

Fireweed Academy Newsletter

September 9th, 2013

Last Week's Anchor Point Field Trip

Wow! That was a fun, sunny, wet and windy experience. We had it all from learning how to pack, set up tents, cooperate, improvise when you don't have all the tent parts, share tent stakes, set boundaries, sing together, play together, eat together, stay hydrated, stay safe, take care of ourselves, take care of each other, stay dry, stay happy (even when wet)...

Thank you to families who helped by... chaperoning, spending the night, helping set up dry tents and take down wet tents in gusty winds, lending tents, providing food, setting up the cooking area tarps... It takes a village. The kids did an incredible job and experienced one of our learner outcomes "self-reliance" first hand. What a great way to get to know each other and build community. It was fabulous to have the K -2 students join us on the dry sunny day.

The tents got very wet and were taken down in high winds. If your tent went home on Friday it is probably wet and needs to be set up and dried out. Plastic tent stakes broke and we had to share. If you have pieces missing please let us know and we will do the best we can to straighten things out.

Field Trip to Mariner Park: Community Basket "ENJOY" with Mavis Muller (Wednesday)

Mavis Muller has invited us to participate in the creation of this year's community basket titled, "ENJOY". We will be leaving school at 8:50ish and working at 3 stations (Labyrinth Creations, Beach Combing/Collecting, and Beach Grass Cutting). Students will be collecting material used to weave and embellish the final basket. We could use family help by collecting things at home like: Spruce Cones, Elderberries, Golden Rod, yellow or red leaves, daisies, oyster shells. Mavis has requested buckets of oyster shells from any of you oyster eaters, growers... We could also use some parent help at each of the stations. We will be there from 9:00 to 11:00. If the weather forecast is good, we will plan to have lunch and recess on the beach. If not we will return for lunch at school.

FAMILY ROOTS. We will be starting our exploration of family roots this week. If you have time to look around for family photos, artifacts, genealogy trees, old letters etc, the kids will be looking for information and artifacts to include in Scrapbooks.

School Strategic Plan: Every fall we examine and revise our school strategic plan, set goals, and action steps. We very much appreciate parent input in these plans. This year most of our goals and action steps will lead toward transitioning to the new Alaska State Standards. Please consider joining our *Professional Learning Community* by contacting Kiki with your ideas for improving our school culture, climate, communication and student achievement.

Enrollment

Fireweed Academy still has room for more students in all grades THIS year. While we continue to advertise, word of mouth is often the best method of letting folks know. Please, if any of your friends or colleagues are interested, have them call Janet Bowen at 235-9728

Math Homework Club There will be an afterschool math homework club during the months of September, October and November on Mondays from 3:15 - 4:15. The location is Stephanie's room. Make sure to fill out a permission slip. An electronic copy went out Sunday night. I will have hard copies available Monday AM. Sorry for the delay (I was busy with the Field Trip) The first session is Monday September 9th.

Upcoming 2-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!

- Sept 11th** 9 - 12 Big Fireweed is invited to participate in the construction of Homer Burning Basket 2013 "ENJOY". The community event follows on Sunday.
- Sept 18th** Early Release Day. School will end ninety minutes (1 ½ hours earlier. According to the KPBSD website, bus transportation will be adjusted by ninety minutes.)
- Sept 26th** Fireweed Academy Harvest Festival all day in room 105 West Homer Campus.
- Sept 26th** **Open House** for Fireweed Academy grades 2-6 West Campus (evening: time TBA)