E-news is an important tool to keep our parent community informed. Please call the main office at 425/837-5800 if you have any questions about our e-news.

January 9, 2015

Testing Dates
With the return from Winter Break we will begin our testing window for various assessments and testing. We will share actual dates once they are confirmed but for planning purposes below are the testing windows. We appreciate all your effort in not making appointments or planning vacations during these times.

Jan 26-Feb 6  Stanford 10 Achievement  Grades 1, 2 & 5
Feb 2-Mar 13  WA English Language Proficiency  All Grades, English Language Learners Only
Mar 5-Mar 15  CogAT/SOI Highly Capable Testing  Grade 2
Mar 9-May 29  Smarter Balanced Math & ELA  Grades 3 - 5
  • 3rd Grade: March 16th- 20th, May 4th- 8th
  • 4th Grade: May 11th- 15th, April 20th- 24th
  • 5th Grade: April 27th- May 1st, May 18th-22nd
May 11 - 15  Science MSP  Grade 5

What is the Smarter Balanced Test?
Washington State and many other states across the country will be using a new test this year called the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBA). This test will replace the MSP which has been used for the past few years in Washington. The SBA is designed to assess student achievement of the Common Core State Standards for all students in grades 3-5 the areas of ELA (English Language Arts - Reading and Writing) and Math. Unlike the MSP, this test will be computer based. Students will be trained on how to manipulate the test features on the computer prior to testing. With this in mind, it is important that students are present before and during the entire testing window so they feel prepared to take the test. As always, we ask you to arrange vacations on non-school days. If you have questions about our required tests, please contact Trent Neugebauer, the building assessment coordinator.
Elementary Math Curriculum Survey - Please Participate Today
Receiving input from parents is an important part of the Issaquah School District’s curriculum adoption process. The District Curriculum Adoption committee will begin reviewing Elementary Math materials this winter for adoption in the 2015-2016 school year with implementation in the 2016-2017 school year. Please take a moment to respond to this short questionnaire. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Herman in the Teaching and Learning Department. The survey will be open until February 15th.

Daddy-Daughter Dinner Dance
Calling all Dads and Daughters from Apollo, Briarwood, Maple Hills and Newcastle Elementary schools to attend a fun evening of dancing and bonding. Dance is Tuesday, February 10th, 6:00-8:30 pm in the Liberty High School commons. Pictures will be available for purchase at the dance. Please contact Steve Darnell at 425/837-4846 or darnells@issaquah.wednet.edu if you have any questions.

Free Dental Screening
This Saturday, January 10th, the Issaquah Schools Foundation Basic Student Needs Committee will be hosting free dental screenings for low-income youth ages 0 to 18 at the YWCA Village from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. No appointments are necessary, and all required forms will be provided at the event. Click on the following flyers for more information, Dentistry Flyer English, Dentistry Flyer Spanish.

We want to thank our partners for this event, the University of Washington School of Pediatric Dentistry and the YWCA Village, for their support.

Voice Mentor Program
Resolve to make a difference this New Year and Volunteer just one hour a week supporting a student!

The VOICE Mentor Program is looking for community volunteers to work one on one with ISD students. These students are referred by teachers and counselors as needing extra support whether it is academic, social or emotional. The volunteers work in the school setting in partnership with the school staff.

Whether a mentor’s passion is literacy, ESL students, math or another area, we have a place for you in Issaquah schools. For further information contact Susan Gierke or Teresa Bretl VOICE Mentor Directors, VOICE @issaquah.wednet.edu, 425-837-6801.

VOICE is funded by the Issaquah Schools Foundation In Cooperation with the Issaquah School District

Dates to Remember
Jan 13th Chess Club, 3:40 pm
Reflections Gallery Walk at IHS, 6:30 pm
Jan 14th Great Kids @ Lunches
Jan 15th Chorus, 8:00 am
Scratch Code Club, 3:45 pm
Jan 16th Math Olympiad, 8:00 am
Coffee Talk with Mr. Mellish, 9:30 am