



THUNDERHAWK MONTHLY

FEBRUARY FUN

Elder's Visit

The Native Language class visited First Nation Elders at the Lakehead Manor Seniors home. The students made goose soup and bannock and served the meal to the residents. They also presented them with gifts and shared some laughs with them. It was an enjoyable visit for both the students and the Elders who don't get out very often.



Courthouse Ceremony

Students from Ken Liddicoat's woodworking class took part in the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Courthouse. Under the direction of Ken, Greg Quachegan and Elder Josias Fiddler, they had made wooden shovels to be used during the ceremony. The shovels were made from cedar, poplar, spruce, pine and willow. They represented the four directions and the centre of the medicine wheel. The shovels will be displayed at the new courthouse. Kiche miigwech to Josias, Greg, Ken and the woodworking class!

Inside This Issue

2	Sports Corner	3	Visits North	4	School Events & Activities
5	Jordan Wabasse	6	FNSSP Update & March Break Travel	7-11	Classroom Updates

SPORTS CORNER

Wrestling

I want to congratulate everyone who participated in the 2010-2011 SSSAA wrestling season. I want to personally congratulate Donny Nayotchekeesic, Sydney Kenequanash, and Jonathan Crane for regularly attending practice and competing in SSSAA tournaments. While the season was very physically and mentally demanding, these boys met the challenge despite competing against more experienced wrestlers. Way to go, guys!

This was our first wrestling team in four years, and I'm very impressed with the results. I hope to have an even bigger and better wrestling team next school year.

Boys Basketball

Boy's Basketball – We have been working hard every Tuesday to prepare the students for Pelican Falls trip to DFC in April.

Senior Girls Volleyball

The senior girls' volleyball season has come to an end. We ended our season February 10th against the Westgate Tigers. Although we never won a game we came close many times and played a lot of great games throughout the season. There was great improvement in all skill areas from each player and we appreciate the dedication the players showed on the court and during practice. A big thanks to all players for coming out and making the team possible this year. A special thanks goes out to those players who will not be returning next year; you'll be miss. With the end of this season we look forward to a break to reenergize ourselves and build up excitement for next year. Have a Happy March Break!

Curling



The curling season is over and all of the boys that participated had an enjoyable season! Congratulations goes out to the boys for their win against Hammarkjold and for all of the hard work they put into this season.



The boys should be proud of the season they had – they all improved immensely throughout the season. It was encouraging to see them learn more about the sport of curling and put new skills and techniques into practice.



Watch out for more opportunities to curl through rec activities. We look forward to next year's season!



VISITS NORTH

DFC Staff members along with other NNEC staff members went north to visit some of our communities. They brought information about DFC and Pelican Falls High Schools to encourage elementary school students to begin thinking about where they want to attend high school. Below is one teacher's reflection & pictures from the trip as well as pictures from another teacher's trip.

Intake Trip to Bearskin Lake and Big Trout Lake

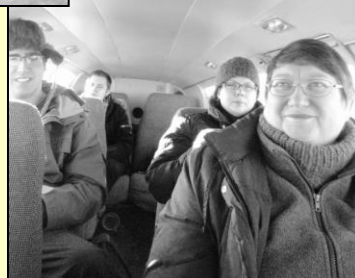
On the morning of February 9, 2011, I had the amazing opportunity to fly up to Bearskin Lake and Big Trout Lake to speak to students about the experience of coming to Thunder Bay to attend Dennis Franklin Cromarty High School. My fellow travellers were NNEC Executive Director Jennifer Maniowabi, NNEC Intake Coordinator Tanya Nugent, Pelican Falls Guidance Counsellor Tom Hoppe and Pelican Falls Teachers Darby Starratt and Nathan Hunter.

Our flight up to the communities was quite smooth and it was nice to be able to see the beautiful landscapes and scenery. Once we got to Bearskin Lake we went to Michikan Lake School and spoke with the Grade 8 class there. All of the students were great listeners and we had a nice tour of the school, including the awesome library!

Then it was off to Big Trout Lake where we had a bit of a wait at the airport for our ride to Aglace Chapman Education Centre. In -30 degree weather it was definitely chilly but we survived! Once we made it to the school we spoke to a group of grade ten students and it was a great experience to be able to talk to them about DFC and answer their questions about going to school in Thunder Bay. Afterwards we were able to drive around and see more of the community which was nice.

I had a wonderful time in both communities and want to thank the people of Bearskin Lake and Big Trout Lake for being so welcoming and friendly.

