

K-2 FIREWEED NEWSLETTER
September 30, 2013

HAPPENINGS

ELLIS ISLAND!!

Coming soon to a school near you. In preparation for our upcoming Ellis Island Simulation to be shared with Big Fireweed, each student is "adopting" a new persona based upon their ancestry. The family stories coming in are wonderful and inspiring and stirring great conversations among the kids. Hope you are enjoying the conversations at home as well. I am asking the children to bring in some of their stories, great grand parents names, countries of origin and occupations so that your child can choose a "character" to be a country to be from, and a "job or occupation" for the simulation. Please **do not stress** about this. It's meant to be loose and fun! Full family trees are not necessary. So far we have seamstresses and stowaways, opera singers and coppersmiths, farmers and ship captains. Nina's and Lenka's, Seamus's and Honario's... you get the picture. The kids are having fun choosing their new identities from their true family histories. Thanks, Kim

TIME CAPSULE TO BE BURIED THIS WEEK!

And the seasons the go round and round... Our Time Capsule goes into the ground this Friday! Thanks to the Emerald Dragonflies for digging and preparing the hole.

SCHOOL PICTURE DAY-OCTOBER 9th

School Pictures will be taken on Wednesday, October 9th beginning at 9 AM at Little Fireweed. Order forms were sent home and are also available in the classrooms. Sibling pictures can be taken at the same time.

APC INFO and UPDATE

APC stands for Academic Policy Committee and is the governing body for our charter school. We encourage you to come to our monthly meetings, which are open to the public, and are held the 2nd Wednesday of each month at the West Campus of Fireweed at the shared facility with West Homer Elementary. We will try to include agenda topics in these newsletters so if you see something of interest you can plan to attend. There is a public comment period at the start of each meeting if you would like to address the APC board. We also encourage you to get in touch with any of the APC members if you have concerns, questions or kudos.

****Next APC Meeting: Weds, Oct 9th at 4:30 PM Room 104 at Big Fireweed**

CONFERENCE TIME coming soon...October 24 and 25,

Fireweed student-led parent/teacher conferences are Thursday and Friday, October 24th and 25th. Please call Janet at 235-9728 to schedule your conference time.

An Invitation from West Homer!

Orca Invitational Fun Run Friday, Oct 11th, 2013 3:30 PM

Come out and join the fun of this great run! **Open to all kids** Kindergarten - 6th grade. There will be a race for k-2 and a separate race for 3-6. New course this year! Meet on the field at WHE at 3:30 for walk through, race starts at 3:45. It's free!

NITTY GRITTY INFORMATION

FALL IS HERE... WITH WIND AND COLD!

It is cold and blustery on the playground these days and we are out in it every day. Send your child prepared with a warm coat AND hats and mittens. Yes folks... it's time!

HEARTY THANK YOU'S

- A huge THANKS to Kari Brinson for hosting a staff appreciation gathering. We seldom take the time to smell the roses and gather for the sake of socializing. It was marvelous and greatly appreciated! Thanks also alumni parent Lori Mikols for hosting the soiree at her bed and breakfast.
- Thanks you to our regular aides, Maygen, Sonja, Hannah, Patty, Sarah, Kammi, Kara, Weatherly, Jaylee, Brandy, Teresa and Amber. We are grateful beyond words! Thanks also for the spontaneous help from Patrick this next two weeks and the much appreciated morning help from Joey.
- Thank you for remembering to send 'healthy snacks with your child. Fresh fruits, vegetables, proteins are highly appreciated. If you read the ingredients and the 1st or 2nd ingredient is sugar, chances are that is NOT a healthy snack. We're trying to build on the 'brain' builders, not hype them up, but rather help them focus. Chips are generally pretty fatty as well.

Upcoming K-2 Dates: Mark your calendars!

Weds. October 9th
Weds. Oct 10th

School Picture Day
APC Meeting Room 104

Beginning at 9 AM
4:30 @ Big Fireweed

Friday October 11 th	Salmon Egg Take at the Anchor River 12:30-2:30PM
Friday, October 18 th	<u>NO SCHOOL</u> /Teacher Inservice Day
Wednesday, Oct. 23 rd	Ellis Island Simulation/Welcome to America Party
Thurs/Fri Oct 24 th /25 th	Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences
Weds, Oct 30 th	Early Release Day School out at 1:30

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.