

October 2011

Mac's Tracks



The newsletter of

NJ Macpherson School

www.njm.yk1.nt.ca

October 2011

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Thank you to our parent lunch recess supervisors. To sign up for your lunch recess supervision this year, please visit the sign-up calendar located by each classroom. Each class has an assigned block during the year. You only need to commit 30 minutes of time once during the year—or more if you are able!

Looking Ahead:
 November 11—Remembrance Day—No School
 November 15—Report Cards go home
 November 18—Interview Day: No school for Students
 November 25 — SIP noon dismissal
 November 10 — K-6 classes attend Children's Theatre at NACC

2 Parent Supervisors:	3 Day 2 10:15—12:00— Hockey Academy	4 Day 3 Staff Meeting	5 Day 4 Pizza Lunch Forms Due 10:15—12:00— Hockey Academy	6 Day 5 Cut & Paste 9-12 3-6 Choir Practice 12:15-12:40	7 Day 6 5W Pizza Lunch Sale 9:00—Assembly: Fire Safety	8
9 Parent Supervisors: K Kelly Fire Safety Week Gymnastics starts this week.	10 Thanksgiving Day— NO SCHOOL	11 Day 1 Milk program starts today	12 Day 2 10:15—12:00— Hockey Academy	13 Day 3 Cut & Paste 9-12 3-6 Choir Practice 12:15-12:40	14 Day 4 10:15—12:00— Hockey Academy Individual/ Class/Family Fire Safety Pro- jects due. K/1 M Bag Lunch	15 Open House at the Fire hall today! Drama Club 10- 12 noon
16 Parent Supervisors: K Kelly Montessori AGM Start Time: 2:30 NJ Macpherson School Atrium	17 Day 5	18 Day 6	19 Day 1 10:15—12:00: Hockey Academy Kindergarten Family Picnic/ Multi cultural celebration 11:30-12:30	20 Day 2 10:15—12:00: Hockey Acad- emy PAC Meeting 7PM Cut & Paste 9-12 3-6 Choir Practice 12:15-12:40	21 Day 3 SIP Day— Dismissal at Noon	22 Drama Club 10- 12 noon
23 Parent Supervisors: K Kelly Parent Help Costume Cupboard 2-4	24 Day 4 10:15 Hockey 31 Day 3 NJ Spirit Day —Wear Black and Orange Clothes 1 M Bag Lunch	25 Day 5	26 Day 6 8:45— Assembly: Grade 1 Moran and 2 Booker present Litterless Lunch	27 Day 1 3-6 Choir Practice 12:15-12:40 Cut & Paste 9-12	28 Day 2 PAC Lunch Sale 10:15 Hockey Academy KM-Bag Lunch	29

Free Walk In Seasonal Flu Clinics: Start Nov. 1st
 Visit www.yhssa.org or call 920-6570 for more info.



Important Dates

- **Fire Safety Week**
October 8-15th
- No school for **Thanksgiving Holiday:**
October 10th
- SIP afternoon on **October 21st.** School dismisses at 12:00



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 Sharon Oldford
Asst. Principal:
 Randy Caines
Secretary:
 Natalie Kelln



Playground Pathways completed!

NJ Macpherson's All Accessible Playground: Phase 1 completed

Last week a team of workers completed the pathway from the school to the new playground equipment. This allows all strollers, wheelchairs and people with limited mobility to access our new equipment. Additional pathways are planned for next year.

A special thank you goes out to Claire Fyfe who donated an amazing poster size photo of the new playground to the school. She added special effects to her work and created a truly unique perspective of the NJ Macpherson Firefighters Memorial Park. Claire's daughter, Alliks Traverse, presented the photo to the school at last week's assembly. It is being framed and will then hang in the library.

Fire prevention and safety is an important part of the YK Fire Dept.'s role. Next week is Fire Prevention Week, with an open house on Saturday, October 15th. Firefighters will be completing several demonstrations. Classes, families, and individuals are encouraged to participate in fire safety projects/contests. There are prizes for individuals (K-Gr.8), classes and families. All projects will be displayed. One K-3 student will be selected as a 'junior fire chief for a day'! Watch for more information coming home this week or call the fire hall.



NJ participated in the Terry Fox School challenge on September 28th. The entire school completed a mini walk. The school continues to collect toonies for Terry for the rest of this week.

