

FHC Warrior Beat

September 11, 2023

Proud to learn together within the Traditional Territories of the Kwanlin Dün First Nation and the Ta'an Kwäch'än Council

From the Principal's Desk:

HAPPY NEW SCHOOL YEAR!

We have welcomed many new students and staff this fall, and welcomed back many many more. It is always an exciting time as everyone comes together with hopes, plans, and expectations for the 2023-24 school year!

The fine weather has provided many opportunities for our students to engage in outdoor experiential learning this fall. In addition, our Indigenous Academy has fall camps in the works, and our French Immersion STEAM program is integrating physics, math, media arts and outdoor education in an exciting way.

We are fortunate to be able to offer our youth so many different programs, as well as IA and STEAM: sports school, plein air, outdoor ed, a wide variety of tech programs, French Immersion, and a full array of exciting academic subjects!

We also appreciate our partnerships with community organizations, like YFNED, the All-City Band, UNESCO, YukonU, Every Student-Every Day, and others: these relationships enrich our students' lives in many ways.

With lots of sports, clubs and learning in full swing, we are honoured to teach your students, and proud of our students and staff and all that we bring every day, to make FHC the best place to learn and work – for all!

Ruth Burridge

Important Dates

September is Truth & Reconciliation Month at FHC

Wed. Sept 13 PLC Day

Thursday, September 14th at 6:30pm
→ Post-Secondary Info. Session

Wed. Sept 27 PLC Day

Tue. Sept 19 7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m.
→ Everyone invited to FHC Welcome Feast!!

Thur. Sept 21 7:00 p.m. FHC Awards Night

Wed. Sept 27 5:30 – 8:30 & Thur. Sept 28 4:00 – 6:30 → Three-way conferences

Fri. Sept 29 Orange Shirt Day
→ please wear Orange!

Mon. Oct 2 No School – National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Mon. Oct 9 No School – Thanksgiving

Wed. Oct 11 PLC Day

Fri. Oct 20 – Last day of Term 1

Wed. Oct 25 PLC Day

Fri. Oct 27 No School – PD Day

Wed. Nov 8 PLC Day

Fri. Nov 10 – No School

For Your Information...

The entire FHC community: care-givers, staff and students – everyone is invited to the FHC Welcome Feast, Tuesday, Sept 19 7:45 a.m. – 8:45 a.m. for a free breakfast. Even if you can only drop by for a quick coffee, please join us!

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*Paul, Jason and Ronnie of YFNED serving up delicious and nutritious food...all with a smile!
A big thanks to YFNED for their on-going support of the Welcome Feast and FHC Food for Learning Program.*

The FH Collins Academic Awards ceremony will be held Thursday, September 21st at 7pm in the school gym. Parents and guardians of students receiving awards will be contacted by the school. There will be refreshments in the atrium following the ceremony.

Three Way Conferences (Wed. Sept 27 5:30 – 8:30 & Thur. Sept 28 4:00 – 6:30) No appointment necessary. Teachers will be located either in their classroom or cafeteria. The best 3-way conferences include teacher, student & parent/guardian. We have many new staff this year and conferences would be a great place to meet!

Student Fees Gentle reminder that if you have not yet paid (\$30/student, maximum \$50/family): Cash or cheques (payable to FH Collins) are accepted in the main office or by e-payment fhc.finance@yukon.ca
Message: Student's Full Name / Fee description such as: School Fees, Gym Fees, Sports School Fees etc.
*Please note you must include the message in your e-transfer or we won't know whose money we are receiving!
The school activity fee is used for many services provided for students including locks, student photo ID card, guest speakers and special activities.

Forms Forms Forms! Have you completed and returned all forms? Please visit the FHC website <https://www.fhcollins.ca/> for 'IMPORTANT FORMS': New Media Release, Technology Use Guidelines, Education and Health Info Sharing Consent. Return completed form to fhc@yukon.ca

Student Attendance Studies show that student attendance is directly linked to student achievement! If your child must miss school, PLEASE let us know at 667 8665 or fhc@yukon.ca (In the subject line put your student's first and last name) These accurate records help us so much as we work to improve the attendance of all of our students. THANK YOU!

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Automated Notifications Automated notifications will be sent out to caregivers if a student has an unexcused absence. For period 1 the notification is sent out at approximately 10 a.m. while for periods 2, 3 and 4 the notification is sent out at approximately 3:30. If you receive an automated notification and your student should be recorded as excused please immediately call 667 8665 or email fhc@yukon.ca

PLC Wednesdays Why do my students finish early on PLC Wednesdays? (often called early dismissal by students). Every other Wednesday, classes finish at 1:00 and our lunch period occurs until 1:45. From 1:45 – 3:10 our teachers gather in small teams of Professional Learning Communities, where they study and investigate ways to improve student learning for the actual students we have now. High-yield instructional strategies, types of common assessments, and areas of common concern are studied by our staff, with the goal of improving student learning. This is very different from the PD on PD days. The Yukon Education Act mandates 950 hours of instruction each year and we have organized our school day so that we meet this criteria.

