

# January 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>When the outdoor temperature dips to -30 and below, we have indoor recess. Children stay in the classroom and choose a quiet activity—reading, colouring, drawing, card games, board games, Lego, etc. At the longer lunch recess, there are activities to choose from including the reading pit in the atrium and activities in the gym. If you have a special skill or would like to lead a lunch time recess activity please contact the school.</p>							1
2 Gymnastics: Tues. Group 4 Weds. Group 5 Thurs. Group 6	3	4 Day 3 First Day Back After The Break	5 Day 4 10:15—Hockey Academy	6 Day 5 12:15 3-6 Choir	7 Day 6	8	
9 Gymnastics: Tues. Group 1 Weds. Group 2 Thurs. Group 3	10 Day 1 8:45 Assembly: LEM presentation on recycling	11 Day 2 3:30—Staff Mtg.	12 Day 3	13 Day 4 10:15—Hockey Academy 12:15 3-6 Choir	14 Day 5	15	
16 Gymnastics: Tues. Group 4 Weds. Group 5 Thurs. Group 6	17 Day 6	18 Day 1	19 Day 2 10:15—Hockey Academy 7:00—PAC Mtg.	20 Day 3 12:15 3-6 Choir	21 Day 4 10:15—Hockey Academy	22	
23 Gymnastics: Tues. Group 1 Weds. Group 2 Thurs. Group 3	24 Day 5	25 Day 6 7-8 pm— PARTS (Parents supporting the ARTS) AGM	26 Day 1 8:45 Literacy Assembly Wear clothes with words Pizza Orders Due 2011/12 Kindergarten Information Night	27 Day 2 Family Literacy Day Dress as your favourite book Character 10:15—Hockey Academy 12:15 3-6 Choir	28 Day 3 5W Pizza Sale Family Literacy Lunch School Wide Centres in PM	29 NJ Student of week in Friday 's Yellowknifer	
30	31 Day 4 10:15 Hockey	<p><b>Looking Ahead:</b> Feb. 11th—Lifetouch Photo Retakes</p>					



# Mac's Tracks

The newsletter of

873-4372

January, 2011

NJ Macpherson School

www.njm.yk1.nt.ca



## Important Dates:

- ◆ PAC Mtg—Jan. 19th—7 pm
- ◆ Kindergarten Parent Info Evening for 2011-12 is Jan. 26th at 7 pm
- ◆ Family Literacy Day Jan. 27th Dress as a character from your favourite book
- ◆ Jan 28th: Pizza Lunch & Family Literacy Lunch



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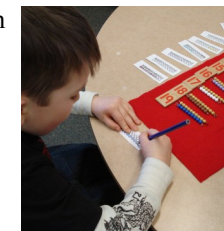
**Principal:**  
Sharon Oldford  
**Asst. Principal:**  
Randy Caines



## It's Time To Start Thinking About Kindergarten!

If your child turns five in 2011, 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. Please come to our Kindergarten Information Evening on January 26th 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. 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 Primary Montessori program. Both programs emphasize literacy, math, and playing and learning with others.



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. If your child will come to school on the bus, please let us know and we can arrange for someone to meet them and show them to their classroom.



## 2011-2012 Kindergarten Registration

You can register your child now for kindergarten at NJ for the 2011-2012 school year. Children must be turning 5 before December 31st, 2011. Your child's birth certificate and health care card must be shown to confirm registration. *(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, January 26th at 7 pm**

or call to arrange a visit to the school.

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 Tanya at 669-7987.

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

This will be the last paper copy of the newsletter sent home to the entire school. If you wish to continue to receive a paper copy and have not already returned the form, please contact the office at 873-4372. The newsletter can be received by visiting our school website. www.njm.yk1.nt.ca

have Pride

Act respectfully

Work cooperatively

play Safely

## Celebrate 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.

In 2011, Canadians will [Play for Literacy!](#) Playing games that encourage literacy and numeracy - such as board games, card games and word games - is a great way for parents and children to practice their literacy skills and have fun. On January 27, grab your family and play at home, attend a local event, or host an event in your community!