Miigwech,
Katie Adams
Teacher & Literacy Coordinator



SCHOOL EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Hanging With The Boys

Nishnawbe Aski Nation's Healthy Lifestyles Program held a "Hanging with the Boys" gathering at Dennis Franklin Cromarty in early February. A group of young men were nominated by their teachers to participate in this three-day, men's health based workshop. During the course of the program students were presented with valuable information about self-esteem building, leadership development, communication skills, drug and alcohol use, gang and crime prevention, healthy relationships, healthy sexuality, STI's & STD's and human rights.

The students who were present for the entire day of the workshop (from 3pm-7pm) were presented with a gift certificate for Silvercity Movie Theatre. The students who participated in all three days of the workshop were given a chance to win some great prizes!

Sandy Owen won an mp3 player, Brent Cromarty won an iPod and Tyler Wassaykeesic won a Netbook (a mini-laptop)!

Congratulations goes out to these three young men, as well as the following students for taking an interest in their personal health and attending the entire workshop!

Lyndon Kakepetum, Aaron McKay, Kevin Kakekagumick, Schyler Oombash, Paul Mezzatay, Rory Keesickquayash, Darren Gray, Sherman Mekanak, Mitchell Carpenter, Harley Anderson and Jonathan Meekis.

Some staff and students had the opportunity to take a break from classes and enjoy some extracurricular activities.

Broomball Trip

The DFC girls' broomball team enjoyed a community trip to Mishkeegogamang First Nation and Pickle Lake on February 16th to the 18th. They played broomball against the local teams, including Saugeen First Nation. They won both games. Way to go, girls! They also had an opportunity to try their hand at curling. It was a first time experience for most of the team.

Pelican Falls Volleyball tournament

DFC staff and students participated in a volleyball tournament at Pelican Falls centre on February 11-13th. It was a lot of fun and they did well against the other teams. They also visited with friends and family members who were also at the tournament.

JORDAN WABASSE



Students assisted in search for missing youth Jordan Wabasse

Student Chief Darrin Fiddler organized a group of students to help with the ground search on the weekend. Chief Fiddler expressed concern from the students after they heard that the OPP had cancelled their search operations. They felt the need help out, so they assisted with a foot patrol and also collected financial donations on behalf of the Wabasse family. Donations collected by the DFC students came up to over \$300.00.

Community Powwow

There was a powwow held at DFC on Family Day, February 21 at the school gymnasium. It was organized in support of the family of missing Webequie youth, Jordan Wabasse. There was a huge turnout. Many students and community members came out to show their support. Financial donations made during the powwow came up to approximately \$700.00. Thank you to all who showed their support financially, or through drumming, dancing and prayers.

FNSSP – FIRST NATION STUDENT SUPPORT PROGRAM

Literacy

There are many exciting things happening in the Literacy Program at DFC. Literacy Week will be happening the week of February 28th – March 4th and will consist of activities and contests that will raise awareness about the importance of Literacy and promote the use of literacy skills throughout the school.

We are also continuing to work with students who will be writing the Ontario Secondary School Literacy Test this year with weekly preparation sessions that focus on the different tasks that are required to be completed on the test. The OSSLT will be written on the morning of March 31st. If you have a son or daughter writing the OSSLT this year and would like more information, visit www.eqao.com and check out "A Guide for Parents and Students." This document should answer any questions you may have. You can also contact me at kadams@nec.on.ca if you have any specific questions about the administration of the OSSLT at DFC.

- Katie Adams (FNSSP Literacy Lead)

Numeracy

Now that the EQAO Mathematics testing is completed, the focus for Numeracy over the next few months will be improving awareness about Numeracy and developing strategies to build students' skills. In February I have began working with teachers on the practices they use in their classrooms. This will continue on in the coming weeks. In April we will be having a Numeracy Week in which staff and students will compete in fun activities and contests that build skills and promote Numeracy.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Numeracy at DFC, please feel free to email me at asaj@nec.on.ca.

- Alyssa Saj (FNSSP Numeracy Lead)

MARCH BREAK TRAVEL

March break is fast approaching and we are diligently making travel arrangements for your child. In the event that you know that your child is going to be participating in the Northern Bands Hockey Tournament for March 14-20, 2011 in Sioux Lookout. If your child is not travelling home for the March Break, but will be staying with family or friends in Sioux Lookout then we will need a release of liability form signed and the name of the adult responsible and their address of where your child will be staying. It is important that we know if your child will be in Sioux Lookout for pick up on March 22 or if they will be back in their home community and require a flight on our charter, it is important that you inform us of this information as we need to make travel arrangements in advance. Also to note is that there will be no NNEC staff working during the March Break. If you are planning on picking up your child from school then please advise the Prime Workers in advance so that the paper work can be ready for you to sign once you arrive. It is our wish that all our students have a happy and safe March Break and that when they return there will only be eight weeks (36 days) of school left in the school year.

