September Events

* Monday, September 3rd - NO SCHOOL - Labor Day
* Monday, September 17th - PICTURE DAY!
* Friday, September 21st - Don Your Raingear Assembly @ 8:15am
* Friday, September 21st - SPIRIT GEAR ORDERS DUE TODAY!

Thursday, September 27th - 1st Parent Meeting @ 8:15am

* Friday, September 28th - Inservice Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

 Kindergarten
Dismissal
Monday-Thursday
@ 1:40pm
EVERY Friday
@ 1:10pm

First Grade
Dismissal
Monday-Thursday
@ 2:25pm
EVERY Friday
@ 1:25pm

REMINDER:
For your child's safety, if they will be absent or tardy, please call the office before 8:05am.
You may leave a message any time, day or night.

Check out our new Spirit Gear!

Order online by September 21st!

School Spirit

* School Spirit

* Baranof Elementary School
Dear Baranof families and friends,

Thank you for all you do to support your student’s success at school! Lots of wonderful learning has been going on at Baranof Elementary so far this year. In first grade, students have already gone to the Russian Bishops House to harvest the vegetables they planted last year as kindergartners. In kindergarten, students have been learning all about classroom routines and building friendships.

A quick reminder that there is no supervision on the playground until after 7:45. For the safety of our children please do not drop students off before this time. Thank you.

The weather has been great, but please remember that all students need to be dressed for the weather. We play outside in the sun, rain and snow.

This year, thanks to Cassee Olin, our CFO, our partnership with Hames Corporation and Market Center, we have been able to provide fresh fruits and vegetables to all our students every day! Hopefully we can continue to provide our students with these wonderful snacks.

I would like to invite each and every one of you to our new Baranof Family Meetings. These will replace the old Parent Advisory Committee.

Baranof Family Meetings; casual conversations with our school and families. Some people expressed a need for childcare to attend meetings. Please feel free to bring your child because these are informal meetings. Our September meeting is scheduled for September 27 at 8:15. I will try to vary the meeting times throughout the year to accommodate various schedules. On the docket to discuss at our September meeting:

- Sitka School districts goals - whole child initiative
- K – 1 assessment
- Fall Carnival - How can you help?
- Set up
- Clean up
- booths
- costume showcase
- photo booth
- Baranof Bear Paw Collage - We will need volunteers to help paint and then hang and install our bear paw collage.

Our fish tank needs a new chiller! The Sitka Sound Science Center gave us an estimate of close to 1,000 dollars! Hopefully we can raise enough money at our silent auction to replace the chiller.

Silent Auction

Thank you,
Mrs. Lecrone
Principal, Baranof Elementary
lecronej@sitkaschools.org  966-1328
Counselor’s Corner
Teaching Children to Solve Problems

Kelso, the frog puppet, is a significant member of the Baranof Elementary School community. Kelso teaches all children at Baranof how to give BIG PROBLEMS (problems that are dangerous, scary, and against the law) to a grown-up right away. Students also learn how to solve SMALL PROBLEMS themselves by sharing and taking turns, talking it out, going to another game, walking away, ignoring, apologizing, making a deal, or waiting and cooling off.

We use Kelso’s Choices to teach decision-making and conflict resolution skills to our students. But, WE CANNOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU!!! Parents are the primary educators of children. Children learn by watching their parents solve problems and by practicing solving small problems themselves with guidance from their parents. Making healthy choices and managing conflict yourself are important skills that can greatly increase the quality of your child’s life. Learning problem-solving skills takes lots of practice and help from you, but it’s worth it!

Happy Practicing,
Jeanine Brooks, M.S.W.
Early Support Program Coordinator
Baranof Elementary School

Enjoy Our Parenting Lending Library!

This is the twenty-fifth year that Baranof and Keet Gooshi Heen Elementary Schools have hosted the Early Support Program (Counseling for grades K-2). The program offers individual and group counseling during the school day for children as well as a variety of other supportive interventions. We encourage parents to stop by our office and take advantage of our lending library. The library offers a large selection of books, games, and resources to support parenting and help children cope with life issues. You are welcome to check resources out at any time! If you would like more information about our programs, contact our school social worker, Jeanine Brooks at 966-1321, brooksj@sitkaschools.org.

PLEASE DRESS YOUR CHILD FOR THE WEATHER!

Remember to dress your child according to the weather since we do have recess every day, rain or shine. They should have rain gear and a warm coat, hat, gloves and boots for the winter.
Music Notes
“Hell-o Bara-nof!” I wish I could sing this to all of you but if you ask your student, they will be happy to sing our “Hello” song for you! I am so happy to be sharing music and joy with you, your families and this beautiful community of Sitka for my 7th year. My name is Kathi Jones and I am the music teacher for Baranof grades K and 1 and KGH grade 2. I have taught elementary and secondary music for 19 years here and down in Texas. I have two grown daughters here with me and they are enjoying Sitka as much as I am.
As we begin our year in the music classroom, here are a few things we will be working on.

Kindergarten – Our basic concepts of loud/soft, slow/fast, knowing about our calling voice as compared to our whisper voice, the intrinsic learning of steady beat and singing our Alaska Flag Song for our Alaska Day celebration next month.

1st Grade – We are continuing to work on our steady beat and rhythm lessons, the introduction of Sol/Mi from the tone ladder and also singing our Alaska Flag Song.

I look forward to seeing you all during the year. We have 2 concerts coming up in the spring, more details to come after the first of the year. Please stop by and visit any time and e-mail me with any questions: jonesk@sitkaschools.org; phone 907-966-1318.

Keep Singing! Mrs. Jones

P.E. News
This year we are very excited to being another fun year of Physical Education here at Baranof Elementary School! Our goals in P.E. are to be healthy, active, safe and of course to have FUN! We start the year off with fundamental exercises and activities that prepare us for future units.
We also learned a fun game that we can play in PE and recess called “Switch” the students love it as it is an all-inclusive fast moving game where everybody has fun even if we “get our POT OF GOLD”!!
Next we will finish the month doing various throwing and catching skill building games using everything from scarves, fluff balls and foam Gator balls. Students have been working very hard learning exercises such as 3 kinds of sit-ups 3 kinds of push-ups, Supermans and Popcorns. Ask your child to demonstrate these movements for you as it is important continue exercise outside of school and in the home or outdoors. Also, ask your child what Drums Alive is! Let’s keep our kids active and healthy. Looking forward to a GREAT year of P.E.!
Sincerely, 'Mr. Joe' Montagna

Library News
Welcome back Baranof Families! My name is Andrea Leach, and I am thrilled to be serving Baranof Elementary as your Librarian. Your student will visit the library once a week. During library time, your child will participate in read aloud story time that introduces them to fiction and non-fiction stories, literary genres, authors, parts of a book, and basic knowledge of library organization. Once we have mastered the ability to select library materials, and practice library etiquette, we will work towards checking out books. Kindergarten will check out books to the classroom, while our 1st graders will work towards checking out books to home. I look forward to sharing my love of reading with your student! If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact the library at 907-966-1337 or by email at leacha@sitkaschools.org.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
If you are interested in volunteering during your student’s library time or for our Scholastic Book Fair in October, (Date/Time TBD) please contact Andrea Leach at leacha@sitkaschools.org.
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