The gym and library remain open and supervised for students, and students may also study quietly or do homework in some classrooms. In addition, KDFN is offering cultural drop-in time for any and all interested students. This month? Hand-games! Some students also participate in extra-curricular community activities during this time.

Expectations for Assignments A letter (*see in full attached 'Expectations for Assignments'*) was distributed to teachers to share with students earlier in the year. The letter discussed both the student's responsibilities and the teacher's responsibilities. An important responsibility for all parties is open communication. A great example would be the student's responsibility to '*submit assignments on time*'. Timeliness is an essential skill for anyone, but once a particular assignment is completed a class will be moving on to the next task – and by not handing in an assignment by the deadline work can start piling up creating a sense of being overwhelmed. That said, life can get busy. At FHC we ask that if a student is not able to submit an assignment on time, or is unable to meet any classroom expectation, that they approach the teacher and discuss the situation so a mutually acceptable solution can be found. If a student is having difficulty approaching the teacher, please suggest they see a counsellor for help working through the situation.

School Bus Items that the school bus will not transport include: Snowboards, Curling Brooms, Hockey Sticks, Laser Pointers, Baseball Bats, Scooters & Bikes, Longboards, Skis and Animals. If a student needs such items at school a caregiver will need to make alternate arrangements. Regular skateboards **MUST** be inside or attached to the student's backpack. Ice skates must have skate guards or be in an enclosed bag.

FHC Textbooks and Library Books If there are any such items from previous years at home collecting dust, we would love to have them back - no questions asked! Please drop them off at the front desk or library. Many thanks!

The first fire drill of the school year will take place Friday, September 15th.

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Thank you to CYFN for their generous donation of period products to help us on our journey to ending period poverty. The school is now very well stocked with all classrooms, offices and bathrooms having free period products available.

To ensure our **Student Information Program** is up to date, the Department of Education requires parents to complete a **Student Verification Form** for all students, regardless of how long they have been a Yukon student. These forms should be reviewed by parents/guardians with necessary changes made directly on the form, or if no changes are needed, just add an initial to show you have verified that the information is correct. Please note:

1. Forms will be sent home Wednesday, Sept 13th, so please ask your student.
2. The office needs to be kept up to date of any changes in addresses and contact information. Should this change during the school year contact fhc@yukon.ca
3. The order of emergency contacts does not reflect custody or a priority in any way and the order of this list will not be changed.
4. For students to be picked up from school by another party, they must be listed as a contact in our system.
5. Finally, if you have shared custody of your child, the verification form only pulls the main address. We can, however, have both addresses entered in Aspen. If you are a shared custody household, please add the additional address. The back side of the form has a section for alerts (legal or medical), where the custody info should be included.
6. Students are to return completed forms to the main office or period one teacher.
7. Questions? Contact fhc@yukon.ca or call 667 8665.



Houseplants! Whether flourishing or floundering FHC would LOVE to give them a home. Please contact Michael.toews@yukon.ca if you have flora to share! Many thanks!

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Contacting FHC

Administration and counsellors can be reached by email: firstname.lastname@yukon.ca

Principal	Ruth.burridge@yukon.ca
VP Grade 8 & English Stream Grade 9	Michael.toews@yukon.ca
VP Grade 9 French Immersion & Grade 10	Stephanie.main@yukon.ca
VP Grade 11&12	Shaun.Mclaughlin@yukon.ca

Students are connected to FHC counsellors by last name

A-G Michel.morris@yukon.ca H-M jodi.tuton@yukon.ca N-Z aisha.alwarid@yukon.ca

To contact any teacher: firstname.lastname@yesnet.yk.ca

For example: scott.kerby@yesnet.yk.ca or Marie-Claude.Normand@yesnet.yk.ca

When in doubt or for attendance: fhc@yukon.ca or phone 667 8665

DIGITAL PHOTOS ARE READY!

******DO NOT REPLY TO THE SCHOOL******

To receive the photo please copy and paste the email address into a new email: starflowerphotos@gmail.com

Put the student's NAME and SCHOOL in the subject line. Please have the person that signed the envelope send the email. I will reply with the photo as soon as possible. Note there are many people emailing and I will send them in the order requests are received. If you have not yet ordered email me to make arrangements. - Andrea

Clubs, Extra-Curricular Activities & Opportunities

Student Council is back! We meet on Tuesdays at lunch in room 211. All students are welcome! FHC Student Council supports both school spirit and student advocacy. Upcoming events include a School Colours Day in September and the annual Halloween Parade in October. Contact scott.kerby@yesnet.yk.ca or annie.broadhurst@yesnet.yk.ca

The Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA) meets in the Rainbow Room over lunch on THURSDAYS. All 2SLGBTQ+ students and allies are welcome. The club helps provide a safe space for Queer and Trans students in the school, organizes inclusive events, advocates for education and supports, and hosts guest speakers and presentations. Contact katelyn.clark@yesnet.yk.ca or annie.pellicano@yesnet.yk.ca

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Chess Club meets every Thursday at lunch in Room 119 Contact sean.mulhearn@yesnet.yk.ca

Calling all Wizards, Elfs, Orcs and Goblins! **Dungeons and Dragons Club** meets after class on in Room 213 Wednesdays: PLC days @ 1:15-3:10 and regular days - @ 3:10-5:00. Contact Alexie.Merk@yesnet.yk.ca

Social Justice Club meets every Wed. over the lunch hour room 203. Contact meera.sarin@yesnet.yk.ca or Jennifer.bonny@yesnet.yk.ca For any student not yet involved in the Club, now is a great time to start!