Our toll free number is 1-866-530-8590

Char Nestrovich ext: 266 Eugene Tait ext: 232 Ashley Johnson ext: 244

CLASSROOM UPDATES

Katie Adams

OLC 40 – Grade 12 Ontario Secondary School Literacy Course

Students in the OSSLC have been working on our second unit, “Community Voices through Reading and Writing” which focuses on the ways in which reading and writing are used to express information and ideas in the community. Among other assignments, students have reflected on their feelings about their own communities through the creation of Community Posters which describe their community through the use of text and visuals.

ENG 1P – Grade 9 English

We are now finished our first two units on Short Stories and Poetry and have begun our third unit, a novel study of the book Jimmy Comes Home by Robert Checkwith. The novel is set in the fictional First Nation community of Green Star Lake and contains many issues and themes that students can relate to their own experiences. Throughout this unit students have been analyzing the events presented in the reading through the completion of chapter questions and activities to investigate character and other elements of the novel.

Aaron Guthrie

Aaron took students on a Science Field Trip to Confederation College.



Nancy Currie

ENG 2P – Grade 10 English

The Grade 10 English class is presently working on a novel study. In the novel study unit, students will examine and interpret the essential characteristics of the novel. During the examination of the novel *Crabbe*, students will use a variety of strategies to enhance their understanding and appreciation of the characteristics of this form of literature. Because this novel deals with a young man who struggles to survive in the wilderness, the unit addresses many survival techniques. Relevant hands-on activities support both the novel and surviving in the wilderness. Discussion on issues raised within the novel will assist students with personal reflection. Through an exploration of the elements of the novel, the analysis of literary devices, and the completion of written assignments, students will strengthen their reading and writing skills.

ENG 3C – Grade 11 English

The Grade 11 English class is working on a novel study. This unit is designed to provide students with the experience of entering into an imaginary realm of prose. Through the novel *April Raintree*, they share and discuss how relevant ideas and issues are presented within the novel. Students are given many and various opportunities to express their personal views through reader response activities. In doing so, students are challenged to reach a deeper understanding of the novel, beyond merely the plot, to the level of the thematic concerns contained in the novel. In a research project at the end of the unit, students explore and express their understanding of one of the themes found within the novel.

ENG 4C – Grade 12 English

The Grade 12 English class is working on a novel study. The purpose of this unit is to provide students the opportunity to analyse and assess ideas and issues in the context of a novel. Through the novel *Medicine River* by Thomas King, students examine the influence of social, cultural, and economic factors on the themes and interpretations of the novel. They will study character development and how characters help to portray themes. Analysis will be made on the narrative voice and the success of the various genres in literature, in the representation of important issues. After viewing the film version of the novel, students assess the impact of the media version versus the written story.

John Eves

MFM 1P – Grade 9 Mathematics

Students are finishing up equations and moving on to look at graphing.

MFM 2P – Grade 10 Mathematics

Students are beginning to look at quadratic equations.

ICS 20 – Grade 10 Computer Studies

Students have begun to create computer programs.



phillipmartin.info

Emily Hicks

GLC 20 – Grade 10 Career Studies

This class has come to a close. In the recent weeks we have been working on completing our culminating activity and on February 25th, we wrote our final exam. This course has helped students learn who they are and discover the variety of jobs around us. It is not an easy task to pick a career, but through this course we have managed to find websites to help us, people who can help us grow, and now have the resources to understand how make a career path. This has been a enjoyable course and I look forward to the second part, the second part of the course called Civics and it will being on Thursday March 2nd.

CHC 2P – Grade 10 History

The history class has just finished up their 2nd unit. This unit focused on immigration, changing society and Canadian innovations. We took a trip to the Thunder Bay museum, here we saw many artifacts from the World Wars and how the styles have changed throughout the decades. It was a great tour and fun opportunity for our students to learn outside of the classroom. We are moving into our third unit that discusses the changing role of women, different aboriginal events and past government parties.

HFN 2O – Grade 10 Food & Nutrition

Our food and nutrition class has had a great month. We have continued to learn about the role food plays in our lives. Every week our class has been making tasty food, so far we have made banana bread, pizza, lasagna, lemon meringue pie, dirt cake, and a few other goodies. Currently in class we are looking at different heath concerns and how they are related to what we eat. This is a great course to get students thinking about the proper ways to treat their bodies.

