



# Mr. Devold's Class

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## Middle School Prep (Repeat w/ updates)

## Warm Weather. Are We Skiing? (Repeat... well... it is still needed)



It is official, April 20 to April 24, the sixth graders will be participating in our annual middle school prep week. This is to help all sixth graders get prepared for middle school and how things work at SMS. In addition to the 1 week prep

My plan is to carry on as if we are going to be skiing on the 24th of March. I am very aware that the strange winter may very well factor into a decision to cancel the trip. But for now the trip is still on. I will likely wait until the very last moment to cancel should it be necessary.

courses, the 6th graders also get to participate in a 2 week swimming course that is scheduled for SOHI, April 20 to May. All of the sixth graders will be attending swimming instruction during that time. This has been a tradition for our 6th graders for several year now, and is quite helpful to many of our students.

My guiding principal for this trip is, if Alyeska is open, Chair 3, & 4 s well as the Magic Carpets are running and the roads are safe.... Then we will go.

Sixth graders will rotate around the different intermediate classes to get a feeling how it works in middle school. Also each student will have locks (the school will provide them) to practice opening a locker and remembering their combination.

If Alyeska is closed. Then obviously we will not be going.

We may dabble with the middle school "Step" process, for poor behavior (Step 1, 2 and 3) but it is such a short week and the 6th graders are so wonderful, we never really get to demonstrate the "Step" process.

If Chairs 3,4 or the magic Carpets are closed then I will likely cancel the trip.

Other similarities we try to provide are, not helping out with forgotten lunches and new procedures to help students understand the concept of being tardy to class, should it occur. It's a little tougher on the students than current elementary practice, but again, the kids really never have a problem during this prep camp because they are so wonderful. They love this time, it helps them bond one last time.

If the roads are unsafe, then I will likely cancel the trip.

**All indications I have had from people "in the know" about the conditions are that we should be just find, yes it is not perfect, but the "groomed" runs are very passable.**

I am continuing to get questions from parents and felt that I should repeat this information in the newsletter.

## Other Information

### In the News!

Wowsie! Our school made the front page of the Redoubt Reporter for our Bean Soup effort a few weeks ago! I am sending home a copy of the paper for each student and family. I was out of the building on Bean Soup packaging day, but all indications from students were that it was a total success and was a good conclusion for our Community Outreach Groups.

### Facebook

SMCS has a new Facebook page. It is a great place to get interesting news about our

school. It is not a newsletter site, it is more of a celebration about what is good about kids, specifically our students and our school and the things we do in this amazing place. The site is encouraging and uplifting. I recommend checking it out... and I'm not even a big Facebook fan... but the school Facebook page is excellent. (Thank you Mrs. Carter!)

### TESTING

State tests are just around the corner. Please put the intermediate testing dates on your calendars so you can help your child perform well on that day.

## Emergency Information:

A reading group is planning an after-school fundraiser to help improve access to water in the Sudan. Tentative date is Friday, April 17th. Stay Tuned.

## Special points of interest:

- March 24—Alyeska Skiing Field Trip
- March 27—Early Release Day
- March 30—Spring Pictures
- April 3—NO SCHOOL (Vacation Day)
- April 8—State Testing DAY for 4th - 6th Grade (MATH)
- April 15—State Testing DAY for 4th - 6th Grade (L.A.)
- April 17—Water Quality Testing Field Trips (Need Drivers)
- April 20-24—Middle School Prep Week for 6th Graders (AM)
- April 20-May 1—6th Grade Swimming (Daily in PM)
- April 28—Kasitsna Bay Parent Meeting
- April 30—Intermediate Spring Music/Talent Show
- May 1—Early Release Day
- May 4-6—Kasitsna Bay Field Trip
- May 8—6th Grade Visit to SMS
- May 8—Salmon Celebration @ Soldotna Creek Park with Dan
- May 18—Volunteer Appreciation & End of Year Slide Show
- May 20—6th Grade Graduation (9:00ish)
- May 20—Field Day (Location ???) 11:00ish
- May 20—Last Day Of School