

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

## October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

### PE: LET'S DANCE!

We are fortunate enough to have two dance instructors, Margie and Kara, join us for gym this quarter. On Mondays Margie has been leading the students in learning a hip hop themed dance. On Wednesdays Kara has been instructing the students on a brain dance and creative movement. The students are enjoying this gym time and we'd like to thank Margie and Kara for coming in to join us!

### BONES, BONES and More BONES

During Project Time and Specials students are observing, drawing detailed drawings, sorting, classifying, and making inferences on the function of all the bones in a real Brown Bear's Skeletal System. This week students will assemble the skeleton which stands about six and a half feet tall. Come on in to Stephanie's room to see what the students have assembled.



### BIG NUMBERS!:

During Math, we are extending our understanding of place value in many forms through games like, "Place Value Concentration" and "Trash Can". Ask your child to teach you. The 4<sup>th</sup> graders are playing a game into the millions place!



### **Circle Justice:**

Our Mock Justice Circle went exceptionally well. Special thanks to Harrison Metz for providing the scenario. Curt Shuey from the Kenaitze Tribal organization wrote: *What an inspiring group of well prepared students, and such an education in the process of critical thinking and consultative communication! Thank you Kiki for the invite, and Ginny for connecting and organizing us, and Vanessa for facilitating the Circle!* Friday, the 6<sup>th</sup> graders will present a mini-presentation for the whole school at Tribal Council.



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

October is Election Month for the Fireweed APC. There are several vacancies open for the next term: student rep, community rep and parent rep. Please take a moment to think about if this is a good way for you to be part of our Learning Community. It is an active and important way to be at the grassroots level of governing and guiding our school community; working together with Kiki and other APC members to keep it a healthy and balanced system. Join us in Hannah's room at 4:30 this Wednesday, Oct. 8<sup>th</sup>!

### **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

### **Link Up:**

Link Up is a collaboration with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra. Sue Biggs, a long time KPBSD music teacher, will be introducing our kids to this program starting Friday afternoon, October 10<sup>th</sup>. She will be doing introductory lessons on the recorder. After getting to know the kids music knowledge and skill level, we hope to differentiate the groups more. There is an opportunity for the kids to play with the Kenai Peninsula Orchestra in their fall concert if students are motivated.

### **PBIS:**

We are joining West Homer Elementary in implementing a school wide PBI program. "Positive Behavioral Intervention and Supports (PBIS) is a systemic approach to proactive, school-wide behavior based on a Response to Intervention (RtI) model. PBIS applies evidence-based programs, practices and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety, decrease problem behavior, and establish a positive school culture. Schools implementing PBIS build on existing strengths, complementing and organizing current programming and strategies" The kids know this as the "Orca Bucks".

### **Mind A'Mazes... (...one week to go!)**

Students participating in Mind A'Mazes may use Kris's room as a work space again on Thursday after school. At this point, groups should have a working model that they can bring and test. They may also want to bring an extra snack to help power them through their longer day. The room is available until 4:15. Students using the space will need to clean up any materials and the space in general, before leaving.

### **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!**

- October 8<sup>th</sup> APC Meeting at 4:30
- 10<sup>th</sup>: Link Up Music instruction with recorders starts
- October 16<sup>th</sup>: All Alaska Shakedown Earthquake Drill: 10:16 am
- October 17<sup>th</sup>: End of Quarter Teacher In-service No School for Students
- Oct 29-1:20 : Hamlet
- October 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>: Student Led Conferences with Parent/Guardians