

# Deninu News

September & October 2009

From  
the  
Principal's  
Desk

*It is already mid-October, a time where we need to start thinking about the weather changes, reports and even our High School Exams. As the new principal here at Deninu School, I am deeply impressed with the staff and their dedication, the community and the welcoming praises, our DEA support, and, of course, the growing dedication of our student body. It is certainly a celebration of success and appreciation.*

*Some of the exciting things happening at the school this year include Differentiated Instruction, Exploratories, Community Action Involvement (i.e. Terry Fox Run, Softball), Home Reading Program, Emotional Intelligence, Monthly Assemblies – a Celebration of Success, Intervention Pyramid, Homework Moments, Numerous Literacy activities, Career Education, Breakfast for Brains, Balanced Literacy Program, Extended LA, House League activities, Doing Something Cool in School, and much, much more. Of course, all this is to help raise our goal of student success.*

*In order to be successful however, it will take a joint effort from all of us here within the school and the community. Some of the things we need to be diligent with include:*

- 1. The students need to be in school every day in order to maximize their learning potentials.*
- 2. The students are prepared for classes by doing their homework and making a sincere effort to stay involved.*
- 3. The students need to see the importance in appropriate behavior and learning strategies.*
- 4. The students need to participate in both House Leagues and school activities.*
- 5. The students need to work together as a team.*
- 6. Parents should feel welcome to visit the school any time.*
- 7. The result, the Deninu School and supporting families will allow students the opportunity to maximize their potential.*

*As the great Henry Ford once said,*

*If you think you can, you can. And if you think you can't, you're right."*

*Respectfully,*

*Mr. Daniel Summers*



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# Success Corner

We welcome the new 2009-2010 staff members here at Deninu School. We look forward to many years of contributions in assisting the success of the Fort Resolution students.

- Kate Powell (Literacy Coach)
- Lucinda Summers (Literacy Intervention)
- Daniel Summers (Principal)

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## Kolt Fabien A 2008-2009 Graduate

A HUGE congratulate must go out to Kolt Fabien for completing his Grade 12 Diploma requirement! Along with Mr. Curtis Brown (SSDEC Superintendent), the celebration was honored by Dollie Simon (On Behalf of Fort Resolution D.E.A.), Robert Sayine (Representative of the Deninoo Community Council), Robert Sayine (Representative of the Deninu Kue First Nation), Mr. Arthur Beck (On behalf of Fort Resolution Metis Council), Dan Summers (Deninu School Principal), Ted Moes, (On behalf of the Deninu School Teachers), proud family and friends, and, of course, the special contributions of Marcella and Frank Fabien (The proud parents).

Thanks to all those parents, students, staff and community members who helped to ensure that the graduation ceremony was a great success.



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## Doing Something Cool in School

September: **Responsibility**

- 218 Entries
- 119 Students
- 1 Draw

Congratulations to all the students for being seen doing 'Something Cool in School' during the month of September's 'Responsibility' Theme. After all was said and done, there were over 200 entries, not bad for having only 119 students registered in the school! The final draw went to Laney B.



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## Soccer Power

Congratulations to our young team of soccer players who challenged their talents during the 2009-2010 Hay River Invitational Soccer Tournament. After the final ball had been kicked and the final goal scored, we placed 3<sup>rd</sup> – what a great accomplishment!! A special thank you goes out to coaches, Brad Wilson and Catherine Brunet; also to Johnny, Shane, Keenan, Zachery, Michael, Jay, Teagan, Desiree, Ethan, Taylor, Dion, Isaac, and Michaela. **Go Hawks!**



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## For Terry Fox...

The Annual Terry Fox Run/Walk held Thursday, 1 October 2009, was again a HUGE success. The Fort Resolution Community and the Deninu School showed their spirit and support once more in 2009. Students collected over \$850.00 for Cancer Research. We cannot thank you all enough for making the *donations for life*.



A special thank you to Brad Wilson and all the teachers for making this a wonderful experience!

