From Paige

The world is mud-luscious and puddle-wonderful.
~e. e. cummings

Spring got off to an early start—before I could address mud with you! By now you’re already well aware of the muck and mess and possibly wishing it would come to an end. I’ve shared the Benefits of Mud Play on page 2 to help you feel more positive. It’s a tough time of year as far as making sure the children are warm and dry, and staying clean is pretty much out of the question. The important thing is that they are having fun and learning from the melt and mud. It’s a messy, magical time of year for them!

You may not choose to play in the mud, but I hope you will take time for a walk, deep breath, bike ride, or whatever brings you joy as we head toward the end of the semester and finals.

Happy Spring!
~Paige

Parent-Teacher Conferences
~April 8-12~
Conferences will be held in the attic meeting space. You will receive an email reminder prior to your conference.

Art Show
This is a fundraiser for the Northern Interior Alaska Association for the Education of Young Children (NIAAEYC).

- April 13, 5-8 pm
- Pioneer Park Civic Center
- $5 per family (minimum suggested donation)
- Appetizers and beverages provided

Children’s artwork will be displayed and available for purchase. Bunnell House art will be there!

Tax Time
Our EIN (Tax ID Number): 92-6000-147

Lab School Calendar

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<th>April 8-11</th>
<th>Parent-Teacher Conferences</th>
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<td>April 13: Pioneer Park, 5-8 pm</td>
<td>Early Childhood Art Show</td>
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<td>April 23</td>
<td>Spring Concert</td>
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<td>June 3-August 15</td>
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<td>August 19-23: Closed</td>
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Need to Reach Us?
Call 907-474-6393

- Director
  Paige Vonder Haar
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- Upstairs Teachers
  Lead: Chasity Evanow
crevanow@alaska.edu
  Assist: Shannon Harvey
  shharvey@alaska.edu

- Downstairs Teachers
  Lead: Pammy Fowler
  pdfowler@alaska.edu
  Assist: Jenny Taylor
  jmtaylor6@alaska.edu

- Floating Assistant Teachers
  Alecia Finley
  Connie Slater
  Emily Soen
Benefits of Mud Play

Social and Emotional Development: Children gain a sense of competence through play. Children may play with mud independently or collaborate with other children. They take pride in their achievements and older children may begin to compare their own with those of others. Teachers ask questions that help children make connections between their mud play and the larger world.

Approaches to Learning: Children show engagement, spending a lot of time exploring their ideas, and persistence as they try various approaches until they find one that works such as digging trenches to direct water flow.

Creative Arts: When children make mud pies and serve them to others or pretend to be alligators or swamp monsters, they are engaging in simple dramatic play.

Language Development: As children talk with classmates and teachers, they practice listening, understanding, and speaking. They negotiate roles (baker, trench digger) and practice new vocabulary.

Science: Children learn about how mud feels, smells, and changes. They add water and observe mud soup. They add sand and discover that the mud crumbles.

Mathematics: As children measure out mud for pies and count the pebbles decorating mud cakes, they practice math skills. They observe shapes and compare sizes of their mud concoctions or speed of the water flowing in their mud trenches.

Literacy: Teachers introduce vocabulary words to describe mud such as slimy, gooey, and grainy.

Physical Health and Development: Children practice fine motor skills as they dig, poke, scrape, pound, and scoop mud.

I once overheard a Bunnell House parent say to her child: “Mud is good!” I think that sums it up. ♦

Phone In Absent Children: 474-6393

The best way to get a message to your child’s classroom teacher is by phone. A voice message may be left at any time. ♦
Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten registration will take place April 29 & 30 at the school your child will attend. Charter and private schools may have different dates.

To register your child, you will need to bring:
- Birth Certificate (5 years old on or before 9/1/19)
- Current Immunization Record
- Proof of Residence (utility bill that shows address)

First Day of School

During the first week of school, kindergartners at most schools have a different schedule than other students.

The first week of school for kindergartners is reserved for individual meetings with the teacher, parents and student. This provides an opportunity for the teachers to get to know the students and parents individually. Due to these various schedules, kindergartners at certain schools may not start the regular school schedule until the second week of school.

Full Day Kindergarten

Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, kindergarten became available during regular school hours at all elementary schools. A full day schedule offers opportunity for structured play time, free time, rest, as well as a wide variety of enriching activities.

Call the school your child will attend or the school district office (452-2000) if you have questions.
Questions or Concerns
About your child or the classroom: *Your child’s teacher*
About the program, billing, or vacation notification: *Paige*
Thank you! •

Monthly Fees
- MTWRF $985
- MWF $615 (summer only)
- TR $410 (summer only)
- Late Pick up—$5/minute

Fees are due by the 10th of each month. A late fee of 10% of the account balance will be added after the 10th. •

Late Pick Up Fees
Bunnell House hours: 7:30-5:30

Late pick up fees are $5 per minute. Fees will be added to your account based on the time recorded when you check out your child on Procare. •

Fee Payment
Fees may be paid by credit card, check, or money order. A new credit card authorization form must be completed each month. Forms are located at the check-in station at the back of the gray payment box. Payments go into the locked box which is checked daily until all payments for the month are received. •

It was an exciting day at Lab School...
- We played in mud!
- We listened to a cello being played!
- We began preparing for our spring concert!
- We attended an art show!
- We participated in assessments to document how much we’ve learned!
- We were energized by Spring!

Quote to Note
Go out, go out I beg of you
And taste the beauty of the wild.
Behold the miracle of the earth
With all the wonder of a child.
~ Unknown

Cell Phones
Please end cell phone conversations prior to entering Bunnell House or the playground. Your child deserves your undivided attention and teachers may need to speak with you. •