

**K-2 FIREWEED ACADEMY NEWSLETTER**  
**December 17, 2012**

<b>HAPPENINGS</b>
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**BOWLING: THE FORCE OF COLLISION... Tuesday morning**

Our winter outing this year will be a bowling trip on Tuesday morning! We will be collecting \$8.00 from each child. If that is not 'doable' just let us know and the cost will be covered. We will be walking to the bowling alley, as it is sooooo close. Our Kiddos are looking forward to this! Nothing like pumping-up those arm muscles! We'll leave approximately 9:45 and return around noon.

**SALMON DISSECTION AND SUMI-E PAINTING...Wednesday afternoon**

Wednesday afternoon we welcome two guests into our classroom, biologist Tim Blackmon from Alaska Department of Fish and Game and artist Sharlene Cline. Tim will be conducting a salmon dissection with our kids and Sharlene will be revisiting the art of Sumi-e painting.

**PAJAMA DAY AND FLOATS... Thursday afternoon**

We will be snuggling up in PJ's, serving root beer floats and watching a Hayao Miyazaki animated movie (either Kiki's Delivery Service, The Cat Returns, Ponyo, or My Neighbor Totoro ... the jury is still out on this) on Thursday afternoon.

**HOLIDAY SINGERS AT THE FRIENDSHIP CENTER... Friday afternoon**

Our students are invited to sing at the Friendship Center this Friday at 1:00. The Homer Ukulele Group Society (HUGS) will be joining them. Our students will sing first, around eight songs or so, and then they are welcome to join the audience and sing the remainder of the time or leave. This is NOT mandatory, but a volunteer, 'giving' of song to the Seniors. You turn at the corner of the Homer Bookstore and park on the East entrance side where the big parking lot is. Generally you walk to the north, side entrance. This will take place after their lunch, in the big front room. Everyone is invited to share in the spirit of song, friendship and giving. Students can wear hats, Christmassy or wintery. Thank You!

## **NO SCHOOL-DECEMBER 21<sup>st</sup>-IN SERVICE DAY**

Remember that there is no school on Friday, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> to accommodate a teacher in-service day. Teachers will spend the morning looking at the new state curriculum standards in order to determine how we will implement them in the classroom. Then, in the afternoon, we will be preparing for semester narrative reports. Enjoy your winter break!

## **NITTY GRITTY INFORMATION**

### **A NEW YEAR IS COMING!!! Looking for New PARENT AIDES**

First off, we love having you in our classrooms and being part of the action! Second, we can really put you to work doing activities with children in math and literacy and helping to prep materials. We need regular morning aides on TUESDAY, THURSDAY and FRIDAY. Even if you can not devote the whole morning, it is still very helpful to have extra hands for part of the morning. Our schedule is 8:30 until 12:15 for a whole morning or 8:30-10:15 for a part morning or create your own schedule that works for you!!! Spontaneous help is also welcome! It really makes a difference having folks on board.

### **FROM THE DISTRICT:**

We have just received an important notice for all KPBSD families—Beginning January 1, 2013, **Public Health must discontinue provision of all state supplied vaccine to fully insured children.** What does this mean for our school community?

- Students who have Denali Kid Care or who are Alaska Native/American Indian and those who are either uninsured or underinsured (insurance does not cover shots) **WILL** continue to be able to receive immunizations at Public Health.
- Anyone who has private insurance that covers vaccines or who does not know if their private insurance covers vaccines will be referred to their personal care provider and **WILL NOT** be able to get immunizations at Public Health.
- Until these changes take place, parents with insurance may still use Public Health for children's immunizations that are required for school entry. Please make sure to check your child's shot records and plan ahead. Remember, Public Health does not require you to verify insurance benefits or income in order to qualify. Please call now to schedule an appointment before the January 1 changes occur.

### Friendly Reminders...

- Kim will be out of school on Wednesday and Thursday. The most wonderful Sharlene Cline will be her sub.

### Needed:

**Gallon-Size Ice Cream Buckets Needed:** Please bring any you have to Deb.  
**Paper towel rolls and toilet paper rolls for upcoming recycling project!**

### HEARTY THANK YOU'S

- To our dance teachers extraordinaire... Margi Scholl and Kara Clemens. What an incredible treat to have such fine dance instructors in our midst. We are lucky folks!
- Adios for now and thank you to Sarah Banks for all her volunteer time in the school. We will surely miss you and your family and will be happy when you return in the spring. Rocco and Sidney will be greatly missed. We love you folks!
- A huge THANKS to ALL who joined in with the Kachemak Kids at the Homer Theater last Wednesday night. I know it was a late night for us, but greatly appreciated. We also gave a big boost to their fundraiser and loved joining them in song. If we start helping others when we are young and continue, what a nicer, more caring world we can create. Again, thank you so much!
- Thank you so much to all the families who donated children's books to our "Recycled Book Exchange." As many of you saw, this was a well-received activity by students. Kids were excited to acquire one or two "new to them" books. Thank you, again, Fireweed Families, for your generosity.
- As always, thanks to those parents who have continued to help-out in the classroom throughout the year. Sarah Banks, Susan Houlihan, JoDee Whiteside, Curtis Dickson & Leslie Mastik, Kara Clemens...you folks have been greatly appreciated!

### Upcoming K-2 Dates: Mark your calendars!

Dec 18 <sup>th</sup>	Bowling from 10-12ish - Bring in \$8
Dec 19 <sup>th</sup>	Salmon Dissection and Sumi-e Painting
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Pajama Day... Come Cozy!
Dec 20 <sup>th</sup>	Last Day of School before Winter Break

Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

Singing with the Homer Ukulele Group Society  
(HUGS) at the Friendship Center at 1:00.

Dec 21<sup>st</sup>

No School- Teacher In-service