to help create social awareness. The summative activity for this unit is a Native Poet Research assignment.

ENG 3C – Grade 11 English

The Grade 11 English class is working on a poetry unit. In this unit, students study various types of poetic styles and examine a variety of literary devices. Students will read, write and explore poems to demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of the poetic form. Students will display their comprehension of the poetic form in the creation of individual poetic works. Through the study of many Aboriginal poems, students will examine common themes portrayed in poetry. The summative activity for the unit examines common elements found in contemporary songs and students demonstrate their knowledge in the creation of a song poster.

ENG 4C – Grade 12 English

The Grade 12 English class is finishing up a poetry unit. Shortly, the class will be studying the play *A Streetcar Named Desire*. We will orally read the entire play, with students alternating reading the roles. The students seem to enjoy this and it makes the play come to life. As our study continues we will examine all aspects of the play. The purpose of this unit is to provide students the opportunity to analyse and assess ideas and issues in the context of a play. During the reading of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, students examine how a variety of literary and rhetorical devices are used to enhance meaning. Students examine the influence of social, cultural, and economic factors on the themes and interpretations of the play. As a summative task, students further develop their essay writing skills in a narrative essay on a topic of their choice in relation to the play.

Tara Beacham

NBV 3E – Grade 11 Aboriginal Beliefs, Values, and Aspirations

Students are now presently working on their third Unit of study in this course: **Leadership, Responsibilities, and Aboriginal Knowledge**. In this unit, students examine how traditional knowledge, languages, and cultural practices were altered by the imposition of the Indian Act. Students will explore how concern for the natural environment is being challenged by individual and technological practices associated with fishing, logging, mining, and resource development. The responsibility that elders, grandmothers, traditional chiefs, cultural carriers, spiritual leaders, and Aboriginal organizations take to promote Indigenous knowledge, respect, and dialogue is also examined by students through analysis of video documentaries, biographies, autobiographies, traditional stories, and news events. Finally, positive achievement and leadership models are investigated so that students can see how traditional Aboriginal values provide strength, endurance, and a basis for healing, reconciliation, renewal, and success in the workplace.

AVI 3O – Grade 11 Visual Arts

With the ASM2O course wrapped up at midterm, we are now on our way into this new course which also runs for a double period. Art all afternoon—how wonderful is that! We are nearing the end of our first Unit on **The Human Form**. Our second Unit is about **A New Way of Seeing**. Students will examine the work of the Impressionist, Expressionist and Post Impressionist painters. Artists will include; Manet, Monet, Renoir, Cassatt, Degas, Pissaro, Van Gogh, Seurat, Gauguin and Cezanne. Students will study how these artists revolutionized the art world by their new “ways of seeing” the outside world. Students will then participate in an outdoor drawing session and will then turn one of these drawings into an Impressionist style painting. Students will choose an Impressionist artist to “mentor” their work after, paying special attention to colour selection, subject matter and the use of brushstrokes. As well, a resource journal will be completed. Students will then examine the work of the Cubists, Dada and the Surrealists. Artists include; Picasso, Braque, Duchamp, Dali, Magritte, Ernst, Tanguy, and Miro. Students will study how these artists were influenced by the work of the artists before them (art history time line). They will also discover how these artists impacted the art world with their own new “ways of seeing” the outside world (as well as their discovery of visualizing the subconscious). Students will then participate in a series of activities (collage, automatist painting) that will help them gain a better understanding for how these artists worked. Through these projects students will also complete Resource Journals explaining some of the choices they have made as well as formally analyzing the design content and critiquing their strengths and weaknesses.

IMPORTANT DATE: Friday, May 6, 2011. This class will be hosting a Community Showcase in the DFC Art Gallery onsite to exhibit their work from both the ASM2O and AVI3O courses. Everyone is welcome to see their inspiring work!

Aaron Guthrie

SNC 2P – Grade 10 Applied Science

Throughout March we have been working on our Chemistry unit. This unit is largely based on studying chemical reactions that occur in our daily lives. We have learned various methods to describe what is happening during a reaction and what it actually means to our bodies. This unit has allowed us to complete a few laboratory experiments, as we got to learn about and then test the Law of Conservation of Mass. Many students were amazed as we watched a demonstration where we mixed two clear and colourless liquids and produced a glowing blue light. This reaction is similar to what happens in a glow stick.

