

Fireweed Academy Newsletter

October 28, 2013

Ellis Island Simulation: Thanks to all who made the Ellis Island Celebration a huge learning endeavor and success! To the immigrants, the processors, and all who joined in song... you were fabulous! To the potluck cookers... there was delicious abundance in the new land. To all who joined us in the Great Hall and America, thanks for celebrating with us! We noticed many cameras flashing. If you have a great photo that we could send to the paper or to central office for the website please pass it our way. Also there are some photos on our school webpage...

schools.kbpsd.org/fireweed

Early Release Day: This Wednesday is an early release day. School ends at 1:45. Buses will be running 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours early.

New Theme - Communication: We are always on the look-out for ideas related to the current theme. You might think of an interesting area to explore, an idea for a field trip, or a guest that connects to our theme. Let us know!

Islands and Oceans Discovery Lab: On Thursday the 5th and 6th graders had an introduction to the Discovery Lab we will be researching and developing to commemorate the 25th Anniversary of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill. This will be a great avenue to dive into our Communication Theme because the goal is to make the public aware and share information about oil spills and what we have learned from this incident 25 years later! If you were here and experienced the spill and clean-up efforts, or work in a related industry now, please consider sharing your experience with the class.

PUMPKIN CARVING: Thanks to Bay Realty for donating pumpkins and carving kits so our kids can participate in this creative seasonal activity. We will be carving pumpkins in teams of 2 or 3 kids on Monday afternoon, October 28th. It would be great to get parent volunteers for the afternoon to assist and monitor and also who can bring the creations to Bay Realty after school Monday.

Halloween Day (Thursday): Students may wear costumes to school. Their costume must follow these guidelines:

- No weapons of any sort (gun, knife, sword, mace, tanks, etc.).
- No masks or costumes that prevent the use of all appendages (legs, arms, fingers, brain etc.).
- No fake (or real) blood.
- No glitter or face paint.

In addition:

- Costumes cannot distract from or interfere with the learning of students. If they cause distraction, students will be asked to change back into their school clothes.
- Students may not use class time to prepare or maintain costumes.

Quilt raffle: We are getting down to the last few weeks-if you have not bought your quilt raffle tickets yes, now is the time. Fireweed parent Jo Dempsey will be at Safeway selling tickets on November 5th and 12th from about 9:30 until 2:30. If you would like to help out, call her at 235-4759. She has the quilt and the tickets and is ready to sell you some or give you some to sell!

From the District: The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is requesting applications from interested persons to serve on the Budget Development Committee to review development of the FY 2015 budget. Anyone interested in applying should visit the School District website at www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us, Community Interest, for an application and further instructions, or contact Lassie Nelson at 714-8838 if there are questions. All applications must be received no later than 4:00 p.m., November 8, 2013.

Ethnic Lunch Fundraiser: Our next Ethnic Lunch will be November 1st and we will be trying a touch of Thai! Please let us know if you are a parent with experience with Thai Food and Cultural Roots. Everyone is Welcome.

Math Homework Club: Afterschool math homework club will continue during the months of October and November on Mondays from 3:15 - 4:15. The location is Stephanie's room. Make sure to fill out a permission slip.

Creative Writing: Kiki will be offering an after school creative writing workshop on Tuesdays from 3:15- 4:30 starting October 29th for four weeks. We will be working on writing, conferencing and revising pieces to submit to the Homer News Writing Contest, due date November 20th. Once again dates are October 29th, November 5th, 12th and 19th. There is no charge for this workshop; but we would grovel for snacks.

Needs: If you have incomplete decks of cards that you want to get rid, Kris could use a few more for warm-up activities in math. Thanks!
On Wednesday, Please send your child in with a metal spoon (teaspoon size is good). Stephanie is working on clay pinch bowl with the students. We are using the spoons to burnish the air-dried bowls.

Upcoming 2nd grade -6th grade Big Fireweed Dates: Mark your calendars!

Oct 28 th	Carving Pumpkins
Oct 29 th	Creative writing workshop 3:15-4:30
Oct 30 th	Early Release Day school ends at 1:45.
Nov 1 st	Thai Ethnic Lunch: Parents welcome, donations appreciated