

K-2 FIREWEED NEWSLETTER
September 9, 2013

HAPPENINGS

BURNING BASKET FIELD TRIP

Off we go to Mariner Park this Friday to join artist Mavis Muller and her crew to take part in the construction of this year's burning basket project. We make written scrolls and "tassels" using the grasses from the "Magic Meadow" and flowers from our garden. These we tie on to a garland that Mavis provides for us that gets woven into the burning basket. Weather permitting, we will have lunch at the beach, and then meet with Mavis to learn about the burning basket and make our garland. We will also have time to help build the Labyrinth and beach explore. We will be back in time for buses home and pick ups.

****PLEASE SEND:** a **HEARTY LUNCH** and **SMART ALASKAN CLOTHES** for a changing season. It is time for warm coats, hats and mittens or gloves on these field trips! We will spend time at the beach either rain or shine.

THEME GROUPS this week!

Plant root studies, flower plant explorations and exploring our very own personal dreams and hopes for the future (our shoots) are on for Theme Groups again this week.

PARENT AIDES IN THE CLASSROOM! We thank you!

We are grateful to all the folks signing up to help us out in the classroom and at the school. We have lots of "new to the school" students, Kinders and others, and that makes those extra hands especially helpful. We still have volunteer openings on Wednesday morning and in the afternoons and could always use more aides in the morning during our core academic times. Thanks for all you do... our school climate revolves around community and volunteerism.

Plan Ahead... 1st EARLY RELEASE DAY is next WEDNESDAY, the 18th!

One of the KPBSD goals for teachers is to collaborate together. In order to realize this goal this year, they have built in what are called "Early Release" days. On these days the school day ends at 1:30 PM, with bus kids departing at around 1:20 PM. On these afternoons, the teacher's work as members of a professional learning community begins. This is a heads up, so you can plan accordingly! Thanks!

NITTY GRITTY INFORMATION

SCHOOL TIMES 8:30 AM TO 3 PM!

Parents, please remember that, if possible, students should arrive between 8:15 and 8:30 in the morning. If there is a problem with your work schedule, we'll make allowances. The time prior is really teacher time in the classroom. Also, timely pickups in the afternoon are greatly appreciated.

BUS PROTOCOLS

- **Fill out Bus Notes** when necessary for your child to ride the bus to a stop other than their regular route OR stop. (Bus notes stored on desk by center door and in Kim's classroom.)
- Please post "end of the day plan" notes or notes about changes in bus schedule on the wall posters by the bus table. Thanks!
- For regular, every day bus riders, please let us know by phone, by note, by text, by passenger pigeon if your child will **NOT** be riding the bus. Otherwise... off they go on the bus.
- Please Note: Bus 62 leaves before the end of the day at 2:50 ish so if you are planning to spontaneously pick up your bus riding child... come early!

Once again, thank you parents for remembering to...

- Send in \$20 to classroom teachers for tactile and special projects. We have lots of them. If you write a check, make it out to the classroom teachers please.
- Stop for the bus drop offs and pick ups whenever red lights are flashing!
- Walk Side by Side or Hand in Hand when leaving the gate or the platform.
- Send daily morning snack **even** if your child is having hot lunch.
- Send money for hot lunch when your child is having hot lunch.
- Sign your child in if you arrive late or sign them out if you pick your child up early!
- Make sure your child knows their End of the Day Plan!

HEARTY THANK YOUS

- Field trip thanks go out to... Hannah Gustafson, Jennifer Cox, Amber Nieghbur, Heather Renner, Teresa Heilig... hope we didn't forget any of you!
- Thanks to Marti and Maygen for their regular help in Kim's room for 5 in a Row Reading.
- Bon Voyage and many thanks to Oma Ruth, Lukas' and Frida's grandmother.

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

Weds. Sept 11 th	APC Meeting at Big Fireweed	4:30 /Room 104
Friday Sept. 13 th	Burning Basket Field Trip	12:30-2:30 PM
Weds. Sept. 18 th	Early Release Day at school.	Kids out at 1:30
Weds. Oct. 9 th	School Picture Day	Beginning at 9 AM
Friday Oct. 11 th	Salmon Egg Take at the Anchor River	12:30-2:30PM

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.