

# January 2012

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<b>Looking Ahead to February:</b> Feb. 10th: Lifetouch Photo Retakes February is Kindergarten Registration Month February 1st at 7pm is NJ's Kindergarten Information Night for parents						
1	2	3 Day 6 First Day Back After The Break	4 Day 1	5 Day 2 10:15—Hockey Academy	6 Day 3	7
8 Gymnastics: Weds. Group A Thurs. Group B	9 Day 4 10:15—Hockey Academy	10 Day 5 3:30—Staff Mtg.	11 Day 6 Pizza Orders Due	12 Day 1 12:15 3-6 Choir	13 Day 2 Pizza Sale 10:15—Hockey Academy	14
15 Gymnastics: Weds. Group C Thurs. Group D	16 Day 3	17 Day 4 10:15—Hockey Academy 6:50—PAC Mtg.	18 Day 5	19 Day 6 8:45 Assembly: Literacy Plays: 2B & 1/2G 12:15 3-6 Choir	20 Day 1 10:15—Hockey Academy PAC lunch orders due Bake Sale	21
22 Gymnastics: Weds. Group A Thurs. Group B	23 Day 2 10:15—Hockey Academy Plays: 4-6M, 1M, Kel, Kol, K/1M Anti-bullying Day—wear pink	24 Day 3 7-8 pm— PARTS (Parents supporting the ARTS) AGM	25 Day 4 7-9pm YK1 Town Hall Meeting at Range Lake North School 10:15—Hockey Academy Plays: 5W,2/3B, 2/3M,KM, 4/5H	26 Day 5 12:15 3-6 Choir	27 Day 6 PAC Lunch Family Literacy Day & Lunch Circus Performance Plays: 3L & 4R	28 NJ Student of the Week in Friday's paper. ←
29	30 Day 1	31 Day 2 10:15 Hockey	Gymnastics: Weds. Group C, Thurs. Group D			



# Mac's Tracks

The newsletter of

873-4372

January, 2012

NJ Macpherson School

www.njm.yk1.nt.ca



- ◆ **Pizza Lunch:** Jan. 13th
- ◆ **PAC Mtg:** Jan. 17th at 6:50pm
- ◆ **Bake Sale:** Jan 20th Fundraiser for 4R, 4-6M, 4/5H
- ◆ **Puppet Plays:** Jan. 19th, 23rd, 25th & 27th
- ◆ **Family Literacy Day & PAC lunch** Jan. 27th
- ◆ **Flyin' bob circus:** Jan. 27th
- ◆ **Kindergarten Parent Info Evening** for 2012-13 is on February 1st at 7pm

## A Focus on Safety



show Pride  
Act Respectfully  
Work cooperatively  
play Safely

### Safety

This month we will be focusing on safety. Classroom teachers will be reviewing playground safety and school rules with a special emphasis on being safe. Supervisors will be handing out PAWS to students showing safe play on the playground.

The RCMP school liaison, Constable Amanda McGillivray, came to the school and taught the students about crosswalk safety, reflective clothing, and general road/parking lot safety. We will be running a safety promotion during the last three weeks of January. A ticket will be given to students and/or parents for safe behaviour while coming to and from school, as well as at the drop off areas surrounding the school. We will do a weekly draw each Friday in January for assorted prizes such as reflective armbands, lights, and gift certificates. Winning Numbers will be posted on the main doors of the school each Friday afternoon, on the school Web Site and in The February Newsletter.

The RCMP and Bylaw officers have identified Finlayson Drive as the safest location to drop off students. The city will be moving the bus stop location back and allowing the school a larger School Drop off Zone. New signs will be posted to identify this area more clearly. Parents are encouraged to use the drop off area on Finlayson Drive by the school playground as students can exit the vehicle and enter the playground without having to cross traffic or bus lanes. Please remember to follow all posted signs and only drop off students in the designated areas. Thank you for helping keep all our students safe. New signs will be posted to help mark Drop Off Zones, Fire/Bus Lanes, and Wheelchair parking more clearly.

It is dark when we come to school in the morning and when we leave. We are encouraging students to wear reflective clothing to be more visible. Coldwell Banker has donated reflective tape which can be sewn or attached to clothing or backpacks. Call or drop by the office if you are interested in picking up some reflective tape for your family. Please take some time to discuss the safest way for your child to get to and from school.

**NJ Macpherson School**

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**Principal:**  
Sharon Oldford  
**Asst. Principal:**  
Randy Caines

Yellowknife Education District No.1

## Celebrate National Family Literacy Day

**Family Literacy Day** is a national awareness initiative, held annually on January 27<sup>th</sup>. This special day promotes reading and other literacy related activities in families. Family Literacy is the way parents, children and other family members use literacy at home and in their community. **This year's theme is: "Learning in Every Day Life"**. Take some time to discuss the ways you and your family use literacy every day.