"By acting compassionately, by helping to restore justice and to encourage peace, we acknowledge that we are all part of one another."

-Rahm Dass

F.H. Collins is proud to be a Member School to the International UNESCO Schools Network. Our Social Justice Club is holding a fundraiser bake sale in support of Education. We sponsor Louzenflore, a student in Haiti to attend school full time. We have chosen to support Louzenflore as she is excited to attend school and is grateful for this educational opportunity. In addition, we will be planning a few activities to celebrate International Peace Day on September 21.

Left: Student meet at the Social Justice Club; Right: A fresh baked bag of muffins for the Outreach Van!

The RCMP National Youth Advisory Committee is still accepting applications for this year's committee. I See attached PDF poster '2023 – NYAC Poster_Affiche' The goal of the committee is to provide a forum for youth to share their thoughts on issues related to crime prevention, safety, etc. In recent years, topics that have been discussed have included transportation safety and impaired driving, cannabis and substance use (and related decriminalization concerns), the police role in responses to mental health crises, and healthy relationships and sexual consent. Currently there are no applicants from the Yukon so it would be great to have representation from our Territory this year! It is for youth ages 13-21.

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Counsellor's Corner

Hello Grade 11 and 12 Warriors and Warrior Parents/Guardians!

FH Collins will be hosting their Post-Secondary Information Session on, **Thursday, September 14th at 6:30pm**. Parents and students are welcome. We will touch on post-secondary options, requirements for entrance and scholarships and grants.

Our session will be held in person in **Room 218/219** (2nd floor of the main building) .

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact a guidance counsellor. This is an in-person presentation and for those who are unable to attend, the slide show will be available online after.

<https://www.fhcollins.ca/counselling.html>

Michel, Jodi and Aisha
F.H. Collins Counselling Team

From Phys Ed...

School has begun, and the athletic season is well underway. Let's give a thunderous round of applause to our phenomenal Warriors Soccer Team for their resounding 2 - 0 victory over the PC Rams in the Soccer Fest Finals! Congrats Warriors Soccer team - you are true champions!

The Volleyball season has started. Joining volleyball offers countless benefits, including improved coordination, enhanced agility, and strategic thinking. Volleyball players can form lifelong friendships, develop strong teamwork skills, and experience the thrill of diving, spiking, and serving your way to victory. Get ready to dominate the courts and discover your true potential!

September 12 is SuperVolley #1. Sr. Girls play Tuesday at 5:00pm @ PC, and the Sr. Boys follow at 7:00pm. The Sr. teams, and grade 8's, prepare for the Early Bird starting Thursday September 14 - being played at Mercie and FH Collins.

Looking ahead, mark your calendars for September 12, to the eagerly anticipated Mountain View Golf Tournament. Whether you're an experienced golfer, or a curious warrior, this day promises to be filled with excitement, friendly competition, and picturesque autumn scenery. Don't miss this opportunity to showcase your golf skills and create lasting memories! Remember to bring extra socks in case of rain, and you may get a hole in one...

Rugby is here. Embrace the challenge and conquer the field. Mr. Feht and Mr. Todd are calling all fearless warriors! Learn to tackle challenges head-on, build unbreakable bonds with your teammates, and experience the thrill of scoring triumphant tries.

As always, participating in sports offers incredible opportunities for personal growth, building character, and fostering lifelong friendships. So grab your gear, assemble your teams, and let's make this semester one filled with athletic achievements and unforgettable moments.

For more details on PE classes, Volleyball, Rugby, and upcoming events, stay connected with your coaches and teachers, keep an eye on the school bulletin boards, and visit the Yukon School Sport Event Calendar, at <http://ysaa.yukonschools.ca/event-calendar.html>

The Yukon Health Promotion Unit is pleased to present a webinar for parents by Dr. Ponit, a pediatrician based in London, Ontario. Digital media: Promoting healthy screen use in school-aged children and adolescents. The webinar will examine social and digital media use as a health behaviour and examine the positive and negative impacts on both physical and mental health presented by Dr. Ponti. *See attached Webinar letter.docx'*

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**THANKS WARRIORS, FOR A GREAT START TO THE
2023/24 SCHOOL YEAR!**

PERSEVERANCE

INTEGRITY

COMPASSIONS

SELF-AWARENESS

WARRIOR PRIDE, ALWAYS!