

January 1, 2019



The Spruce



Dene Tha' Community School's Newsletter

"Learning to Love, Loving to Learn"

The Spruce Volume 2, Issue 5

Children Entertain Audience during School Annual Christmas Concert

"Christmas Concert is always improving every year", a community grandma told the writer of this news article. She was right. Every year, children at DTCS surprised audiences and parents with their talents of singing dancing and entertaining during school's Christmas Concert, December 18.

Christmas Concert has been a crowd drawer. Parents, guardians, elders, grandparents and relatives gathered together to witness the collective display of talents of their children and grandchildren. They were not disappointed. Children had fun showing off their songs, dances, music skills which the crowd applauded. Even the school staff rendered wonderful songs.

Elder William always offered prayers to the children and to the community. Jenna S. also displayed her delicate Traditional dance.



Headstart children with Ms. Cassandra and Ms. Colleen singing Rudolf Red Nosed Reindeer



K5 students showed their Ginger Bread Man Skit and Dance



Gr.1s singing their Dene Song led by Ms. Pellissey



Gr. 2s with their 12 Days of Christmas



Gr.3s singing We Wish You a Merry Christmas and sharing Jokes



Gr.4s singing Jingle Bell Rock



Gr.5s with Mr. Raphael A. singing Silent Night during Christmas Concert



Gr.6s singing Last Christmas during Christmas Concert



Rayden A.Gr. 7, rendering Let It Snow on piano during Christmas Concert



GGr.7 boys taking their part during the Christmas Concert



Gr.8s with Mr. Christopher M., danced with the tune of All I Want for Christmas is You.



Jenna S. danced her Blackfoot Traditional Dance during the Christmas Concert



High School Students singing Rocking Around the Christmas Tree during the Christmas Concert



DTCS staff entertaining the crowd with their Feliz Navidad rendition.



Young people attentively listening to Elder William's message during the Dene Laws Painting unveiling ceremony, Dec.18.

DTCS Unveils Dene Laws Painting

Elder William cut the ribbon during the unveiling ceremony of the Dene Laws painting, December 18. In Dene Language, the elder explained the Dene Laws to the young people and to the school-community. Councillor Andrea G. translated the message of elder William in English for the audience to have clear understanding of the laws. Elder Helen P. joined elder William to

ensure that the laws get into the mind of young people. The Dene laws will serve as a guiding light for every Dene Tha' member especially the students. The school believes that these Dene Laws will remind each and every one to stay focus to finish their education. Thank you to Mr. Dewey A., Art teacher for this master piece.



Elder William explains the Dene Laws in Dene Language. Coun. Andrea G. translates in English for the young people to have clear understanding of the Dene Laws.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Parents, guardians, elders, students, staff and community members,

In behalf of the DTCS family, I would like to wish all of our DTCS parents, guardians, elders and community members including our staff and students a safe, happy and peaceful Christmas and holiday season.

We started the month of December with a student mass focusing on the spirit of Christmas. Students have learned that Christmas is not only about material gifts but also about being spiritually grounded. The best gift for Christmas is giving love and forgiveness, spending time with family and be reunited to love ones.

We are grateful to our staff and students who are instrumental to lay the foundation of success for this school year. Your contribution makes a great impact on the lives of young people we serve. You have demonstrated commitment and compassion to serve our children. You work with positivity and enthusiasm. We are privileged this school year to have highly capable and committed teachers and support staff like you. You are crucial factors of bringing success to the school and to the DTFN children. Thank you for your energy, talent and enthusiasm. As teachers and support staff, you are privileged each day to participate with your student's academic journey. You recognize and support your students to be successful. We celebrate students' successes with pride and make them proud of their learning.

Our relationships have been strengthened by constant communication and interactions. We appreciate when you come to our school and talk to us about your child's education. Your involvement with your child's education will set them up for success in the future. Thank you for your commitment and support.

As a school community, we also treasure the opportunities of getting together like celebrations of learning and meeting parents to address the needs of their children. With this community engagement, we can create a better future for your children and for their education. Any event in the school would not be successful without teachers, support staff, students and other agencies working collaboratively.