### Family Literacy Tips for Parents

- ◆ Read recipes and bake together
- ◆ Have a board game night
- ◆ Create a family scrapbook
- ◆ Have a special singing or storytelling night
- ◆ Read everyday
- ◆ Write a story with you child

### School Literacy events:

*Now you can get in on the fun too!*

We celebrate Family Literacy Day every year at NJ by hosting a Family Literacy Day Lunch where we invite families to come, eat lunch and read a book with their child. We will serve cake to help celebrate. PAC will also be having a PAC lunch sale. Please pre-order your child's lunch using the online form by January 20th. You can add an order for yourself. We are celebrating on Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:00. Families and community members are invited to come into our classrooms during the week leading up to Literacy Day to share a favorite book. If you are interested in reading to a class please contact the school or your child's teacher. Watch for a flyer with additional information about events.

If you would like more ideas for ways to encourage literacy in your home, please visit [www.familyliteracy.ca](http://www.familyliteracy.ca).



## January PAC Meeting

A message from **PAC**  
(Parent Advisory Committee)

Please join us for the next meeting:  
January 17th at 6:50 pm  
NJ Staffroom

**PAC is planning a Family Dance**  
More details to follow

### Special Events:

As part of our enhanced fine arts program **K-3** students will be presenting **Puppet Plays** while grade **4-6** students will act out **Robert Munch Stories**. Families are welcome to come and watch in the school atrium.  
Jan. 19: 2B (9:15), 1/2G (10:45) Jan. 23: 4-6 (9:15), 1M (10:45), K Kelly and Kolchetski (1:15), K/1M (2:15)  
Jan. 25: 5W (9:15), 2/3B (10:45), 2/3M and KM (1:15), 4/5H(2:15) Jan. 27: 3L (1:15), 4R (2:15)

**Flyin' bob:** One Man, Three Ring Circus is coming to NJ. A school show entitled, Be The Circus!, will be presented to our students on January 27th. The students will be reading books about the circus as part of Literacy Day Events to help prepare for this special performance.

*Welcome Back!*

### Staff Profile: Jennifer Therrien

We are excited to announce Mrs. Therrien will be returning during the last week of January from her maternity leave. She will be joining Miss Grimes as the classroom teacher for the grade 1/2 class.

## It's Time To

## Start Thinking About Kindergarten!

## Parent Information Night: February 1st, 2012, 7pm

If your child turns five in 2012, then he or she is ready for kindergarten in the fall! Kindergarten is an exciting time for children and parents. At NJ we make every attempt to make this a fun and easy transition. Parents are invited to come to our Kindergarten Information Evening on February 1st to learn more about kindergarten at NJ. Later, in the spring, we will also have an Open House Day where you can bring your kindergarten child to visit and play in our kindergarten classrooms. Registered students will have the opportunity to spend a session in the classroom with the kindergarten teachers during the month of June. Letting children become familiar with the school, classroom, and teachers helps to ease any anxiety. As well, if you would like a personal tour of the school or visit the classrooms, please call the school to arrange this. We would love to show you and your child around!



There are two kindergarten options at NJ—the Regular Kindergarten program and the Kindergarten Montessori program. Both programs emphasize literacy, math, and learning through play.



In the fall, kindergarten classes begin with a 'staggered entry'. Half of the class will begin on the first school day and the second group will start on the second day of school. This allows the children to become comfortable in the classroom in a small group.

**2012-2013**

### Kindergarten Registration

You can register your child now for kindergarten at NJ for the 2012-2013 school year. Children must be turning 5 on or before December 31st, 2012. Your child's birth certificate and health care card must be shown to confirm registration.  
*(You can still apply now if you don't already have these!)*

If you want to find out more about kindergarten at NJ, please join us for a  
**Parent Information Evening**  
on  
**Wednesday, February 1st**  
**at 7 pm**

Kindergarten students take part in our Fine Arts program, which includes performing on stage!

Our kindergarten students will have the opportunity to have their own recess breaks on the playground for the first month of school. This will allow them time to learn positive school playground behaviours and get established before joining the rest of the school.

The Yellowknife YWCA offers an Afterschool Program for kindergarten students. Please call 920-2777 to register or for more information. Montessori also offers an Afterschool Program. Please call 669-7987 for more information.

If you have any questions, please call us at 873-4372. We are committed at NJ to working together with parents to make every child's introduction to school a success!

A YK1 Kindergarten Handbook is available as well a NJ frequently asked questions booklet.

### NEWSLETTER DRAW

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter. Please take a moment to fill out this form and put it in the draw can in the office. Each month we will have a draw and the lucky winner will receive a gift. Good luck!

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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