



SEPTEMBER 2010

THUNDERHAWK MONTHLY

WELCOME BACK TO DFC!!



“To become all we can be!”

It was nice to see the halls fill up with students once again. Registration began on Thursday August 26th with classes beginning the following day.

During a welcome back assembly, Principal Jonathan Kakegamic introduced school staff and encouraged students to have a fun and successful school year.

DFC is offering a wider range of courses this semester including Physical Education classes, Grade 11 Biology, Grade 12 Exploring the Arts, and Drama.

In addition to these extra courses, DFC has a wide range of extra-curricular activities for students to fill their afternoons, evenings and weekends with. See pages 2 and 3 for more information on these activities.

The 2010-2011 school year looks to be an exciting, rewarding, and successful year for both staff and students!

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FIRST ANNUAL MEMORIAL RIVER WALK



Thursday September 2, 2010 was the date of the first annual Memorial River Walk in remembrance of DFC students whose lives ended too soon. Staff and students first gathered in the DFC gymnasium for a short assembly.

During the assembly, guest speakers (including NNEC Executive Director Jennifer Manitowabi, a representative from Thunder Bay Police, and DFC administration) urged students to stay safe and look out for each other while staying in Thunder Bay.

Principal Jonathan Kakegamic reminded students to honour the memories not only of our students but also of other loved ones that have been lost due to drugs and alcohol.

Following the assembly, staff, students, and guests (including a representative from NAN) walked from DFC to the McIntyre River where tobacco and flowers were offered on the river. Elder Abe Kakepetum shared a special message and song and ended the gathering with a prayer.

The Memorial River Walk will take place each September not only to honour their memories, but also to encourage and remind students of the importance of staying safe.

Sports Update

Cross Country Running

The first high school sport of the year is cross-country running. Although the dates are not set, the team will be competing in four local events against the other high schools in the area, and each year the top two athletes from every division qualify for the Ontario championships in Southern Ontario. We look forward to seeing a few returning athletes, as well as some new faces. Coaches Greg Chomut and Heather Lammers would like to invite everyone to join the team for the thrill of competition or if you just want to get in better shape.

“Champions aren’t made in the gyms. Champions are made from something they have deep inside them – a desire, a dream, a vision.”

- Muhammad Ali

Spiking Our Way to the Top!

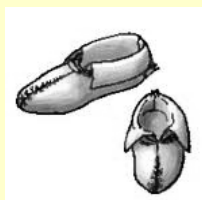
This school year Emily will be helping to coach the boys’ volleyball team. Tryouts will begin the first week of September. Emily would like to encourage all male students to come out and get involved in this school team. It is a great way to stay active, meet new people, and represent our school. She is extremely excited for the volleyball season!

Pumping Iron

Big changes happened within the school over the summer. We are pleased to announce that we once again have two full sized gymnasiums to offer active programming for our students. The Weight Room has been moved and should be up and running by the second week of classes. Aaron Guthrie and Greg Quachegan will be supervising an after school Fitness Club in the weight room and it should also be available for student use over the lunch period as well. Stay tuned to DFC school announcements for information on when the Weight Training Club will begin!

Jonathan Kakegamic and the Judo group – come out and join us!





Clubs & Activities



Elder's Program

Wa chi ye

Welcome back everyone! Welcome to the new staff and students. I hope everything goes well with you.

As part of the DFC Elder's Program Cultural Activities, there are many native arts and crafts projects that are available for the students to make. For starter projects, some examples are medicine bags, baby moccasins, key chains, dream catchers, mini headdresses, and necklaces, barrettes or bracelets.

More advanced projects require lots of time commitment and determination; these are beaded moccasins or slippers, beaded mittens or gloves, fur hats, beaded or decorated vests, beaded or plain mukluks. These require a lot of time and planning but they are worth making.

The Elder's Program has a lot of supplies and resources. Staff and students are welcome to drop by and learn how to make a craft project. Classes are welcome and there is a sign up sheet to schedule ahead of time.

There will also be a Craft club starting up soon and the dates will be announced ahead of time.

Miigwech,

Bella Patayash, DFC School Elder

Art Club

This club will begin next Wednesday, September 8, 2010, from 4:15 to 6:00 in Room 107. The first meeting will be a discussion on what activities the students would like to do. In previous years, weekly meetings consisted of an open night to create art in various mediums. This year it would be nice to have one structured meeting per month in which various workshops could take place. (For example, copper tooling, etching glass or paper-mâché monsters.) Any suggestions, please submit to Tara Beacham. Everyone is welcome, whether you are a seasoned artist or just someone who would like to learn!