To all of you, we are looking forward this coming New Year to strengthen our connections and embark to our journey together for the brighter future of our young people.

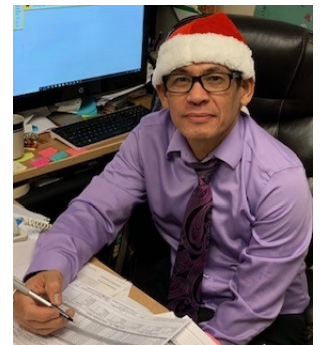
As a reflective leader, I considered that I am home. This is our school ... our big family. There have been bumps and many challenges along the way, but these are all fond memories and tests to make me stronger from within. The pains were outweighed by the intrinsic rewards. The happy smiles of young people who have been relying on us... to show them the way and offer them the best possible quality education they deserve inspire me. I believe, everyone is on the right path of ensuring that WE LOVE TO LEARN AND LEARN TO LOVE.

Thank you to all of you who continuously promoting the Dene Tha' Community School culture in a positive family way.

During this Christmas season, DTCS family is sending you love and peace.

Have a Mindful Christmas to all and have a safe, happy and wonderful New Year.

Mr. Carlito N. Somera,
Principal



Director's Message

Christmas is a time to gather up your family and to make happy memories. It is a time to reach past our sadness to make a good Christmas for our children. It is a time to reach past differences, and establish peace. On behalf of Dene Tha' Education, we wish you a joyous, peaceful, and safe Christmas.



Tolko Donates \$2000 for Breakfast Program



Mackenzie M. K5 Student with Mr. Raphael A. and Mr. Somera receives the cheque from Tolko Staff

Tolko staff presented the \$2000.00 cheque to students for their Breakfast Program during their visit to school, Dec.10.

The school offered breakfast to the children to ensure that they will learn better in the classroom. The school is grateful for this donation and wishing Tolko to continue their support for the DTFN children. Tolko also donated 3 Table Tennis Tables to the nation three year ago.

Dene Tha' Community School

Christmas Holidays Schedule

Early Dismissal – Friday, December 20th, 2019 at **1:30p.m.**

Christmas Holidays – December 21st, 2019 – January 6th, 2020.

Classes Resume – Tuesday, January 7th, 2020.

Have a Safe and Happy Holidays Everyone!



School Happenings



Students from Grade 1, 4, 5, and 6 go on one last sledding excursion before the Christmas break.



Band Staff Christmas Party Highlights the 24 amazing contestants for Ugly Sweater Contest



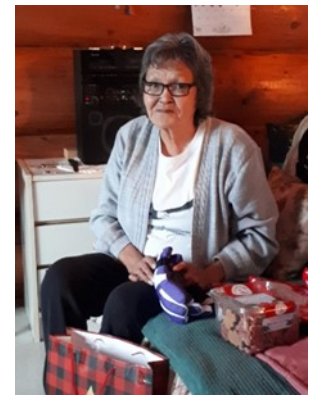
K5 show their Christmas word SANTA with Ms. Manghi and Mr. Somera



Elder William and Donny W. led the prayer and drumming during the Students' Christmas Concert



Gr. 3s with Mr. Watts and Leslie baked their Christmas cookies



Elder Agnes M. is thankful for the gift she receives from Bluesky



*"Celebrate Christmas Peacefully!
Be at peace with each other now that Jesus is coming to our way to be with us and to help us with our needs and to save us from all evils. Do well to share your love with one another. God Bless You!"*

National Addiction Awareness Week Winners:

On-The-Spot-Poster-Making Contest:

Jazna W., Taylor T., Alicia A.

On-The-Spot-Essay Writing Contest:

Janel A. and Jade A.

Bluesky Dental Clinic Donates Gifts for Chateh Elders

Bluesky Dental Clinic in High Level, AB sent gifts for Chateh Elders. The gifts were delivered by the Dene and Language Program Instructors and selected students. Elders were thankful to the generosity of Bluesky. Roxanne Aliche is one of the staff at the Bluesky Dental Clinic, daughter of Ms. Aliche, Ed. Director.

