

## Child Development expansion project celebrates completion

By Christa Pratt, Learning Center director

Council members, architects, planners, administrators, teachers, students and parents gathered Tuesday, April 3 to celebrate the opening of the new Child Development expansion project.

From initial planning to completion, the project spanned approximately three years.

President Marshall Gover offered the keynote address highlighting the importance of teaching our young ones, and the special calling of the staff who have taken on that role. He reminded us that one day these young ones would hold positions of leadership for the Pawnees, "The greatest nation on the face of the earth."

A dedication prayer was also offered by Reverend Warren Pratt Jr. asked Attias ti<sup>ti</sup>awahut to bless both the purpose and use of the building and the children who are in care there.

The night concluded with a reception offering delicious and healthy foods and tours of the new facility. The building was approved by the Department of Human Services for 23 children, eight (8) infants (0-12 months) and 15 wobblers (12-24 months) which will bring the projected capacity for the center to 111.

Photo captions: Top – Pawnee Business Council (PBC) Vice-Present Charles "Buddy" Lone Chief (l) and PBC President Marshall Gover (r) cut the ribbon dedicating the new facility while Learning Center Director Christa Pratt observes. Photo by Toni Hill. Bottom left – (l to r) Levi, Tomoyake, Ron, Charlie, Keiton, Kinley, Tea and Emerald enjoy the new amenities. Photo by Christa Pratt. Bottom right – President Gover holds the cake created for the occasion. Photo by Toni Hill.