Cooking Club

This club will begin next Monday, September 6, 2010, from 4:15 to 6:00 in Room 111. During this semester, we will bake some old favourites like chocolate chip cookies and shortbread, as well as cook up some new and fun creations as well! No experience necessary—simply come with a good attitude, a willingness to learn, and an empty stomach! If you have any suggestions for recipes or food ideas, please speak with Emily Hicks or Tara Beacham.

Time is Running Out

NAN representative, Jason Smallboy, came to DFC on Wednesday September 1 to talk to students about Bill 191, The Far North Act. Jason spoke about how Bill 191 violates the Treaties and disrespects First Nation's jurisdiction over their traditional homelands. After speaking about the bill, students were invited to show their support and sign the petition against this bill.



Classroom Updates

Katie Adams

ENG 1P – Grade 9 English

This course is designed to develop the key oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills students need for success in secondary school and daily life. Students will read, interpret, and create a variety of informational, literary, and graphic texts. An important focus will be on identifying and using appropriate strategies and processes to improve students' comprehension of texts and to help them communicate clearly and effectively. We have begun our first unit on Short Fiction. Students have been reading a variety of short fiction, learning about plot structure and elements of stories and making connections through the use of reading strategies that have been taught.

ENG 2P – Grade 10 English

This course is designed to extend the range of oral communication, reading, writing, and media literacy skills needed for success in secondary school and daily life. The student will study and create a variety of informational, literary, and graphic texts. An important focus will be on the consolidation of strategies and processes that help the student interpret texts and communicate clearly and effectively. The first unit for the Grade 10 English class focuses on improving reading comprehension skills. This unit will familiarize students with a variety of reading techniques and strategies that will help them be successful in all of their courses. Throughout the unit students analyse local Aboriginal legends and stories. As a unit culminating activity students will write their own story using a step-by-step process involving brainstorming, writing, conferencing, editing, and publishing.

EMS 30 – Grade 11 Media Studies

This course emphasizes knowledge and skills that will enable students to understand media communication in the twenty-first century and to use media effectively and responsibly. Through analysing the forms and messages of a variety of media works and audience responses to them, and through creating their own media works, students will develop critical thinking skills, aesthetic and ethical judgement, and skills in viewing, representing, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. We have begun the first unit which focuses on mass media and pop culture. Students have been



Tara Beacham**AEA 40 – Grade 12 Exploring the Arts**

In this course you will be provided with opportunities to study the arts in a variety of ways, focusing on areas that particularly interest you. We will look at the creation, interpretation, and production of works involving **dance, drama, media arts, music, and visual arts**. Because students come to the course with diverse backgrounds and areas of expertise, the course begins with an exploration of the elements, techniques, and principles, common and unique, of all the arts. An original production concludes the course to provide a demonstration of skills and knowledge—you, along with your classmates, put it together and make it happen.

AVI 10 – Grade 9 Visual Arts

This course offers an overview of visual arts as a foundation for further study. We will learn about the elements and principles of design as well as the different qualities various materials and techniques have to offer. You will also develop basic art skills in drawing, painting, and sculpture. I am looking forward to a creative and colourful semester with all you young artists!

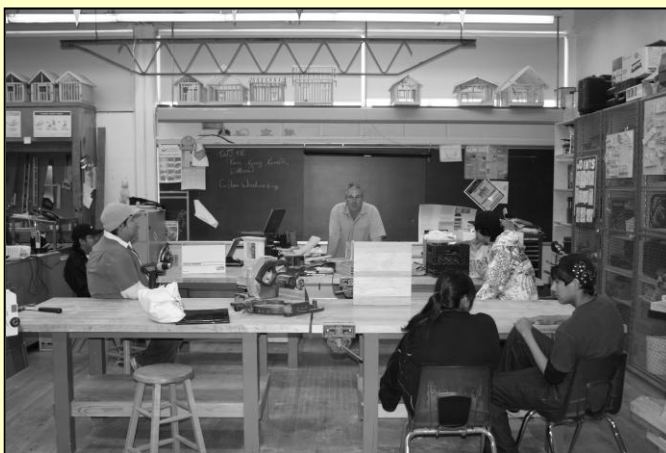
GPP 30 – Grade 11 Leadership and Peer Support

This course prepares you to act in leadership and peer support roles. You will have the opportunity to design and implement a plan for contributing to your school and home community as well as to develop skills in communication, interpersonal relations, teamwork, and conflict management. *Good leaders are **made** not born.* If you have the desire and the willpower, you can become an effective leader. There are certain things that leaders must **be, know, and do**. These do not come naturally, but are acquired through continual work and study.

