

## Message from the Acting President

This month I would like to take the opportunity thank some people who were extremely helpful this past month. In particular, I would like to thank our landlord, **Chris Bromley**, for his prompt attention in boarding up the front window (at 2 a.m. on a Friday night no less) and getting someone in to replace the window. His quick action saved the Centre from potential theft and vandalism.

Finally, I would also like to thank **Leslie Goit** and **Deb Archibald** for cleaning up the interior of the Centre so that the Centre could open on Monday morning.

I would also like to thank the **NWT Literacy Council** for providing some of the children in the Centre (those born in 1999) with a free backpack filled with all sorts of literacy-related materials (i.e., story books, pencils, crayons, stories on tape, etc.). I know my son has thoroughly enjoyed it.

Happy Mother's Day to all mother's at the Centre. If you didn't know, May 5th is International Laughter Day so share some laughs with your child.

*Malcolm Robb*  
A/ President



**CLOSED FOR THE  
HOLIDAYS.....**

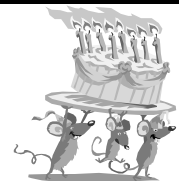
The centre will be closed on  
May 19<sup>th</sup> (Victoria Day).



## ***BIRTHDAYS!!!!!!***

The following birthdays will be celebrated during the month of December:

- ◆ **Brittany Napayok** who turns 5 on May 2<sup>nd</sup>;
- ◆ **Alex Robb** who turns 4 on May 5<sup>th</sup>;
- ◆ **Sahcho Jack** who turns 2 this month





To **Kathy Smith** and **Leslie Goit** who have been cleaning the Centre.



## Annual Barbeque

Kids First has an annual summer barbeque. This year's is scheduled for **June 28<sup>th</sup>**, 1 – 5 p.m. at the Fred Henne Territorial Park (boat launch).



## Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting for the Kids First Child Development Centre will be held **June 10<sup>th</sup>** in the First Floor Boardroom of the Bellanca Building, starting at **5:30 p.m.** We will provide babysitting and supper for the children and supper for the parents who attend the meeting.

Please note that according to the policies of the Centre, one representative for each family must attend the meeting.

### **Reminder:**

If your child is sick (i.e., vomiting, diarrhoea, fever) DO NOT bring him/her to the Centre.

The NWT Child Day Care Act specifies that children that are ill cannot be at the Centre.

If one of the staff tells you that your child cannot come to the Centre that day, due to illness, respect the staff member's decision and take your child home (do not argue, plead, etc.) with the staff member. They are only doing their job.

If your child does have a contagious illness, your child cannot come back to the Centre until you have a doctor's note indicating that he/she is no longer contagious.

# Themes and Planning

(for all age groups)

**Theme:** Mother's Day, spring  
and spring colours



## The Story of Mother's Day

Posted on the internet by: **Lory**

Date: Wednesday, 1 May 2002, at 9:53 p.m.

The earliest Mother's Day celebrations can be traced back to the spring celebrations of ancient Greece in honor of Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. During the 1600's, England celebrated a day called "Mothering Sunday". Celebrated on the 4th Sunday of Lent (the 40 day period leading up to Easter\*), "Mothering Sunday" honored the mothers of England.

During this time many of the England's poor worked as servants for the wealthy. As most jobs were located far from their homes, the servants would live at the houses of their employers. On Mothering Sunday the servants would have the day off and were encouraged to return home and spend the day with

their mothers. A special cake, called the mothering cake, was often brought along to provide a festive touch.

As Christianity spread throughout Europe the celebration changed to honor the "Mother Church" - the spiritual power that gave them life and protected them from harm. Over time the church festival blended with the Mothering Sunday celebration. People began honoring their mothers as well as the church.

In the United States Mother's Day was first suggested in 1872 by Julia Ward Howe (who wrote the words to the Battle hymn of the Republic) as a day dedicated to peace. Ms. Howe would hold organized Mother's Day meetings in Boston, Mass ever year.

In 1907 Ana Jarvis, from Philadelphia, began a campaign to establish a national Mother's Day. Ms. Jarvis persuaded her mother's church in Grafton, West Virginia to celebrate Mother's Day on the second anniversary of her mother's death, the 2nd Sunday of May. By the next year Mother's Day was also celebrated in Philadelphia.

Ms. Jarvis and her supporters began to write to ministers, businessmen, and politicians in their quest to establish a national Mother's Day. It was successful as by 1911 Mother's Day was celebrated in almost every state. President Woodrow Wilson, in 1914, made the official announcement proclaiming Mother's Day as a national holiday that was to be held each year on the 2nd Sunday of May.

While many countries of the world celebrate their own Mother's Day at different times throughout the year, there are some countries such as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia, and Belgium which also celebrate Mother's Day on the second Sunday of May.