

# THE SOURDOUGH

Home of the KNIGHTS

## RSS STAFF 2015-2016

### ADMINISTRATION

Hilary Skilnyk - Principal  
Helen McCullough - Vice Principal  
Sonja Stephenson - Administrative Assistant  
Paulette Michaud - Receptionist

### ELEMENTARY STAFF

Sue Dragoman - Kindergarten  
Craig Hunter - Grade 1  
Laurel Betts - Grade 2  
Brenda Rear - Grade 3  
Clive Betts - Grade 4  
Donna Lozancic - Grade 5  
Helen Dewell - Grade 6  
Kristen Poenn - Music K/French  
Melissa Hawkins - Han Language  
Mary Henry - Han Language  
Steve Laszlo - PE K-4  
Christiane Robert - LAT / Reading Recovery  
Kathryn Johnson - LAT / Reading Recovery  
Cecelia Griffiths - Counsellor

### SECONDARY STAFF

Helen McCullough - English 7/Math 7/Art 7/Art 8  
Tara McCauley - French 7-12, Foods 7-12  
Claus Vogel - Math 8-12, Photo 11/12  
Jennifer Fraser - English 8-12  
Sara Stephens - Socials 7-11  
Peter Menzies - Tech Ed / C & J / Small Engine  
Steve Laszlo - PE 7-12  
Betsy Sinclair - Science 8-12, Art 10-12  
Cecilia Griffiths - Learning Assistance Teacher  
Dori Faulkner - Counsellor / LAT  
Heidi Warren - Education Outreach

### LIBRARY

Jennifer Fraser - Teacher-Librarian  
Rose Lamb - Library Clerk

### EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANTS

Janet Leary	Naomi Headdy
Nijen Holland	Mindy Potoroka
Andrew Laviolette	Susu Robin
Bridget Amos	Clementine Lamerton

### CELC

Ashley Bower-Bramadat (Elementary)  
Nicole Cook (High School)

### CUSTODIAL STAFF

Brandy Maude  
Driss Adrao

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Drin Hozo! Good Day! Bonjour!

How did we pass the winter blues? Although El Niño sure helped, the key is cultural and outdoor activities and students at Robert Service School have been involved in so many activities this winter, I don't know where to start. Anyway, here is an overview:

- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Holistic Winter Camp which had trapping and dog sledding for grades 7 -12.
- Ongoing Cross-country skiing and sledding opportunities for K - 12.
- Myth and Medium mid-winter cultural celebration was a week-long event. Grade 8 students performed and participated in the Hän Wrap Throw Down. Students in the Hän First Nations Singers performed at the closing ceremony.
- Beading and moccasin making with Dolores Scheffen and the Outreach class.
- Traditional story telling with Louise Profeit-LeBlanc for grades 1-6.
- Talent show for the entire school.
- Students who are part of the Hän First Nations Singers performed in Fairbanks.
- Healthy Minds workshop for grades 9-12 focussing on managing stress.
- The students both elementary and secondary have been ice fishing with many large burbot being caught.
- Winter Palooza at Rock Creek for grade 6.
- Grade 8 Socials students created the video: **Take Me To Dawson City** as their entry to the Discover Your Parks contest **Available for viewing. To support our video go to: <http://contest.myparkspass.ca/en/vote/class/sssteph02/RSS>**
- Yukon Quest: Opportunity for the photography class and an exhibit is to follow.
- Tr'ochëk Day for grades 7-9 which included crafts, snowshoe racing and a build a fire and boil water contest.
- AWG students from RSS in Nuuk Greenland (for students who needed more winter!). **WE ARE PROUD OF YOU AND WISH YOU SUCCESS!**
- Snowmobiling safety course and field trip for grade 6 with the RCMP.
- Kaminak Gold Corporation Information Fair included presentations on Rock Talk, Stump the Geologist, environmentally friendly mining, and careers and technology in mining. Kaminak tailored their presentation so that teachers could meet student learning outcomes.
- RCMP Internet Safety presentation for grades 6-9.
- Le Bonhomme Carnaval with maple syrup treats, skiing and other outdoor activities for grades K – 6.
- Ski Day: cross-country and downhill skiing for grades 7-12.

These activities have kept us so busy that the frost was not able to settle too deeply. Spring is just around the corner and the change in temperature and light has been amazing. And speaking of change, RSS has been undergoing renovations that include painting the foyer, purchasing new furniture for students in the sitting areas, and over March break, the counselling suite will receive new flooring and paint. Happy Spring Break!

*Hilary Skilnyk*

## News from your High School CELC

Spring is upon us early this year which mean outdoor activities! We have been taking advantage of the warm sunny weather with Snowshoe baseball with the Grade 10 PE class, Winter Palooza with the Grade 6 class along with the new event Tr'ochëk Day with most of the High School classes. Followed by Carnival then Spring break what more can you ask for.

Snowshoe baseball with the grade 10 class has been a success, joined with some TH employees and of course our number 1 snowshoe baseball captain Victor Henry. Victor has been encouraging the grade 10 class to put a team in for the Thaw-di-Gras weekend to take part in the Snowshoe baseball tournament and take on Victor's team.

Another year of Winter Palooza with Helen Dewell's grade 6 class, it was a great turn out. Everything went so smoothly from the making of their Quinzhees to their tea boiling skills. Nothing could hold this class from having a blast!