In April we will be working hard to complete our Aboriginal Science Fair projects. These projects will serve as the culminating activity for this course and will be entered into the 2nd annual Let's Talk Science Aboriginal Science Fair at Confederation College. On April 15th, the students will get to spend the day at Confederation College as they represent DFC in this regional contest. All students involved will have a chance to compete against other students from the region and will be given some great participation prizes!

SCH 4C – Grade 12 College Chemistry

During the month of March we have been busy learning about the Chemistry involved in the Environment. This unit has allowed us to study acids & bases that are involved in the foods we eat. We've also discussed the concept of Acid Rain and what we can do to avoid it. We have done a hands-on Laboratory experiment to determine the different chemicals that are present in our drinking water. We hope to inspire some future chemists to return home to their communities to work towards improving the state of their drinking water. Next month we will be looking at chemical formulas and calculations involved in chemistry.

PPL 2O – Grade 10 Healthy Active Living

As the weather warms up outside, we are getting excited about taking our Physical Education class outside for some adventures! During the final 6 weeks of this class we are planning to have the students participate in a Self-Defense training seminar. Most of the DFC staff learned a great deal while participating in this course before March Break. We are also hoping to have the staff from Eagle's Cove bring their Reball equipment into DFC for an afternoon of ReBall, which is indoor paintball where small rubber pellets are used instead of paint. When we are not busy with these exciting events, we regularly work on our badminton, basketball and soccer skills as these are all sports that our students are competing in outside of school.



John Eves

MFM 1P – Grade 9 Mathematics

Students are currently working on graphing linear equations. They will be looking at perimeter, area and volume, and also will be completing an EQAO test.

MFM 2P – Grade 10 Mathematics

Students are currently working on quadratic equations. They will be working on area and perimeter, as well as measurement.

ICS 2O – Grade 10 Computer Studies

Students are currently working on their programming skills. We will be looking at computer viruses, computer safety and Computer Recycling.

Greg Chomut

AMC 2O – Grade 10 Music

We are just finishing a listening unit in which the students learn how to recognise the elements of music by describing how they are used in popular music. They are also encouraged to expand their musical interests in an assignment where they have to discover a new band and present their discovery to the class. The final unit focuses on the creation of music and assignments are designed to promote creativity. Students will have the opportunity to create music according to guidelines in the form of a jingle, as well as music in whatever genre they are interested in. Music that they create in this unit can be used for the performance aspect of the culminating activity.

Emily Hicks

CHV 2O – Grade 10 Civics

Our Civics course is well underway! We have learned about different government systems, levels and how they make decisions. In the weeks to come the students will be making their own political parties and create platforms to based their actions on. They will run their own campaign sessions in class and have an election to determine the party with the best values. I look forward to seeing their ideas.

CHC 2P – Grade 10 History

During this unit of study we have looked at women and aboriginal rights and how they have been mistreated and abused throughout different historical periods. In April we will be starting a new unit that focuses on life during the roaring twenties and The Great Depression. The semester is going to come to an end quickly and before we know it the culminating activity and final exam will be upon us. I encourage all students to keep working hard.

HFN 2O – Grade 10 Food & Nutrition

The Food and Nutrition class has continued to make tasty dishes, this week we organized fruit and vegetable trays making sure they had the most meal appeal possible. We have also looked at advertising and how companies market their products to make them sell better. In the weeks to come we will be focusing on difference career possibilities and will start our culminating activity late April.

Ken Liddicoat

TWJ 3E – Grade 11 Custom Woodworking & TTJ 3O – Grade 11 Transportation Technology

April showers bring May flowers and what a busy spring that blossoms before us. The projects under way in the Custom woodworking class (TWJ3E) have been keeping us all busy designing, troubleshooting and creating beautiful pieces of furniture using developing wood joinery techniques.

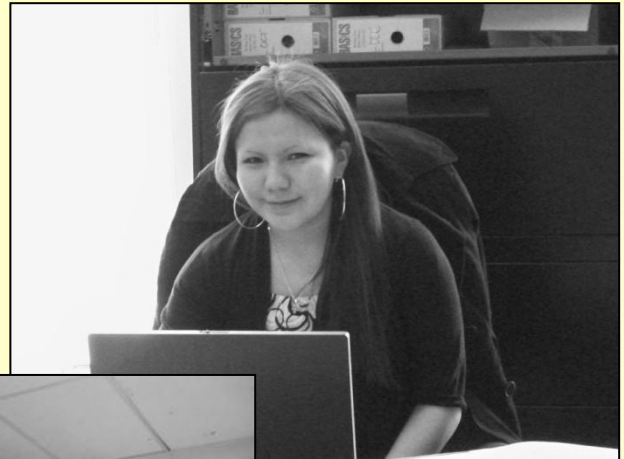
We have been creating and finishing some small thank you gifts to be purchased by the City of Thunder Bay in support of the Student Accommodations Unit. Students are very proud of this class and community project as we continue to build the boardroom table that progress and our plans to present and dedicate this table commissioned by the Thunder Bay Police Aboriginal Liaison office.

