

3rd-6th Fireweed Academy Newsletter

March 28, 2016



Guest Speaker: It is always exciting to see our students making connections between themes, and recognizing key ideas in a new context. This was evident Friday morning, as Coowe Walker of Kachemak Bay Research Reserve, along with several of her team, described their work in the Anchor River Estuary area. You could practically hear wheels spinning in heads, in response to problems presented by the location (Anchor River estuary) of the research they are conducted. Students were also fascinated by the types of research taking place, and had a great time learning about tracking methods and devices. Can you believe you can implant a tracker into a very tiny fish? Well they can... and do!



Exciting Adventure - Research Vessel Tiglax

Complimenting our visit from Coowe in the morning and the launch of "Exploration", was a field trip to the Research Vessel Tiglax this past Friday. We were able to tour the vessel and imagine what it would be like to spend time aboard as we visited the galley, the dry lab, the wheelhouse, and

more! We learned of the biological work being done with marine mammals and seabirds, and were introduced to "camp life." A brief slide-show that was shared, featured Fireweed alumni (Sierra Wylde), who was a student-intern on the ship last summer. Captain Pepper and the staff created a feeling of adventure and discovery that may have inspired several future wildlife biologists!



Upcoming Guests and Field Trips

On Friday, we head out to see an award-winning theater company, specializing in mask-performance and visual story-telling. At their website, **Wonderheads** suggests that you "think living cartoon." We are looking forward to this event which takes place at the High School on Friday.

Spring Field Trips: The third - fifth graders are heading to Port Graham and the sixth grade has settled on Talkeetna. More information will be coming your way soon!

**** Open Enrollment is complete and we do have more space-tell your friends****

Book Fair News at the West Homer Library

The Scholastic Book Fair is here at the West Homer Elementary Library! Open to the public Monday March 28th -Friday April 1st. The Book Fair will be open all week during the school day.

Also join us on Tuesday March 29th 4:30-6:30 for Family and Friends Fun Night at the Book Fair with door prizes and refreshments. Come one and all and help support the library!

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, Cheryl Illg -West Homer Library

Upcoming Dates

April 1 Wonderheads Performance at the Mariner Theater and Early Release Day
April 29 Mud Bay Field Trip

ALL INTERESTED PARENT VOLUNTEERS

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.