

# 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Fireweed Academy Newsletter

## September 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014

We invite all parents to be partners in the School Improvement Process. If you have any questions or input regarding the School Improvement Plan, its Goals, or our action plan for reaching those goals, please contact Kiki, your homeroom teacher or come to an APC meeting.

### NOTE FROM KIKI

#### **TACKLING THE TARDIES; NEW ATTENDANCE PROTOCOL**

Fireweed Academy is committed to providing opportunities for students to grow in six learner outcome areas: Self-reliance, Reasoning Ability, Cooperation, Creativity, Personal Growth and Academic Achievement. Although we understand there are certain unavoidable situations which make attendance impossible, I think it is important for you to understand what a negative effect missing school has on your child. The process of education requires instruction that is based on skill building, class participation, learning experiences, and consistency along a continuum of learning goals and objectives.

At Fireweed, morning is one of the most important times of the day; teachers are laying out their plans, goals are reviewed and the tone of the day is set! Frequent tardies and absences affect not only your child's learning opportunities but others as well since the teacher has to stop what they are doing to bring the late or absent student up to speed. Excessive tardiness and absences put your student at a disadvantage, interrupt the flow of classroom activities, goals and objectives, and interfere with the learning environment for all students.

**Fireweed Academy's school day begins at 8:30am; students should be in their rooms at that time. If they are not, they are tardy. If your student is not going to be in school, you need to call Janet at 235-9728 and let her know.**

Having expressed this with a sense of urgency, we need to make it clear that we don't want kids coming to school sick! We are trying to deal with chronic tardies

and absences due to the inability to get moving and to school in the morning. Thank you so much for your support in your child's education

### **FIRST WEEK PACKETS**

I have just a few students who have still not returned their first day packet to me. I need these as soon as possible please. Thanks- Janet

### **Fireweed Handbook**

Please remember to read the Fireweed Handbook that went home last week, sign the last page and have your student return it to their home room teachers.

### **Picture day**

September 29<sup>th</sup> is Picture day. We will start at 1:05pm. Siblings are welcome. I will need one parent volunteer to help with this...anyone interested? It takes about an hour to one and a half hours. Call me at 235-9728. Thanks Janet

### **Mind A'Mazes**

*Students participating in Mind A'Mazes may use Kris's room as a work space on Thursday after school. They should come equipped with ideas, materials, and a positive attitude. It would be great if their coaches are there as well. The room is available until 4:15. Students using the space should clean up any materials before leaving. Some may be joining family attending our open house at that time. Others should make arrangements for transportation etc. by 4:15.*

### **Afterschool Monday Math Club**

The start of Math Club begins today, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 3:15 to 4:15. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome. Permission slips went home via email by Janet last Thursday. If you'd like your child to participate, print it off and have it returned to Stephanie or Janet.

### **Enrollment**

Fireweed Academy still has room for more students in all grades THIS year. While we continue to advertise, word of mouth is often the best method of letting folks know. Please, if any of your friends or colleagues are interested, have them call Janet Bowen at 235-9728

## **Volunteers**

If you plan on being a school volunteer you will need to complete the volunteer screening process (<http://www.kpbsd.k12.ak.us/departments.aspx?id=19556>). The process takes a few minutes to complete, and all information gathered is confidential. Volunteers include anyone who will be in the school on a regular basis, and field trip chaperones. School visitors do not need to complete the process. Visitors include guest speakers, those attending large group functions, and parents visiting just their own student, for instance to have lunch with them. Also, it is never too early to get your vehicle checked so that it can be used as a support vehicle or for small group field trips.

### **Upcoming 3-6 Dates: Mark your calendars!**

- **September 25<sup>th</sup>** Big Fireweed Harvest Festival and Open House
- **September 29<sup>th</sup>** Picture Day