The Transportation Technology class (TTJ3O) students continue to learn about vehicle ownership and what is involved in the maintenance and care of vehicles. We continue discussing financing, insurance, licensing and safe operation of motor vehicles while practicing maintenance and repair procedures and skills.

Please if you have any ideas, input or concerns you can contact me.

KLiddicoat@nec.on.ca





Heather Lammers

CGC1P – Grade 9 Canadian Geography

Global warming will be the main topic throughout unit 4. Students will have the opportunity to build mini-greenhouses to learn more about the greenhouse effect. Students will also look at how Canadians participate in major international organizations and the contributions they make to the world.

Unit 5 will consist of the final culminating activity. Students should start this assignment on April 26th.

Cooperative Education Students

Students are working hard to get in the required number of hours at their work placements. They have met many new people at their placements and have also gained valuable experience! They should be starting to work on the brochure and portfolio which make up their final culminating activity.

Duane Matthews – *Shipper/Receiver* at Restore – Habitat for Humanity

May Quill – *Administrative Assistant* at Nishnawbe-Aski Development Fund

St. John Kakekagumick – *Illustrator/Graphic Design Assistant* – Wawatay News, Seven Youth Media Network

If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at hammers@nec.on.ca. It has been very enjoyable and helpful talking with those of you whom I have reached over the telephone.

Alyssa Saij

MBF 3C – Grade 11 College Mathematics

There are a few units still to go in this course. We have completed a geometry unit in which students looked at how geometric shapes appear in design projects. We are also finishing a unit on trigonometry. In this unit, students reviewed the primary trig ratios they learned in Grade 10 Math and learned new laws (the Sine and Cosine Laws) to help them solve for pieces of a triangle. We will finish the course with units that cover probability and statistics.

MAP 4C – Grade 12 College Mathematics

Students have spent some time learning about how to minimize or maximize geometric properties (perimeter, area, volume) and how to find the geometric properties of composite shapes. We have now turned our attention to trigonometry and students will learn how to apply the Sine and Cosine Laws learned in Grade 11 Math to a different type of triangle. The course will be wrapped up in April with our final unit on data management.

Please encourage our students to stay focused on their courses as there are only a few weeks left in the school year!

Brandon Wright

GLS 40 – Grade 12 Advance Learning Strategy

This month, students are working on the third unit, Looking for Opportunities. In this unit, students are discovering the numerous opportunities available to them after high school. Whether it's post-secondary education or the world of work, students have learned about what skills and qualifications they'll need to maximize their success. This unit is one of the last steps these senior students take before making one of the biggest transitions of their lives: graduating high school.

CHT 30 – Grade 11 World History

For March, students have been working on the class' third unit, citizenship and heritage around the world. More specifically, students have been learning about human rights and their violations in Asian countries like China, Hong Kong, Vietnam, and Tibet. After developing their own bill of rights for indigenous peoples, the students have begun making a brochure that advertises a country of their own creation to potential tourists and investors. The purpose of this project is to help students understand what rights a government should guarantee its people to be considered free and fair nation.

BDI 3C – Grade 11 Entrepreneurship

After developing a basic understanding of the business world and entrepreneurship, the students of Paul Martin's Youth Entrepreneurship program have begun furthering their venture ideas and creating the rough drafts of their business plans. Some businesses that students have decided on starting are a movie rental store, a slushie machine vendor, a bakery, and numerous sporting goods stores. With only a few weeks left in the semester, students will be finalizing their business plans for DFC's Annual Business Plan Competition. Good luck to the students that will be competing; they'll have the biggest opportunity yet to demonstrate the tremendous growth in their business knowledge and skills.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4th to 8th	Numeracy Awareness Week
April 8th & 9th	30 Hour Famine
April 16th	DFC Yard Sale
April 22nd to 25th	Easter Weekend
May 11th	Graduation

CONTACT US

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