



Mr. Devold's Class

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Middle School Prep

Warm Weather. Are We Skiing?



Sometime during the weeks of April 20 to May 1, the sixth graders will be participating in a middle school prep week. This is to help all sixth graders get prepared for Middle School and how things work at SMS. We have not yet determined

which week we will hold the preparations, but it will be held in conjunction with our 6th grade PM swimming. The 2 week swimming course is scheduled for SOHI, April 20 to May 1 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.

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.

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.

Other similarities we try to provide are not helping out with forgotten lunches and locked doors at the beginning of each class for tardy students. 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.

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.

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.

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

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

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

What will I do with the funds we have collected for the Alyeska Trip? I will apply them to our Kasitsna Bay field trip.

I have fielded a few of these questions from several parents and felt that I should address this with all the parents in the newsletter.

turning from Spring Break. We have studied cells and completed several microscope labs to investigate those tiny structures. We spent time looking at onion cells, our own cheek cells and we even grew nasty bacteria to get a sense of how much smaller bacteria cells are than our own. Our future holds a very exciting project of dissecting frogs. The preserved frogs arrived last week and are awaiting student investigation.

Emergency Information:

NONE!

Special points of interest:

- March 6th—End of 3rd Quarter—No School
- March 9-13—Spring Break
- March 24—Alyeska Skiing Field Trip
- March 27—Early Release Day
- April 8—State Testing DAY for 5th & 6th Grade (MATH)
- April 15—State Testing DAY for 5th & 6th Grade (L.A.)
- April 20—(TENTATIVE) - Intermediate Spring Muisic/Talent Show
- April 20-May 1—Middle School Prep Week for 6th Graders
- May 1—Early Release Day
May 4-6—Kasitsna Bay Field Trip
- May 20—Last Day Of School (WOW! This is now on the newsletter.)

Lesser Information

AMP State Testing

We have a big change in testing that I related in the last newsletter. I am reminding parents to be aware that the testing schedule is varied and I will be sending home reminder notes about getting a good nights sleep and a good breakfast prior to planned testing days.

Med School

Students will continue researching their body system with their partner in the weeks to come in an effort to finish a large portfolio project. I have no definitive time table for completion, but will establish one after re-