

3rd-6th Fireweed Academy Newsletter

February 9, 2015

Artist in the School This Week:

Ann Margaret Wimmerstedt has been a fantastic addition to our FWA day. She has taught us about an ancient form of painting with hot wax called "Encaustics". Students have had the opportunity to explore the techniques on their own plywood "canvas". Now that students have background knowledge they have begun to further explore these techniques in collage and assemblage work. Thank you to Abe "Mr. Kiki" and Kiki for supplying us with the plywood blocks and tiles! Later in the week students will be working on a small piece to be assembled into a larger Fireweed Academy piece.



Invention Process Update:

- Students are working on the writing to complete their display boards in Language Arts. Some of these items are: about the inventor, description, procedure, materials, and conclusion.
- Students are designing a logo to go with their invention. They have been part of several discussions about marketing and eye catching materials.
- Students will be using project time to work on their inventions and invention logs.

[*Please be working with your student on their invention at home. If you need any support from Fireweed Academy contact Kiki.](#)

NAEP ASSESSMENT

Fireweed 4th graders have been selected to represent schools across the nation by participating in the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). First administered in 1969, NAEP is the largest nationally representative and continuing assessment of what students know and can do in various subject areas. It is administered by the National Center for Education Statistics, within the U.S. Department of Education. NAEP is different from state assessments because it provides a common measure of student achievement across the country. The results of NAEP are released as The Nation's Report Card, which provides information about student achievement to educators, parents, policymakers, and the public.

In our school, the NAEP assessment will be given on **February 23rd**. A separate letter with the details of this assessment has been sent to 4th grade students. If you would like to view sample subject area questions, please visit <http://nationsreportcard.gov/parents.asp>. If any 4th grade parents would like to have their student opt out of the assessment, please let Janet, Kris (assessment coordinator for Fireweed), or their homeroom teacher know

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment: February is our open enrollment month. Current students will not go through the lottery however **ALL** returning students must complete an 'Intent to Enroll' form. This holds your spot and lets us figure out how much space we will have for new students next year. Intent Enroll forms were emailed home last month and again today; hard copies are available at both schools. Be sure to return them no later than Feb 27th. And tell your friends and neighbors-it open enrollment time at Fireweed! Have them call me for more information and to arrange a visit to our school! Janet 235-9728

Afterschool Math Club:

Math club will continue this semester. Students will meet in Kris' room on Mondays from 3:15-4:15PM. Please contact Kris or Janet if you need a permission slip.

FUNDRAISERS

Winter Carnival: This weekend's Winter Carnival Hot Cocoa/Bake Sale/Kid Felted Soaps/Stuffed Bear Raffle table earned \$436! Making our grand total \$1,921!!! Thanks for all the baked goodies, sales personnel -Coda, Harrison, Liam, Zak, Alana, Mary, Laura and Aiyana, and especially to Kristen Metz and Susan Houlihan who set up and ran the tables!

Upcoming Fundraisers: The 6th graders are selling raffle tickets that have two terrific prizes! One is Dinner for 2 at the Homestead Restaurant, www.homesteadrestaurant.net (\$150 Value and donated by Rick and Sharlene Cline) and the other is a Halibut Charter for 1 from Ofishial Charters, www.ofishial.com (\$260 value and donated by Austin Ceccarelli's parents). Each ticket is \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. The drawing will be held Friday April 17 at noon in Big Fireweed's Room 102 (Kris Owens room) during our Soup Lunch Fundraiser (our last fundraiser). Winners need not be present to win.

The February 20th Soup dinner fundraiser is cancelled!

From The District:

The KPBSD Board of Education seeks public input into its process to select a superintendent of schools. The school board invites input from everyone interested in schools, including parents, students, KPBSD staff, site councils, PTAs, volunteers, business and community organizations that partner with schools, community groups, and the public. The school board has sole responsibility for the selection of candidates, final interviews, and selection of the superintendent, but would like to consider the views and interests of the public to help guide those decisions.

Visit the district's website, www.KPBSD.org, and follow the link on the homepage to rank attributes of importance in the next superintendent, submit general comments, and for more information about further opportunities for input as the process progresses.

[Superintendent of Schools Search](http://bit.ly/2015SuperintendentSearch) webpage with survey link:
<http://bit.ly/2015SuperintendentSearch>

From the District

The Kenai Peninsula Borough School District is holding a Public Budget Meeting on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. in the Homer High School library. Everyone interested is encouraged to attend. If there are questions, please contact Lassie Nelson at 714-8838.

Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!

- February 9-20th: Ann Margaret Wimmerstedt: Artist in the Schools
- March 4th- Invention Convention
- March 6th- Teacher In-service/ End of Quarter
- March 6th-15th Spring Break
- April 17th - Soup Fundraiser at Big Fireweed and Raffle Drawing