Classroom and Staff Christmas Cheers

HeadStart(K3 and K4)
Ms. C. Denechoan and Ms. C. Powder



Kindergarten
Ms. Y. Manghi



Grade 1
Ms. K. Pellisey



Grade 2
Ms. J. Salmon-Brissett



Grade 3
Mr. M. Watts



Grade 4
Ms. C. Big Bull



Grade 5
Mr. R. Adeniyi



Grade 6
Ms. E. Paracuelles



Grade 8/9
Mr. C. Mangaser



High School(Grade 10 to 12)
Ms. E. Jenoure



Administration
Mr. R. McDonald, Ms. R. Didzena,
Ms. L. Aliche, Mr. C. Somera



Student Needs Triage
Ms. H. Seniantha, Mr. M. White,
Ms. H. Natannah



Art, Dene Language, Computers
Mr. D. Ahkimmachie, Ms. Y. Talley,
"Mr. Dee"



O and M
Mr. D. Providence, Mr. W. Beaulieu



Library and Science Lab
Ms. R. Paracuelles



Bus Driver
Ms. V. Danais



Cook
Ms. D. Kolay



Dene Tha' Community School
January Menu
Lunch Program

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| | | 01 NEW YEAR'S | 02 | 03 |
| 06 | 07 Chicken Noodle Soup Bannock Pudding Water | 08 Shepherd's Pie Rice Banana Water | 09 Chicken Strips Mashed Potatoes W/Corn Water | 10 Hot Dogs Fries Gravy Fruit Juice |
| 13 Beef Stew Fry Bannock Oranges Water | 14 Spaghetti Garlic Toast Strawberries Water | 15 Chicken Thighs Mashed Potatoes Veggies Fruit | 16 Pizza Fries W/Gravy Apples Water | 17 Hamburger Fries W/Gravy Juice |
| 20 Ground Beef Fry Bannock Orange Water | 21 Chicken Strips Potatoes Wedges Apples Water | 22 Indian Taco Veggies Fruit Cocktail Water | 23 Spare Ribs Rice W/Veggies Grapes Water | 24 Spare Ribs Rice W/Veggies Grapes Water |
| 27 Breakfast Bruch Fruit Water | 28 Chicken Drum Stick Deep Fry Potatoes Orange Water | 29 Pork Chops W/Mushroom Sauce Melon Water | 30 Stuffed Potatoes Veggies Grapes Water | 31 NO CLASSES PD Day |

DTCS JANUARY 2020 Calendar

| MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 30 | 31 | 01 NEW YEAR'S DAY | 02 | 03 |
| 06 | 07 CLASSES RE-SUME 3:30 Basketball Practice | 08 12:15 Cheer Dancing 3:30 Basketball Practice | 09 1:30 Dismissal Staff Meeting December Student | 10 |
| 13 3:30 Basketball Practice | 14 3:30 Basketball Practice | 15 DTCS Spelling Circle Celebration 12:15 Cheer Dancing 3:30 Basketball Practice 4pm Girl's | 16 EverActive (IYMP) Indigenous Youth Mentorship Program 3:30 Fitness Club Weightlifting | 17 EverActive (IYMP) Indigenous Youth Mentorship Program |
| 20 3:30 Basketball Practice | 21 3:30 Basketball Practice | 22 12:15 Cheer Dancing 3:30 Basketball Practice | 23 3:30 Fitness Club Weightlifting | 24 Regional Spelling Circle Celebration 8/9 Fundraising Indian Tacos / Tacos in a bag |
| 27 3:30 Basketball Practice | 28 3:30 Basketball Practice | 29 12:15 Cheer Dancing 4pm Girl's Club 3:30 Basketball Practice | 30 SPIRIT DAY: JERSEY DAY End of 2nd Term (Jr/Sr) 3:30 Fitness Club Weightlifting Spruce newsletter Student Monthly Awards | 31 NO CLASSES PD Day |