Ken Liddicoat

TCJ 2O – Grade 10 Construction Technology & TTJ 3O – Grade 11 Transportation Technology

February is gone and what an exciting month it was, the grade 10 construction technology and grade 11 custom woodworking class have been busy making some sweetheart boxes and valentine themed projects. The class just finished laminating and carving 5 wooden shovels and participated in a groundbreaking ceremony at the new provincial courthouse. The class continues to work on a number of projects including boardroom table that we have been designing for the Aboriginal Liaison Unit office of the Thunder Bay Police and other projects for the upcoming play, a fundraising sign for the new student accommodation unit.

The grade eleven Transportation Technology class has been learning about engines and vehicle control systems we have done some brake repairs and are looking into welding and metal cutting safety and procedures and projects.

KLiddicoat@nnec.on.ca

Sarah Johnson

LNL AO – Oji-Cree Level 1

Students attended a workshop called Youth Engagement in developing our NAN Future Economy at Valhalla Inn. The workshop focused on the importance of youth involvement in the community, the challenges, how youth can contribute through conversation, and different ways to involve them in the community through leadership support, setting expectations and asking yourself “Where are your youth in your community? “What do you want or need from young people?”

LNL BO – Oji-Cree Level 2

Students visited Native elders at Versa Care. The students fed the elders a goose soup and bannock with jam and butter. It was a different experience for the students as they visited other folks in the home. The elders were very thankful for the food and the gifts that the students gave to them.

NAC 10 – Grade 9 Expressing Aboriginal Cultures

Students visited the Thunder Bay Art Gallery on February 11. Students took a tour of First Nations Artist work that was on display. They had a chance to see different Northwest Coast masks. The students took a transfer picture workshop.

Heather Lammers

CGC1P – Grade 9 Canadian Geography

We are just starting to look at the concept of “Ecological Footprints.” Students will also examine the characteristics of bioregions, including flora and fauna, soil and natural vegetation. Two other topics in Unit 3 are Canada’s natural resources and energy megaprojects. Major concept this unit: “Think globally...Act locally.”

Cooperative Education Students

Students have been working at their co-op placements for a couple of weeks now. They are becoming more comfortable in their surroundings and are gaining valuable employability skills.

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

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

St. John Kakegamic – *Illustrator/Graphic Design Assistant* – Wawatay News

As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I can be reached at the school or at hlammers@nec.on.ca.



Alyssa Saj

MBF 3C – Grade 11 College Mathematics

Students will be finishing up a unit on personal finance and will work on the next unit about geometry before March Break. After March Break, students will be starting a unit on Trigonometry.

MAP 4C – Grade 12 College Mathematics

The unit on personal finance will take students to March Break. After the break we will be focusing on Geometry.

I encourage all of my students to work hard through the second half of the semester. Exams and graduation are right around the corner!

Please feel free to contact me: asaj@nnec.on.ca

Brandon Wright

GLS 40 – Grade 12 Advance Learning Strategy

For the grade 12 Advanced Learning Strategies, the class is currently in the midst of a major independent research project. The students are scouring the internet to find out how various factors like stress, healthy living, and time management affect their abilities to learn and function as effective students. By learning how to maximize their academic potential, this research endeavor will prepare the students for their post-secondary education.

CHT 30 – Grade 11 World History

Using the continent of Africa as a case study, the grade 11 Twentieth Century History course is currently engaged in its unit about change and continuity. So far, the students have investigated the current revolutionary events affecting Egypt, Tunisia, and Libya. As technologically-adept youth, the students learned about the critical role that social media like Facebook and Twitter have played in spreading the ideals of democracy and equality throughout Africa.

BDI 3C – Grade 11 Entrepreneurship

The students of the grade 11 Entrepreneurship class are now involved in their second unit about the ideas and opportunities available for youth entrepreneurs. Perhaps the biggest highlight of the unit so far has been the class' attendance at the NAN Economic Summit for a seminar on developing the regional economy. The entire audience of the seminar was impressed to see Aboriginal youth in attendance at the seminar, and the students quickly became the center of attention. Every speaker at the seminar agreed that one of the keys to improving the region's economy is ensuring that its youth are well-educated and success-driven.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 2nd	Mid-term Reports
March 11th to 21st	March Break
March 31st	OSSLT Literacy Test
April 22nd to 25th	Easter Weekend
May 11th	Graduation

CONTACT US

**DENNIS FRANKLIN CROMARTY HIGH SCHOOL
315 NORTH EDWARD STREET
THUNDER BAY, ON P7C 4P3
PHONE: (807) 623-8914
TOLL FREE: 800-265-1243**

**CHECK US OUT ON THE WEB!
<http://www.nnec.on.ca/DFCNewsletter%20>**