

September Site Report 2021  
Igiugig School

Students have jumped right into learning this school year. We have three kindergarten students who have learned their school routines. Miss Gabbie's primary students have settled into their new upstairs classroom. Ms Kristin's classes finished their first chapter book, worked diligently through their first units in Everyday Math, and are integrating Science and Reading in learning about animal habitats and the ecosystems they live in. Mr Bill's middle and high school students are digging into an analysis of operating systems (who knew there were so many). They are going way back to pre-Columbian times to the silliness of first impressions--Europeans and the indigenous both wondering, who *are* these people. Middle-schoolers are learning the intricacies of governing (it's hard). They are reading about Medusa (beguiling and scary--irresistible combo). And they finished a glimpse of how complicated and self-destructive we humans are by reading "The Lottery." Classes are full of our favorite kind of people...the wildly curious.

Martha Crow is our new preschool teacher and gym aide. Our preschool student is eager for school to start and Martha will have a fun year with her.

Igiugig School hosted an Open House and Potluck for the parents and community on the first Thursday evening of the school year. It was well-attended and the food was generous and delicious. Fresh moose from recent hunting and dried salmon from culture week were crowd favorites. Our students enjoyed an all-school kickball game on the ballfield on Friday afternoon. (Our playground is closed due to construction of the new teacher housing duplex.)

Tim McDermott and his crew have our school shiny-clean and operating at optimal level. We are so grateful for his work.

Our school theme for this year is *Bringing it Together*, with key concepts including cohesiveness, collaboration, and community building.

IGI is known as a school where the community is involved and interested in extracurricular opportunities. This year as we return to safely allowing community involvement, we would like to reconnect. We'll take this opportunity to reevaluate what works, what we can adjust, what we can add, to leverage our resources to the greatest advantage. As a small (literally – space-wise) school, we have to be creative and nimble.

Our key academic goal is to improve reading fluency and comprehension. In our *Bringing it Together* framework, this means looking for reading opportunities, both cross-curricular and cross-cultural, that we can employ to improve our students' reading skills and enjoyment.

We want to develop self-reliance, at all grade levels, by setting meaningful goals and celebrating when the goals are achieved. By this, our students begin taking ownership of their education, their school climate – and their lives.



Elders and teachers at the Open House/Potluck.



Students enjoy supper together.



Mystery Science Lesson: Eat or Be Eaten



Cross-country practice on a sunny afternoon.

