February Events

- Friday, February 1st: Inservice day - NO SCHOOL
- Tuesday, February 6th: School Board Meeting - 6:00-8:00pm in the SHS Library
- Tuesday, February 12th: Drums Alive Assembly @ 8:20am in the Gym
- Tuesday, February 12th: Pizza Express Night 4:30-9:00
- Monday, February 18th: Inservice day - NO SCHOOL
- Monday, February 25th: Community Budget Hearing - 6:00-9:00pm in the SHS Library
- Thursday & Friday, February 28th & March 1st - Parent/Teacher Conf. - NO SCHOOL

Join us for Pizza Express Night!

Tuesday, February 12th 4:30-9:00pm

Baranof Elementary invites you to take the night off from cooking and join our families & staff for dinner, while supporting our school! Or, stay in and have food delivered to you! Pizza Express is generously donating a percentage of sales from this evening. Proceeds from this fundraiser go right back into our classrooms to support our teachers and students, as well as other fun school activities!

Dine in, take out, or delivery!

966-2428

Join us for our Drums Alive Assembly

Tuesday, February 12th at 8:20am in the Gym
Principal Points

Thank you to all the families who helped Bring the Critters Back! A special thanks to Brian LeBlanc, from the Sitka Sound Science Center, for making the fish tank a sparkling place for them to live. If you haven’t had an opportunity to see it, please stop by and take a look because it looks amazing!

February can be a long, dark month even though there are only 28 days, so I challenge Baranof Elementary friends and families to make February fabulous by turning off the TV and engaging in fantastic family activities! Here are a few examples:

* Talent show- how many talents does your family have?
* Reading challenge- how many books can your family read?
* Family craft nights- use common household items to make a craft
* Kitchen band- use kitchen items to make a family band and create songs
* Puzzles-building puzzles together can help brain development and patience

Around school we have a lot of activities going on this month. First grade continues the great Iditaread reading race! Students track how many books they’ve read to move through the Iditaread checkpoints, mirrored after the Alaska Iditarod race.

Two exciting events will be taking place on February 12, 2019. At 8:20 on February 12th, we will be demonstrating our infamous “Drums Alive” at our school assembly. Please remember families and friends are welcome and encouraged to join us! Then, that night, we will have our Pizza Express Night Fundraiser! School staff members will be at Pizza Express on February 12th from 4:30 to 9:00pm. A portion of the sales, at the restaurant and delivery, during that time goes right back to our school. We hope to see you there!

Mrs. Jill Lecrone, Baranof Elementary Principal

Music Notes

We are already beginning to work on our Spring programs coming up. The 1st grade will be having their program on Thursday, March 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Performing Arts Center (PAC) and the Kindergarten will be on Thursday, April 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the PAC.

In addition to our singing performance rehearsals, we are continue to explore different aspects of our music. 1st Grade is busy practicing their new tones on the tone ladder and their new rhythm names of ta and ti-ti. We are accomplishing this with our songs and games and having fun learning!

Kindergarten is busy practicing our contrasts in loud/soft and fast/slow and recently we’ve been understanding the difference in high and low sounds. These concepts will be perpetuated throughout our musical journey here at Baranof as well as Keet Gooshi Heen.

As always, thank you for your support and especially your beautiful children. Should you have any questions please let me know.

Keep singing!

Musically yours, Kathi Jones, jonesk@sitkaschools.org (message phone at Baranof 966-1318)
Counselor’s Corner
Helping Your Child Cope with Friend Conflict

As children learn to make new friends at school, they may occasionally face conflict in those friendships. While friend conflict is uncomfortable for Kindergarteners and First Graders, those experiences help them learn skills that contribute to building healthy relationships throughout their lives.

It is normal for children to experience intense anxiety or sadness about the way a friend has treated them. After conflict with a friend, your child may feel bewildered and confused about what to do next. It is important that parents take the opportunity to help their children talk through and practice healthy friendship behaviors. Here are some things you can do:

- Organize supervised play dates for your child at home.
- Discuss and problem-solve friend conflicts (practice with dolls or puppets).
- Focus on the positive by talking about the good things that happened with friends.
- Make a plan to play with new friends.
- Model healthy relationship skills and problem solving in your own life. Your children watch and learn from your behavior!

A note about play dates: We cannot emphasize enough how important play dates are for children in Kindergarten and First grade. Play dates offer children the opportunity to build healthy friendships in a fun, controlled environment with parent support. If you feel reluctant to host a play date, you are not alone. Parents often avoid play dates because they fear the work and time involved.

However, PLAY DATES ARE EASY! Here’s what to do:

1. Call the parents of a friend or kind peer (your child’s teacher might be able to help you with contact information) and invite them over for 1-2 hours. You can also invite them to meet you at a playground or beach for playtime.
2. Plan a simple snack and activity that requires the children to interact (blocks, basic art, dolls, or toys work fine). Avoid TV and video games.
3. Let the children play, but stay in the area so that you can get involved early if there is a problem and so that you can praise the friends when they have friendship success.

Jeanine Brooks, MSW, Sitka School District Early Support Program Coordinator, 966-1321

P.E. News

This month we will be talking about being ACTIVE both in school and outside of school! We will participate in a program where we will be recording our activity progress on a sheet of paper for the entire month. We are trying to encourage our students to move and be as active as possible when they are not in school, since they already have P.E. 3-4 times per week and recess twice a day! Activities such as walking, hiking, swimming, or even floor exercise that they can do right at home all count as good activities! In a world where devices slow us down and prohibit a healthy strong body, let’s all do what we can to make our children as healthy as they can be! (and hopefully ourselves!)

‘Mr. Joe’ Montagna
Baranof Elementary P.E. teacher
907-966-1326
January Bear Paw Winners

Great job following our school rules!
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Thank you for helping! Clipped Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for your child’s school. Bonus certificates should not be attached to this sheet – please submit them separately. To see more ways to earn cash for your child’s school, go to BTFE.com.