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**3rd-6th Fireweed Academy Newsletter**

**Week of November 6th, 2017**

**Our Theme – Communication**

Last week we launched our theme, Communication. Students looked at various forms of communication. We ended last week with a Socratic Seminar and presentation.

For this quarter in Hannah’s room, students will be looking at DNA. Students will be looking at what DNA is, where it is found, how it functions etc. Students will complete an experiment to extract DNA from a banana for analysis and observation.

**MATH HOMEWORK CLUB** 

Our next session of After-School Math starts next week. This is an opportunity for students to log onto ALEKS.COM or work on paper-based homework. This session will run for six weeks (**Wed.Nov. 1st**, and **then Thursdays** Nov. 9th, 16th, 30th, Dec. 7th, & 14th). Permission slips will go home this week, so sign and return them if you would like your child to participate. Pick-up should be promptly at 3:45. Snack is provided.

**Homer Youth String Orchestra Club**

HYSOC is giving a free Fall Concert on Tuesday, November 14th at the Homer Public Library from 6:30pm-7:30pm. It is free to the public and Fireweed has 4 students in the performance. The music video the kids made with Johnny B will also be shown. Should be a good time…

**LICE CHECKING TIME!**

***It is a good idea to check your child’s head for lice on a weekly basis.*** Good lighting is the key to finding those pesky bugs. If you think your child may have lice, let the nurse know. She will follow up with your child and let you know what does or does not see.

**New Gryphon Logo!**

Quite a few students submitted a logo to go on t-shirts and hoodies. When all were submitted the Big Fireweed students participated in a ballot to vote for the one they liked most. The results were very close, but 5th grade student, Annabelle, won with 14% of the votes! You can view her logo below. Be looking for information on when you can order one! Congratulations to Annabelle and all the other hardworking artists!



**HOT LUNCH/BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

We have a hot lunch program here at the school. If you would like your child to have hot lunch, they will sign up first thing in the morning! Hot lunch is $.40 or free if you qualify for free/reduced program or $3 full price. Milk is also available for purchase for $.60. Breakfast is $2 or free if you qualified for the free/reduced program. The ‘Student Programs’ application is what you fill out to see if you are qualified for free/reduced meals. It will be in your first day packet. If your student was approved for free or reduced price meals at the close of the 20117-2018 school year, his/her meal benefits will be continued for UP to 30 days at the start of the 2017-2018 school year. This allows your student to receive meal benefits while a new application is processed. The school district offers a hot breakfast program as well. If your student is on the free/Reduced program, there is no fee for breakfast, otherwise the cost is $1.75.

**Nurses Note**

**COLD WEATHER CLOTHING**

Dear Parents / Guardians:

Cold, wet weather is here! Appropriate clothing is needed to keep your child warm and dry. School policy states that all children will go outside at recess unless the chill factor exceeds -10 degrees or it’s raining significantly. Studies have shown that fresh air and exercise increase a child’s ability to learn in the classroom, even for those who have, or are recovering from, a minor illness. Please consider the following guidelines:

1. **Water repellent hat, coat and foot gear for damp and wet days.**

2. **Mittens or gloves**

3. **Clothing:** Several layers of light clothing that fit comfortably without binding and/or snow pants and rain gear.

4. **Hat or ear band:** Should be worn even if your child's coat or snowsuit has a hood. Hoods frequently do not stay in place or fit snugly enough around the ears.

5. **Foot Gear that will keep the feet dry:** Insulated boots or rubber boots with warm socks. Both types should be removed when indoors. Boots worn indoors cause feet to perspire and become damp. Wet feet will become cold feet on the next trip outdoors.

6. **A light shoe** (i.e. tennis shoes) **should remain in the classroom for indoor wear.**

7. **Stocking feet are not adequate in case of a fire drill.**

8. **All removable clothing should be labeled with your child's name.**

As a general rule, children who are well enough to attend school benefit from outdoor recess time.

Because we don’t keep spare clothing in the nurse’s office, someone from the school will be calling you for dry clothes if your child needs them. Some families have chosen to send their child with an extra set of pants, socks and underwear to avoid that situation. If you have any questions or concerns, you can reach the nurse at 235-5788.

Laura Peek, RN, Melissa Miller, RN

West Homer Elementary

Fireweed Academy

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| **Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!**Mon. Nov. 6th Field Trip to the Tiglax – 9:30amMon. Nov. 6th APC meeting room 104 at Big Fireweed 4:30-6pmTh./Fri. Nov. 16th/17th Field Trip to Islands and Ocean – Split groups ea. dayWed. Nov. 22nd Early ReleaseTh./Fr. Nov. 23rd/24th Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL |

**ALL INTERESTED PARENT VOLUNTEERS**

If you would like to be volunteering at the school, please take a moment to complete this on line volunteer screening. It’s easy! So… take care of it quickly and join us in the classroom!!!

**Read this…School District News**… Mandatory Volunteer Screening

Anyone interested in being a school volunteer needs to complete an online form and agree to a background check; only criminal activity will be checked.  All information will be kept confidential and information can only be accessed by a few members of the Human Resources department.  To complete the screening process, visit the District’s web page at www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us and click on Employment, then click on Volunteer, then on Volunteer All Vacancies, and find the location where you wish to volunteer.  Click the ‘Apply’ button that corresponds to that location, then follow the instructions.  Please contact the Human Resources department at 907-714-8888 if you have questions.