Ken Liddicoat

It is great to be back it has been a hot summer and I am looking forward to the cooler weather and getting back to work in the technology shops here at the school. It is great to be back with the students as they breathe the life into the school. This semester I will be Teaching Grade 10 Transportation Technology, Grade 10 Manufacturing Technology and Grade 11 Custom Woodworking Technology.

Outside the Classroom this year I am looking forward to shop nights, Halloween, The cardboard boat races, working on the courtyard, Curling and Badminton.



Nancy Currie

ADA 20 – Grade 10 Drama

The first unit for the Grade 10 Drama class establishes the drama learning environment. Activities focus on subject-specific vocabulary and concepts, using space, collaboration, listening and responding, reflection and discussion. Students review basic elements of tableau, role play and other drama forms and techniques as appropriate for the group. When revisiting each activity, students extend their knowledge by increasing their depth of learning, paying greater attention to detail, developing their understanding of dramatic structure (character, conflict, theme, and ideas) and communication through appropriate methods (conventions, symbols, metaphor).

ENG 3C – Grade 11 English

The first unit for the Grade 11 English class focuses on the elements of short stories. It challenges students to read critically to understand how structure and style contribute to the overall meaning of the reading selections, which include many Aboriginal stories. Through these stories the students examine plot, setting and atmosphere, theme, conflict, and character development. Students will demonstrate their analytical thinking skills in an independent analysis assignment of an Aboriginal short story.

ENG 4C – Grade 12 English

The first unit for the Grade 12 English class focuses on the analysis of short fiction. Students examine, analyse, and assess issues raised in the readings. There are a variety of stories, some of them being Aboriginal. Students are given the opportunity to share differing views on the issues raised within the written works, as well as in media presentations. Students will also read the graphic novel "Moby Dick" and will view a video presentation of "Moby Dick: The True Story" for analysis. Students will then write a formal essay comparing the two accounts.

Sarah Johnson

NAC 20 – Grade 10 Aboriginal Peoples in Canada

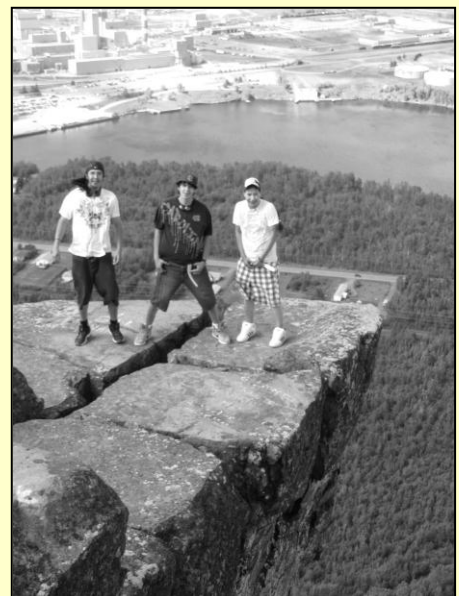
Students will examine historical and contemporary issues that have affected the relationship between Aboriginal peoples and successive Canadian governments. These issues will include the key aspects of the Indian Act, the various types of relationships that Aboriginal peoples have had with other nations throughout history, and key legislation which formed many of these relationships.

LNL AO – Oji-Cree Level 1

This course is for students who have no experience in speaking the Native Language. The course will allow them to appreciate their Aboriginal language and culture and expose them to speak in Anihshiniimowin. Students will learn the syllabic sound and writing system, practice basic vocabulary and phrases.

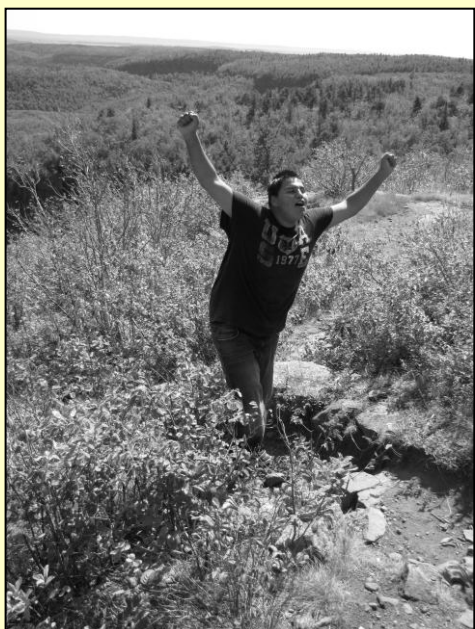
LNO CO – Ojibwe, Level 3

This course is for students who have experience in speaking Anihshiniimowin. They will learn to expand their Native language by learning the Native philosophy, spirituality and values of their Native heritage. Students will create short stories, skits, phrases and expand their grammar in Anihshiniimowin.