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## Students vs. Staff

### *A Softball Challenge*

Without going into it, the teachers were able to *dominate* the Annual Softball Game against the tough and rough Student Hawks. Though gallant as they were, the students were no match for the savvy and highly talented staff of Deninu School. However, the haunting reminder that the Annual Hockey Game is coming up did send shivers down the staffs' spine.....remembering how things turned out last year! Another fun event for the Deninu School and its community!



A special thank you to Ms Jakubec and Mr. Moes for their planning of the game and the student races during intermissions – *it was fun for all!*

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### *Monthly Assembly: A Celebration of Success*

The students, staff and members of the community were treated to a '*Celebration of Success*' during the September Monthly Assembly. Everything from performances by the grade 3-4 class during their singing/signing of O' Canada to the K-2 and 5-6 poetry recitals, from the Deninu Soccer Team celebrations to the successes of the Student Council, from the invited guests (Health Unit) to the outstanding successes

of Literacy Week, from the message of being a better person to the celebration of September, and from the contributions of our school community to the honors bestowed upon those who make our school a better place (Congratulations to Leander for all your work and deserved award), the September Assembly was certainly the start of a positive step toward celebrating *Success for All*.



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## What's Happening...with Ms. Brunet

It's been a fun and busy first month or so of school! English Language Arts students started off with short story units, and the grades 11's and 12's have now moved on to a play by award-winning Aboriginal playwright Tomson Highway.

We continue to work on powerful reading strategies in small groups. Grade 10 Social Studies students have been learning about globalization. They have tackled complex subjects such as slavery, child labour, international trade, immigration and Aboriginal language laws. They have explored where their food and clothing comes from, and have read and analyzed news articles. Each student chose a country and looked into its economy, culture and political system.

Now, students are researching a global issue of their choice and committing to an action they can take to make things better.

I'm excited to be offering Drama as a new course offering this year. So far, the students have learned new improvisational games and have performed a reader's theatre play for the grade 3/4 class. It was their first performance and a great learning opportunity! Now, they're putting together Shakespearian scenes.

Art students have designed their own projects this year with teacher support. This makes for a wide range of really creative projects. They have also been learning some art theory, and have started a major art history project. We plan to have an Art Show toward the end of the year to celebrate and showcase the talents of our students! We hope you can make it!

In Career and Life Management, students have been gaining a greater sense of their strengths and goals for the future. They've explored many dimensions of health, including physical, emotional and environmental health.

Congratulations to Peter Beaulieu for 100% attendance, and to the other 6 students whose 90% or above attendance earned them fresh-baked cookies! Showing up to school every day with a positive attitude is the best way to succeed in high school courses. Thank you to parents, guardians and community members who encourage your young people in this way! Keep up the good work!

Catherine Brunet  
High School



## Student Council Update

Deninu's awesome Student Council is working hard. Pyjama Day was a fun time! Fundraising efforts started last year as the Student Council raised money for soccer posts. They continued this year with hotdog and juice sales at the softball game, raising \$125. We hope to raise money this year for more sports equipment and other fun stuff.

Halloween events are currently being planned. House League Teams will decorate the school on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>. Parents and guardians are invited into the school as judges to choose the winning team from Tuesday, October 27<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Just drop by to pick up your ballot.

On the Friday, students will select a King, Queen, Prince and Princess of Halloween in a costume competition.

There will also be a Halloween Dance on Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>, from 7 to 10 p.m. in the school gym. Students MUST wear a costume and are most welcome. (Admission is free.)

Folks can buy juice and snacks: another fundraising effort by our hard-working Student Council.

### What a great group of student leaders!

Catherine Brunet

**Analogies – A mirror look...**

**Welcome to the new school year!**

**Definition of Analogy:** The similarities of relations which exist between things compared.

Earring is to ear as necklace is to neck. (Shania M.)

Hand is to arm as foot is to leg. (Kathleen F.)

Tongue is to mouth as glasses are to eyes. (Terimae B.)

Foot is to shoe as hand is to glove. (Paul B.)

Pepperoni is to pizza as hamburger is to spaghetti. (Nicole M.)

CO2 is to tree as fresh air is to people. (Sam R.)

