

K-2 FIREWEED NEWSLETTER
September 6, 2016

HAPPENINGS!

COMMUNITY THEME STUDIES

We will be beginning our first week long theme groups this week. Mo will be exploring building our own communities using the mentor text Weslandia. Kim will be exploring social and global communities using the song "Common Threads" by Pat Humphries as a leaping off point to creating a large mural. Betsy will investigate the social communities of an ant community.

Check out our **Community Helpers wall in the main hallway. Kids have been "spending a dot" on which community helpers they most want to visit.

IT'S HARVEST TIME FOR ME AND YOU!

This week the kids have been literally eating out of the garden, harvesting our carrots and cukes and Kohl rabi!



WALKING SALADS!

Walking salads were the order of the day on Friday afternoon. Thanks to Freya, Aurora, Braydon and Landon for helping to prep our veggies for our salads.



BUDDY READING BEGINS

We are a school of developing readers! We had our first Buddy Reading day on Friday afternoon with all three homerooms reading together in triads. Very sweet authentic reading practice and community building!



NITTY GRITTY INFORMATION

Thank you parents for:

- Making an end of the day plan with your child. Please let us know if there are changes...by 1:30 PM is best. Bus riders: please post a note on the Bus Bulletin board if your child is not doing their "regular" bus plan.
- Arriving at school on time, by 8:30 in the morning AND for timely afternoon pick-ups at 3 PM! Please remember to sign in if your child is late or goes home early! Thanks.
- Sending your child with a nutritious morning snack!
- **Walking "Side by Side" or Hand in Hand" when leaving the gate or yard or door. Thanks for diligence about this!! For Reals!!!!**
- Sending your child with "Right Clothes" for the weather and/or extras for accidents.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS AND THE CLASSROOM AIDE SCHEDULE

We welcome parents in the classroom! **Please see the information at the end of this newsletter about volunteer screening-a new company is being used to complete the screening and it can take up to 10 days!!!**

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR NEEDED: Fireweed Academy is hoping to begin a new volunteer position...Volunteer Coordinator. This person would be the

'go to person' for teachers who need volunteers for certain activities and projects and for parents/community members who would like to volunteer for Fireweed in the schools and/or at home. Maybe this is one person for the whole school and maybe it is one person for each school.....Does this sound like something you would be interested in? Please call Janet at 235-9728



Thanks for helping us make our tables beautiful again!!!

HEARTY THANK YOUS

- Thank you to Gunnar Person and Nalani for scraping and sanding our tables! We were able to get two of them painted last week!!
- Kudos to Laura McBride for cutting and whacking our grass!! It looks so much nicer!
- Thank you to Emily Springer for volunteering to help with school picture day.
- Thank you to Kristin Cook for doing the walking salad dishes on Friday.
- Three Cheers to Rebecca Clarke for planting cucumbers in our greenhouse. We devoured them on Friday at snack and in our walking salads.
- Thanks to Nalani for weed whacking our short cut trail up to the high school track!
- Thanks to community member Craig Phillips for the sweet, literally and figuratively, donation of fresh organic peas!

Upcoming K-2 Dates: Mark your calendars!

Thurs. Sept 8th Field Trip to Community Build of the Burning Basket 1-2:30 pm
Mon Sept 12th APC meeting at Big Fireweed room 104 at 4:30pm All welcome!

Mon Sept 12th KPBSD School Board meeting at Homer High at 6 PM
Thurs. Sept 15th Anchor Point Beach Trip
Thurs. Sept 29th K-2 Student-Parent Open House 5:30-6:30 PM

SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

SCHOOL BOARD POSITION OPENING

Liz Downing is resigning from the KPBSD School Board. If there are any parents that might be interested in learning more about running for that position. Please contact Liz at eadowning@gmail.com The next School board meeting is September 12th at the Homer High School at 6pm. This position will be on the agenda.

Volunteer for the KPBSD calendar committee

The KPBSD is recruiting members to review the 2017-2018 school calendar and make recommendations to the Board of Education for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years. Details can be found here

http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/students_parents.aspx?id=688 Questions? Email Natalie bates at nbates@kpbsd.k12.ak.us or call 907-714-8858. Apply by October 3, 2016.

Volunteers-required screening

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.

*****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 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.