Aaron Guthrie**PPL 30 – Grade 11 Healthy Active Living Education**

I am extremely excited that we are once again offering courses in Physical Education at DFC! This semester, we have tons of fun activities planned for our Grade 11 Healthy Active Living class and Grade 12 Recreation and Fitness Leadership class. We are beginning the year with units in Lacrosse and Volleyball, while also being introduced to Fitness Training in the new DFC weight room, as well as daily health based lessons. Students in these courses can also look forward to regular field trips to various recreation facilities in and around the city of Thunder Bay. During the first week of class, we had the chance to hike/climb Mount McKay, on the Fort William First Nation, for an amazing view of the city.

Emily Hicks**SNC 1P – Grade 9 Science**

For the month of September, SNC1P will be focusing on sustainable ecosystems and learning about the needs of our environment.

CHC 2P – Grade 10 History

CHC2P will be looking at different historical people and events that have helped shape Canada into what we know it as today.

GLC 20 – Grade 10 Career Studies

GLC20 is a half credit course that will run until mid-October. It will concentrate on learning about different job possibilities and discovering what jobs we might be best suited for.

Heather Lammers

HPC 30 – Grade 11 Parenting

Unit One topics include: reasons for parenting, preparing for parenthood, how to listen and talk to children, caring for infants and careers related to families. Students have just begun to consider the many topics associated with parenting. There should be some great classroom discussion and activities that take place during this unit.



CGG 30 – Grade 11 Travel & Tourism

Unit One topics include: types of travel, overview of the tourism industry, patterns of travel, common destination locations, travel motivators and barriers, and trends in travel and tourism. Students will also have the opportunity to visit tourist areas within Thunder Bay.

CGC 1P – Grade 9 Geography

Unit One topics include: Canada's political, landform, climate, soil and vegetation regions, how to draw graphs, and plot locations on maps. Atlas exercises will help students remember their researching skills and will be useful in future class activities, as well.



Greg Chomut

GLS 10 - Grade 9 Learning Strategies

The purpose of this course is to help students become better, more independent learners. Throughout the semester we will be examining how we all learn in different ways as students discover which learning strategies work best for them. The course also focuses on literacy and numeracy skills as well as personal management skills that will help them achieve their goals in school and beyond.

Alyssa Sai

MFM 2P – Grade 10 Math

We have started the semester by reviewing and building on basic Math skills. This course will have students build on the math from Grade 9 and the topics of this course include: linear and quadratic relations, trigonometry, and geometry.

MBF 3C – Grade 11 Math

The first week of class has been spent reviewing basic math skills and preparing for the course ahead. This course is the last required Math credit but students who complete it are encouraged to continue developing their Math skills in the Grade 12 Math course that will be offered second semester. Topics of this course include: quadratic and exponential relations, geometry, trigonometry, finance, probability and statistics.

HIR 3C – Managing Personal and Family Resources

I am very excited about this class as it allows for students to prepare for real-life. In this course we will discuss finances, decision making, career planning, and effective communication. This course will allow for many open discussions about problems students are facing now or will face in the future and will give them skills to deal with it.

Messages from DFC Staff

"I would like to welcome all returning and new students to DFC. It's so nice to have the halls filled with students again. I wish everyone a successful term and an enjoyable stay in Thunder Bay."

- Nancy Currie
English Teacher

"Waachiiye, Sarah Johnson nitishiniikas,
Weagamow Lake nitoonchii. Ami
ihiweniwan ekihkinoohamow ikwa
otishkooniik."

- Sarah Johnson
Native Language Teacher

"Welcome back to another great year at DFC! I am looking forward to seeing all of our returning students and getting to know all of our new students as well. I encourage everyone to find a club or sports team that you are interested in and get involved in school activities as much as you can because that will help make your high school years even more memorable. Best of luck to everyone in your studies this semester!"

- Katie Adams
English Teacher

"I hope everyone had a great summer! I am happy to be back at DFC for another school year."

- Emily Hicks
Social Sciences Teacher

"Welcome back everyone!
I hope all of our students enjoy a healthy, active and safe summer and are excited about returning to school at DFC!"

- Aaron Guthrie
Physical Education Teacher

"Welcome back new and previous students! I hope you had a fantastic summer and that you are eager and keen to learn this upcoming semester. I look forward to interacting with each and every one of you, whether it is in the classroom or during extracurricular activities. May this be our best semester yet!"

- Tara Beacham
Art Teacher