Apple is to fruit as corn is to veggie. (Ryley C.)

Pencil is to paper as car is to road. (Trystan B.)

Pepperoni is to pizza as butter is to bread. (Kenneth D.)

Michael is to weird as Lloyd is to funny. (Kenneth D.)

Floor is to house as smoke is to fire. (Lloyd L.)

Antler is to moose as fur is to bear. (Lloyd L.)

Deanna is to small as Terimae is to big. (Terimae B.)

Wall is to house as grass is to dirt. (Trystan B.)

Apple is to red as orange is to orange. (Terimae B.)

Lettuce is to salad as bun is to hotdog. (Shania M.)

The 7/8 classroom hit the ground running this September, tackling projects like Geometric Art, "Around My World" Dodecahedrons, and clay sculptures of planet earth! In Language Arts, the grade sevens and eights are reading and writing their way through a "Step Up" unit, which encourages students to take social responsibility and stand up for themselves and others in the face of disrespect, irresponsibility and unfairness.

In Social Studies, we are focusing on the Aboriginal peoples of Canada before Europeans came to North America. So far, the students have completed a current day map of Canada and compared it to a map of the original Aboriginal settlements.

In P.E., the students are building their volleyball skills, including the ability to volley, bump and serve. We're also working on our cardiovascular health by running laps! Whew!

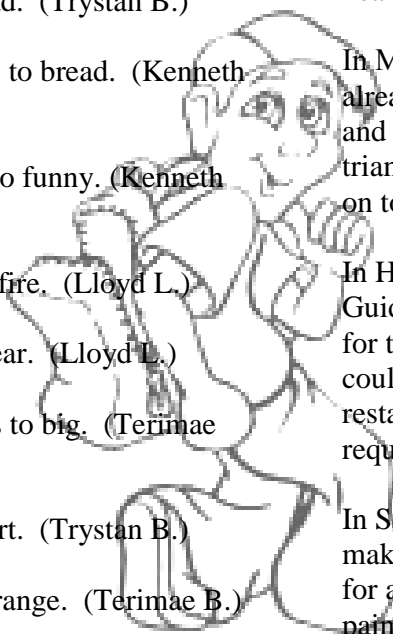
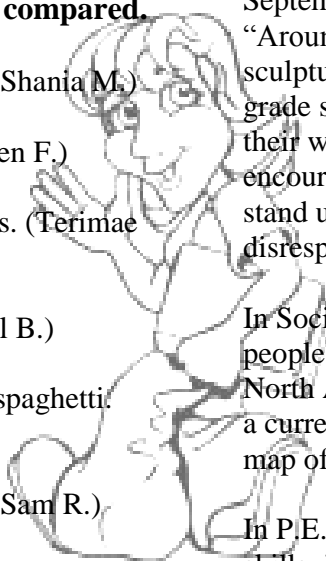
In Math, we're working on measurement, and have already figured out how to calculate the perimeter and area of parallelograms, the area of right angle triangles and acute triangles, and are now moving on to measuring circles.

In Health, the students have built Canadian Food Guide pyramids and are using these to create menus for their fantasy restaurants. The idea is that a guest could eat all three meals at one of these fantasy restaurants and satisfy the Canadian Food Guide requirements for a healthy and complete daily diet.

In Science, the class is learning about the layers that make up planet earth. Each student is responsible for a planet earth that they have sculpted from clay, painted, and labeled with the four layers of what lies beneath our feet.

And finally, in art, the students have worked hard to produce 'mandala' artwork to decorate our school's hallways. Next, students will be creating graffiti messages that promote "Taking Responsibility" and painting them onto our classroom's wallpaper.

We're off to a great start this year! Please know that you are more than welcome to visit our classroom to celebrate the achievements of your child. See you soon!



# The Literacy Corner

By Lucinda Summers and Kate Powell

What an exciting month we have had at Deninu School! The reading incentive programs are up and running and we enjoyed celebrating NWT Literacy Week. There was excellent participation by all students and staff.

