

K-2 FIREWEED NEWSLETTER

November 18, 2013

HAPPENINGS

Early Release Day Collaboration -This Wednesday

Our next early release day is this Wednesday, November 20th. On our early release days teachers are collaborating to examine, brainstorm and implement ideas for transitioning to the new state standards. We hope you will notice a shift to more non-fiction reading and writing as the year progresses and welcome your feedback. We are also examining Student learning objectives and their role in teacher supervision and evaluation. This week we will be looking at the learning continuum in math for kindergarten through 2nd grade. School dismisses at 1:30 and bus kids will arrive at their destination 1.5 hours earlier than normal.

Fundraiser updates (all 3 of them☺)

Quilt Raffle: It's beautiful! It's marvelous! It wants to live in your home or the home of a friend. **Last chances to buy and/or sell tickets:** We are down to the wire. Fireweed parent Jo Dempsey will be at Safeway selling tickets on Nov. 19th from about 9:30 'till 2:30. If you would like to help out, call her at 235-4759. She has the quilt and the tickets and is ready to sell you some or give you some to sell! In addition, **Janet needs your help in locating all unsold or sold but not yet turned in tickets.** If you still have tickets, please call Janet at 235-9728 and let her know the status. The draw for the quilt is November 27th-stay tuned for where and when!

Fresh Oranges Fundraiser: All fundraiser packets were due today to Janet; HOWEVER, the owner of Farm Fresh Fundraisers has extended the deadline by one week. All forms are now due to me by next Monday, November 25th with a new delivery date of Dec 11ish. If you want to continue selling cases of oranges, go for it! If you are done, great! Get your form to me no later than next Monday! If you want another form because you already turned yours in, give me a call, my number is 235-9728 - Janet Bowen

Big thanks to Hannah Gustafson who came in and helped tally up what we have sold so far...80+cases so far! Hannah and I will be doing the final tally next Monday.

FWA T-Shirts: Kiki has created some awesome t-shirts for sale, \$12 each. They are tie-dyed in purple and white with specks of other colors and have a gryphon stamped on them. No two are alike-limited edition!



THEME GROUPS CONTINUE THIS WEEK

Last week the echolocation of bats was investigated through experiments, satellites we studied, designed and built, and non-verbal communication through sign language, marine communication (flags, Morse code...). More of the same is in store for week two as groups rotate to their next experience.

NITTY GRITTY INFORMATION

***We're always looking for more parent support throughout our school day. We have no helpers on Tuesday. If you can donate your time and support, we could certainly use your help!



'Tis the Season

Winter has arrived. To stay safe and warm, the kids need to be wearing proper winter gear. The school policy is to have the students go outside unless the temperature goes below -10 degrees F. Frostbite is always a concern and hypothermia is a reality. We realize kids lose their gloves, hats and even their jackets and it can be quite expensive to replace these items. If you are unable to replace or provide winter gear for your child, please call the school and we will do our best to help.

TUBING NEEDED!!

We'd like to 'wire up' a couple communication booths and need about 120 feet of flexible, $\frac{1}{2}$ " tubing. Let us know if you can help us out! Thanks!

Infant and Preschool Developmental Screenings **Homer & Anchor Point**

Sprout, Homer Public Health and the Kenai Peninsula Borough School District Child Find Program will be offering free screenings for children newborn through 5 years of age. The screenings will be held at the Homer Public Health Center, 195 E. Bunnell Ave, Suite C, on December 9, 2013 and at Chapman School on December 10, 2013. We will screen your child's early development, motor skills, speech, early learning concepts, vision & hearing. Immunizations are available on request. Call 235-6044 to schedule an appointment for Homer Public Health or 235-8671 for Anchor Point.

Communication in our school: NEWSLETTERS, etc.

Fireweed Academy communicates regularly with parents and families primarily through the use of e-mail. The weekly newsletter comes out Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning. There are also e-mails from Janet or Kiki with office or administrative information. There are posters on the doors about upcoming events! We are happy to provide hard copies of newsletter of information for those that need it.

Ways you can stay in the loop:

- Make sure Janet has your current e-mail or knows that you need hard copies. She will share that info with teachers.
- Let Janet know if you are not receiving e-mails.
- Read the newsletters when they come out!
- Check out the posters in the boot rooms or on the doors for upcoming events.
- Pick up a hard copy of the newsletter which will be in both boot rooms and available Tuesday morning. (The kids are not always reliable about getting the hard copies to you, though we will keep trying to build their self-reliance.)

HEARTY THANK YOU'S

- To Gail and others for the boxes. Our satellite construction crew thanks you!
- To Brandi McGee and John Alexander for their help in theme groups this past week...looking forward to having them again this week.

Upcoming K-2 Dates: Mark your calendars!

Weds, Nov. 20 th	<u>Early Release Day - School out at 1:30</u>
Th/F. Nov. 28 & 29	No School -Thanksgiving
Dec. 20 th -Jan. 3 rd	No School - In-service Day & Holiday Break

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.