Tr'ochek Day is a new event that will hopefully continue every year, a lot of brain storming and planning has made this day a success! Steve Lazlo and myself have come together to bring most of the high school students and staff to Tr'ochek for a fun filled day out on the land. We had 5 activity stations that lasted 20 mins each. First was the Winter Survival station lead by a couple grade 10 students that are part of the Rangers. They did an amazing job teaching the other students how to make a fire from just using flint, and showed them what to gather in the forest. After this station was the Tea Boiling station where the group had to start a little fire from scratch then fill there cans full of snow to melt into of a rapped boil to make there tea, first group to finish was the winner. Then there was a Cooperative games lead by Andrew Laviolette were the group had to work together threw a couple of games as a team; this station was a HIT! Then there was a Snowshoe race station, were they had to race to point A to point B while wearing snowshoes, this was a great way to get there feet moving but it was also a great way to teach them about how hard it was to travel around traditionally back in the day. Our last activity was led by Peggy Kormendy and Debbie Nagano, they taught a group how to make hide keychains to dreamcatchers, the students loved this activity the best because it was in the cabin were it was warm but most of them loved the hands on craft they all made, along with the company of Peggy and Debbie. (Thanks for helping us out you two!) Also a big SHOUT out to the Grade 9 class and Tara McCauley for supplying all the food for the day, it was amazing!

We have had a lot of artist in the school these past couple of months, Dolores Scheffen and Allison Anderson has been in the school teaching a Moccasin class to the Grade 8's. They started off with some very talented beadwork completed by each student then followed by sewing there Moccasins together. We sure have some talented students.

We were also very blessed to have an Artist come all away from Whitehorse to teach a bunch of classes of her Fish Scale Art, Dawna Hope and her husband Gary Hope came into the school and taught 8 classes in only 2 days! It was the fastest marathon of art classes she has ever done, but enjoyed every minute of it. She taught her talent to the Grade 3,4,5,6,7,8,9 and 11 class, everyone was so thankful for her coming in, even the students LOVED her art and were very talented with each of their own fish scale art. I would like to give a big MAHSI CHO to Debbie Wight for making this all happen and bringing Dawna and her husband in the school to share her talented artwork. THANK YOU!

### **Nicole Cook**

High School CELC (Gr.7-12)  
[Nicole.cook@trondek.ca](mailto:Nicole.cook@trondek.ca)





**PALOOZA BOILING CHALLENGE**



**BUILDING A QUINZHEE**

## **Greetings from the Grade 6 Students!**

Quinzhee Building 101, water boiling challenge, snow studies, snowshoeing, and other fun winter activities were the focus of the Winter Palooza. The weather was amazing! The parental support, RSS support, and expert assistance from the department made this field trip possible.

***Nature makes the best classroom!***



**PALOOZA BOILING CHALLENGE**



**PLAYING PREDATOR-PREY**

## PHOTOGRAPHING THE YUKON QUEST

There were many challenges that came along with photographing the Yukon Quest for Mr. Vogel's senior photography class. One such problem was the cold temperatures. Before the students were able to take pictures, they had to prepare their cameras properly so no damage would be done to them. Setting them in a room-temperature cooler and placing the sealed cooler outside for a period of time properly acclimatized the cameras for the colder temperatures. Dressing weather appropriate was also essential.

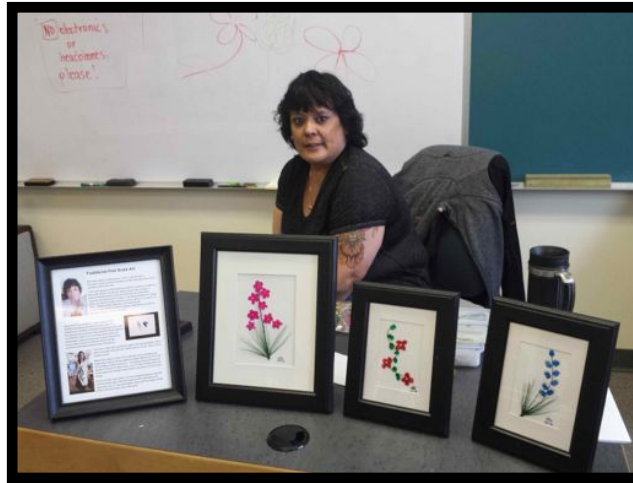
Another challenge the students had to overcome was the tedious wait. For several days they went out to the Quest checkpoint and waited to no avail. Finally, on the last possible day they were able to capture images of a musher and his dogs successfully crossing the halfway point. One last challenge the students faced was the very little time span they had for photographing the teams before they were on their way. For all their hours of waiting, they had a 5-minute window to take as many photos as they could before they moved on. The photographing process is a lot of "hurry up and wait".



The photo displayed was one of many photos taken after the musher passed the halfway point and continued on his way to the campsite for his mandatory 36-hour layover. You can see the energy the dogs possess as they run. The musher has to be very well prepared physically and mentally to endure the frigid temperatures and the long periods of isolation. Cold temperatures, long waiting periods, and short photographing opportunities are three of the challenges the senior photography students had to face photographing the Yukon Quest.

Asia Procee  
Bobby Caley





**FISH SCALE ART  
WITH DAWNA HOPE  
AND THE  
GRADE 7 CLASS**



# MARCH 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 K-6 CARNAVAL	11 HS SKI DAY	12
13	14	<b>SPRING BREAK — NO SCHOOL</b>			18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 GOOD FRIDAY NO SCHOOL	26
27	28 EASTER MONDAY NO SCHOOL	29	30 K-12 Student-Led Conferences	31		

# APRIL 2016

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9 Annual Bridge Building Competition Whitehorse
				<b>BC Provincial Exams**</b>		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 Earth Day	23
24	25 10-12 REM Watson Lake	26 10-12 REM Watson Lake	27 10-12 REM Watson Lake	28 10-12 REM Watson Lake RSS Science/Art Exhibition	29 10-12 REM Watson Lake	30