To kick the week off, Ms. Powell and Mrs. Summers visited each classroom with news of the upcoming events. Maybe you heard Ms. Powell being interviewed on CKLB radio station about Deninu School's participation in the NWT Literacy Week. A few highlights were the Deninu Mailbox, the NWT 15-Minute Reading Challenge, TV Free Night and the Character Parade.

Throughout the week, the Deninu Mailbox was filled with friendly letters from students to their friends and teachers. Everyone in the school enjoyed receiving letters and responding to friends.

'The Fall Mystery Reading Challenge' has been keeping students very busy, reading at home for 30 minutes every evening.

Both Rufus the Reading Rascal and the Fall Mystery Challenge will continue throughout the month of October so please remember to encourage your child to practice reading.

At the celebration assembly various students took part in a character parade. We had Hannah Montana's, A Little Princess, a cop, Edward and many more characters. Mr. Wilson and Kathleen were the winners of our "Guess the Teachers Favorite Book" contest.

Congratulations to all who participated and remember **KEEP ON READING!**



**KEEP  
ON  
READING!**

## **Mr. Ted Moes' Class of Success**

*Welcome to the new Grade 10's!*

*You are an exceptionally capable, thoughtful and positive group of students. You all have the tools and attributes necessary for success in HS, and in the bigger world that awaits you after graduation.*

*In the meantime, there is much learning to be done and growing to do. Let us all – Yourself, the school staff, your parents and guardians - work together to ensure your success.*

*There is one factor, Grade 10's, working in your favour, and from which you need to take advantage of: the leadership and mentorship of the Grade 11's and 12's. Take respectful advantage of them. Look to them for inspiration and guidance. Ask them for help; let them teach you. They are, in the words of one of my heroes, Jim Peplinski, the "cagey veterans" of the high school scene.*

To Parents/Guardians:

Here is a quick summary of what we are studying. Whatever you can do to support your child's learning is valuable. You don't have to be an expert, just ask your child questions and encourage them to do their homework.

- **Math 10** Measurement - calculating volume and surface area of spheres, cubes and cylinders. (Connection: Trades demand such skills as in plumbing, water tank capacity and scaling up from blueprints)
- **Science 20** Marine Systems - Global Warming will affect the North profoundly. Understanding these changes are valuable, whether one is "on the land" or working in industry.
- **Biology 30** Human homeostasis and negative feedback capacities – Enough said!

# Success Tips

- **Math 20** Algebraic systems and modelling. Understanding patterns (important when running a business) from a mathematical perspective.
- **Math 30** Probability (How to count cards or calculate odds of winning the lottery.)
- **Learning Strategies 15** This course is an important stepping stone for success in HS. No homework is assigned in this class, **but attendance is crucial**. Here we develop reading, writing, thinking and group skills, . . . oh yeah, and (maybe!) have some fun . . . We've already built towers and catapults.
- **Northern Studies** Looking to the past for clues to guide us into the future. Students have recently investigated some of the theories of how the 'First Peoples' came to this great land.
- **PE** – We are working on a two week rotation of core sports: currently, students are playing volleyball.

If you have any concerns questions, or are just curious about what we are doing, please feel free to drop in for a chat.

Mr. Ted Moes  
High School



## Homework & Study Skills

Homework IS important and helps you succeed both at school and inevitably in your job.

Use your Agendas to remind you and support your goals.

## Breakfast for Brains

Deninu School again provides a Breakfast Program for all those students who want breakfast when they arrive at school. Remember the saying, 'A Healthy Body = A Healthy Mind'.

# Calendar Events

October 14-16	Student Support Plans
October 16	Lock-down Drill
October 19	All School Writes
October 23	Tribes for One – 11:15AM
October 23-25	FS Volleyball Tournament
October 26	House League Decorations
October 30	Halloween Dress-up Day Student Halloween Dance
November 5	Month Assembly - 2:30PM
November 6	3-Way Conferences
November 10	School Remembrance Celebration/Awareness
November 11	Remembrance Day Holiday
November 12-13	PD Days for staff ONLY
November 18-19	Tentative FAC Certification
November 26	Fire Drill