

# 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Fireweed Academy Newsletter

## October 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### Pumpkin Carving

Students who are current on their work and would like to express their creative energy will be able to work on Pumpkin carving again this year, thanks to Bay Realty's pumpkin donation. Their creations will be on display at Bay Realty on Thursday and their contest is at 5:00 PM (Thursday).



### Dia De Los Muertos - Day of the Dead

Students are wrapping up their skeletal systems study as we also learn about Day of the Dead. This is a centuries-old holiday, mixing ancient Aztec and traditional customs celebrated throughout Mexico and Central America. In Math 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students are solving a Problem of the Week with a Day of the Dead twist. We are reading the story "The Spirit of Tio Ferando". Students are learning about cylinders, rectangles, slabs, coils... as they create skeletons out of clay. We continue to explore the form and function of each bone as we assemble our clay skeletons. I invite students, if they choose, to bring in photograph(s) of loved ones who have passed away to contribute to our Day of the Dead Display.



### Wednesday

Wednesday is an early release day. We are allowing students to wear costumes to school, but are asking that they wait until after Language Arts and Math to put on the finishing touches. Costumes 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.

## **Fun At McNeil Canyon School**

McNeil Canyon School Fall Carnival-**Thurs. October 30th** from 4:00-7:00 pm

## **Fun at West Homer**

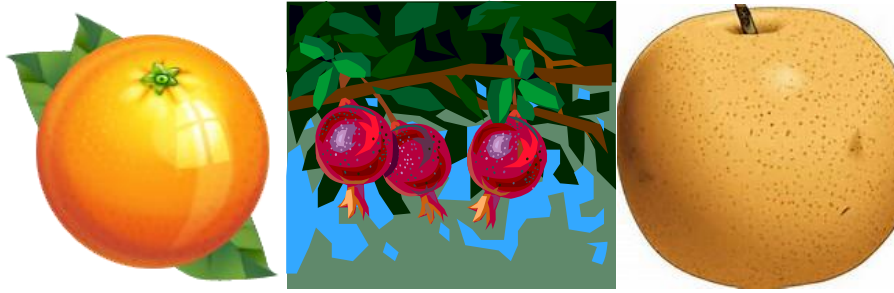
The Scholastic Book Fair is here at the West Homer Elementary Library! Open to the public Monday October 27<sup>th</sup> -Friday October 31. The Book Fair will be open all week during the school day and all day during Parent/Teacher Conferences.

**Also join us on Tuesday October 28th 4:30-6:30 for Family and Friends Fun Night at the Book Fair with door prizes and refreshments. We will have a craft table set up for making bookmarks. Come one and all and enjoy the festivities.**

There will be books, science kits, art kits, notebooks, posters and more—something for everyone! We will have lots of fun!!!!!!

See you there-Lisa Whip and Cheryl Illg, West Homer Library

## **FARM FRESH FUNDRAISER**



**Information went home last week about our fruit fundraiser. If you have questions about how this works, give me a call. Janet - 235-9728**

## **Marvelous Monday**

On Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup> Big Fireweed will be hosting Little Fireweed for a Marvelous Monday. Little Fireweed will arrive in the afternoon to do some buddy reading, recess/team building, and watching a dance number presented by the 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade students. There is a hip hop dance led by Margie that the students have been working on and practicing during Monday gym. The students will also share what they've learned with Kara in Wednesday gym. This will involve a BRAIN dance and a special dance done by 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>. We are excited to have this time to bring both Fireweed sites together!

## Winter Bike Maintenance

Last Friday the students had a guest speaker, Bob Schmutzler from Homer Saw and Cycle. Bob came in to share and demonstrate some winter bike maintenance tips. Bob brought his fat tire bike and shared some of the systems with the students. He also fielded many questions from students and gave helpful advice about bike safety. A hearty thank you to Bob for taking the time to share with our students and promote alternative transportation!



## Guest Music Teacher

Students have been learning to play the recorder this week and last. We have had a guest teacher come in on Fridays (Sue Biggs) to teach us some songs that students may choose to perform with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra early next year. During specials students will be practicing "BAG" songs (songs with the notes B, A, and G). We are also learning about the mathematical connections to music.

## **THE ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE IS A GREAT PLACE TO SUPPORT FIREWEED ACADEMY!**

October is Election Month for the Fireweed APC. Voting will take place during the week of Oct 27<sup>th</sup> at both schools Janet - 235-9728.

### Student-led Parent-Teacher Conference:

There is no school on October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>, instead it is conference time! I am ready to schedule your child's conference so just give me a call...the sooner you call, the more choice you have! Thanks Janet 235-9728

### Afterschool Monday Math Club

Math club is on Mondays after school and all 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students with a permission slip are welcome.

### **Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!**

- Oct 27 Marvelous Monday with Little Fireweed visiting! Big Fireweed Students perform hiphop and the Brain dance
- Oct 29<sup>th</sup> Early release
- October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>: Student Led Conferences with Parent/Guardians