### School Literacy events:

We celebrate Family Literacy Day every year at NJ by hosting a Family Literacy Day Lunch where we invite families to come and have lunch with us. We serve cake every year and this year, we will also be having a pizza sale. Please pre-order on your child's pizza order form if you would like to have pizza with us. We are celebrating on Friday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 12:00.

**Wednesday:** Assembly & Wear clothing with words or numbers

**Thursday:** Dress as a character from your favourite book

**Friday:** Family Literacy Lunch, Families are invited to come and eat lunch and share a book or game with their children. We will end the week with all students and staff playing games during the afternoon in School Wide Centres focused on learning through play.

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



### 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: \_\_\_\_\_



## January PAC Meeting

A message from PAC  
(Parent Advisory Committee)

Please join us for the next meeting:

January 19th at 7 pm

## Thank you!

### Gymnastics Refund Date extended

*Thank you to the parents who generously donated money to help support the gymnastics program. In December, our school received a grant to cover the cost of bussing for this program. If you made a donation and would like the money refunded please contact the office by January 13th. All remaining money will be deposited into the school trust account and used to support the school for special physical education equipment and school events.*

## Welcome!

### Staff Profile: Janna Kelly

Welcome to Miss Janna Kelly, who will be taking over for Mrs. Jennifer Therrien as the Kindergarten/Grade 1 teacher. She will be spending some time in the classroom with Mrs. Therrien during early January and begin full time when Mrs. Therrien starts her maternity leave in mid to late January. Miss Kelly has been working as a substitute teacher with our district this school year.

## Bottle Caps Turned into an Amazing Northern Mural!



*Ms. Lee's grade 4 class designed and created a northern mural using bottle caps they collected in the fall. It is proudly displayed in the atrium. Congratulations on a truly terrific and original creation.!*

The YK1 Annual Board Report is available online at :

<http://www.yk1.nt.ca/docs/library/Annual%20Report%2009-10.pdf>

## Reminders:

Please remember to **dress children warmly** with snow pants, boots, hat, scarf, and mitts. We go outside for recess unless the temperature drops below -30 degrees (including the wind-chill factor).

When the temperature in the morning drops below -30 (including wind-chill) supervisors will place signs on the doors of the school and invite the students into the gym. The students hang up their outside clothes, put on their inside shoes and go to the gym where a supervisor is waiting to greet them. Teachers will pick up their classes from the gym.

There is not a lot of parking space on the school property. Please use the **student drop-off lane** (closest to the street) or the street when dropping off or picking up students. Please do not block the bus/fire lane, wheelchair parking spaces, or the staff parking lot entrance.

Please call the school when your child is absent. We follow up on all unexplained absences to make sure that all students are safe—especially in the cold winter months!

## Math Fun!

**There are a lot of Math games which can be played using dice.** It is a fun way to practice math facts. The classes have been introduced to many different games using a variety of dice. Some of these games will be posted on the school web site by mid January. We have put together sets of the different dice we use. These dice can be purchased for \$5.00 set. If you are interested please send \$5.00 along with your child's name.

**Multiply on Track** - this game is for 2 players, is suitable for grades 3 and up, and requires 2 six sided dice, paper, and a pencil.

Each player makes this game board on a piece of paper:

1 2 3 4 5 6 8 9 10 12 15 16 18 20 24 25 30 36

X X X



Player one rolls the dice, multiplies the two numbers and crosses off the answer on his game board. Player two rolls the dice, multiplies, and crosses off the answer on her game board. Players continue to take turns. If a player is not able to cross off an answer, they earn a strike, circling one X. Three strikes and the game is over. The goal is to get all the numbers crossed off before the player strikes out.

**Addition on Track** - This game is played similar to above. You use 2 nine ten dice and add the numbers together. The game board has the numbers 1 through 18.

**Subtraction on Track** - This game is played similar to above. You use 2 ten sided dice and subtract the smaller number from the larger number. These games can easily be adapted by using dice with smaller or larger numbers.

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