

3/1/15

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are quickly approaching the fourth quarter. How time flies when you are having fun. The days are staying brighter longer and while we miss the snow the warm temps have been nice.

Being a PK-2 school, we are able to focus in on age appropriate activities such as the Read-a-thon and Bingo for Books. As many of you know public education is once again under the public microscope. This is not all bad as it causes us, as educators, to reflect on our practice and to continually hone our skills. Many of you have made positive comments about the effort of Paul Banks teachers. The best way to complement our teachers is to talk to your friends who do not get the opportunity to experience Paul Banks first hand.

Coming up in April, we have swimming lessons. I know teachers have sent home a number of requests for parent volunteers to get in the water and swim with the students. Having adequate supervision in the pool, not only ensures safety, but it also allows us to continue this incredible program. The PTA is offering swimming lesson vouchers for those who volunteer. If you are interested, please contact the school or a member of the PTA.

Once again, I would like to thank working parents for supporting our early release days. I know having your children not in school on these days may be an inconvenience. Please know that these days are useful for our ability to collaborate. In our last session, we discussed formative assessment and how we can use it to improve our instruction and meet the needs of all of our students.

This month we are going to learn more about ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training from the Homer Police Department. As parents you will also be getting more information about this topic. I look forward to working with you as partners to continue to improve the safety for our students.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to work with your children. This is an incredible community and the amount of volunteers we have in our school is fantastic. As always, if you have any concerns, questions or comments please feel free to stop in. My office doors are always open.

Have a wonderful March.



Eric Pederson