



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

October 17, 2016

### STUDENT LED PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES!!

There is no school on October 27 and 28 - These days are set aside for our student conferences. If you have not already done so, call Janet to schedule a conference time for you and your child. 235-9728

### BOOK FAIR NEWS

The Scholastic Book Fair is here at the West Homer Elementary Library! Open to the public Monday October 24 -Friday October 28<sup>th</sup>: The Book Fair will be open all week during the school day as well as during the student conferences.

Also join us on Tuesday October 25<sup>th</sup> from 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!

### Mind-A-Mazes

The Gryphon Chicken Noodle team represented Fireweed Academy this last Saturday up in Soldotna at the Mind A Mazes competition. Spencer, Zion, Christian and Elliott raced their "Rodent Racer" to 18 feet! Way to go team!



Photo by Megan Pacer/Peninsula Clarion



### Guest Speaker: Kiki Abrahamson - Oct 13<sup>th</sup>

#### Travels in Kyrgyzstan

Kiki gave an interesting presentation on her travels in Kyrgyzstan. From overheating and celebrating Independence Day in Bishkeck to volunteering at the Nomad Games on the shores of Kyrgyzstan's Lake Issyk-Kul in Cholpon-Ata City. Then on to a woman's coop to learn fiber arts! She had a surplus of information and dances to share with us. It was great to have her back in the classroom.

### Matt Steffy - Our Natural Community

Matt Steffy, natural resource specials with Homer Soil and Water Conservation District, has been coming in the past 3 Friday's to work with small groups. We have been taking the trail behind the school up to an outdoor classroom. There Students have explored what makes up our natural community. Matt has collected soil from varying parts of Homer for students to get their hands dirty and learn! Thank you, Matt, for you time and effort to make learning fun for our students.





## MATH HOMEWORK CLUB STARTS NEXT WEEK

On Thursdays, starting Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, from 3:15-4:15, students are welcome to stay for after-school math homework club. This is an opportunity for them to log onto ALEKS.COM or work on homework/Problem of the Week. This first session will run for six weeks (Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>). 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 4:15.

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

Friday Oct 21 <sup>st</sup>	End of The Quarter - <b>No School - Teacher In service Day</b>
Wednesday Oct 26 <sup>th</sup>	Early Release Day - School out at 1:45
Thur./Fri., Oct 27 and 28	Student led parent teacher conferences
Thursday Nov. 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Fireweed Share the Spirit Movie Night at Homer Theater

### **VOLUNTEER INFO.**

There are as many ways to volunteer as there are Fireweed families and we welcome you to contact our volunteer coordinator to find out how you can contribute. We'll work hard to match parents (or grandparents, aunts or uncles!) with work that fits their schedule, time and talents. Please consider joining our volunteer pool today in order to make this process more efficient.

To learn more, email [fireweedvolunteer@gmail.com](mailto:fireweedvolunteer@gmail.com) or call/text Susannah at 907-299-4317

And don't forget to complete the online volunteer screening. Start here:  
<https://www.applitrack.com/kpbsd/onlineapp/application.aspx?starting=true>

## **Volunteers-required screening**

### **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.

**\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*** We are now using **Pre-employ, Inc.** as our background service company. Pre-employ will be conducting more thorough background checks which require DMV searches. **The background checks will take between 5 to 10 business days to receive a result.** Please complete the volunteer application well in advance of when you would like to volunteer. After a background check is started, the volunteer will receive an email from Pre-employ letting them know they are running a background check and it will contain a link to Pre-employ if the volunteer would like to know the status of the background check. They will also receive an email from KPBSD once their volunteer application is approved or notifying them if there are any conditions to their approval.

To complete the screening process, visit the District's web page at [www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us](http://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.