Open House!

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Open House on September 28th. It was great to see so many familiar faces and to meet some of our new families. Dawson Chwelos and Rhys Thurstun were the winners of the 'NJ Then and Now Search'. Check out the display in the front entrance; all the staff names have been added. We hope to continue to see you in the school throughout the year at special events, eating lunch with your child, volunteering, or just visiting.

have Pride

Act respectfully

Work cooperatively

play Safely



A Halloween safety message from the RCMP School Liason

Halloween Safety Newsletter

It is that time of year to remind everyone about Halloween Safety and how everyone can make October 31st a fun filled experience while being safe, while you are out. Here are some Halloween Safety rules to keep in mind when you are out:

- Wear a light colored costume that is flame resistant. Parents – put reflective tape on your kids clothing. It really helps motorists.
- Make-up is better than a mask. A mask can inhibit a person's view.
- Also ensure you look both ways before crossing the street. Be aware of vehicles.
- Be sure that underneath your costume you are dressed appropriately for the weather.
- Wear a costume that is short so that you don't trip.
- Do not ride your bike as your costume could get tangled in the spokes.
- Have the children carry a flashlight.
- Do not criss-cross the street. Trick or Treat on one side of the street and then the other.
- Younger kids should be with an adult. Older kids should go out in groups.
- Be sure you tell your parents where you are going and when you'll be home.
- Never go into a strange house, apartment, or car.
- You should only Trick or Treat in your own neighborhood and where you know the area.
- Parents - Tell your children never to go to homes or areas that are not well lit. Do not go to homes that do not have the outside light on.
- Before eating any treats be sure that an adult checks them. Any treats that appear opened or unwrapped, discard.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the local Yellowknife RCMP Detachment for any further information.

Cst. Amanda McGillivray
Community Policing – School Liaison
Yellowknife Detachment



Halloween Events

Black & Orange Spirit Day:

We take a low-key approach to Halloween at NJ. Instead of having children come in costumes, we have a School Spirit Day. Staff and students in Gr.1-6 are encouraged to dress in black and orange. Ms. Grimes has challenged all the classes to see who can wear the most black. This helps students who are afraid of masks and costumes, allows those who don't celebrate Halloween to continue to be a part of the class, and provides a calm and less stressful day for our students. Each class may choose to celebrate in a unique way, such as a class party, games, centres, or movie during the afternoon. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher or the school office. Continuing with past practice, Kindergarten students will be able to wear simple costumes in the afternoon.



A message from PAC

Thank you to the parents who have volunteered to be class reps. Reps are still needed for some classes. If you are available please contact your child's teacher or the school. The next PAC meeting is set for October 20th at 7pm. Elections will take place for Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. If you are interested please come to the next meeting. Thank you to those **parents** who have volunteered to do **lunch recess supervision** this year. Having that third supervisor on the playground for our longest recess really helps to keep everyone safe. Classroom reps from our PAC will be contacting parents soon. Thank you for saying yes!

PAC is having its first lunch sale on October 28th. Forms should be coming home in mid October. A PAC committee is working on trying to provide healthy lunch options for the 2011-12 school year. Check out the new menu coming soon.

Have **P**ride

Act Respectfully

Work Cooperatively

Play **S**afely

The students have earned 189 PAWS. We will have a school celebration when we reach 500.

Grade 4-5-6 Leadership Jobs

Students in grade 4, 5, and 6 will have the opportunity to apply for school leadership jobs. Please take a few minutes to discuss with your child their strengths and ask them about the jobs they applied for. All students were encouraged to apply. Jobs will be posted during the second week of October.

Some of the leadership jobs available this year include:

- Chair Crew
- Sound Crew
- Assembly Emcee(s)
- Morning Announcer(s)
- Computer Assistant(s)
- Math Assistant(s)
- Reading Assistant(s)
- PAC Lunch Helpers
- Grade 5 photographer (1 per class)
- Playground Buddies
- Peace Keepers

What is Cut & Paste?

Each Thursday morning a group of parent volunteers come to the school to help prepare materials for teachers and students. It is a great opportunity to support your child's teacher, meet some new parents, as well as get to know staff and the school. Please feel free to bring younger children to play in the resource room while you help. Come and join in any Thursday morning. Location: Teacher Resource Room.

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