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.

March 13, 2015

Author Visit
We are excited to welcome award-winning author PAUL OWEN LEWIS to our school. Mr. Lewis will be here on Friday, March 27th for author assemblies and writing workshops. All Newcastle Lions will have the chance to hear about the writing process from a real-life author. If your child is interested, books are available for pre-purchase. Students who purchase books will meet the author during the day and have their book signed by him. Information about the books went home via Kid Mail on Thursday, March 12. If you have any questions, please contact Laura Berry. (425-837-5825 or berryl@issaquah.wednet.edu).

News from Ms. Mez
Is your child empathetic towards others? Is it something you can teach? With the millions of differences between us in our world today, empathy is one of the most important character traits to develop. In my March Newsletter, I've included tons of ideas to help cultivate empathy in your child. You can find a link to the blog post here.

Reminder - 5th Grade Maywood Visit
All 5th grade students will visit Maywood the morning of Thursday, March 26th. Maywood is also hosting a parent night on March 26th from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm in the Maywood gymnasium.

Please contact Laurie Holmes (holmesl@issaquah.wednet.edu) if your student will not be attending Maywood next year.

Classified Week
Thank you PTSA and Newcastle staff for all the wonderful gifts, cards and treats you provided to the classified staff this week. We definitely feel appreciated!

Report Cards
We've gone paperless! Access to Elementary student report cards will be available through Family Access as of 5:00 PM on Friday, March 20, 2015. We are discontinuing the use of paper copies. Directions for accessing the report card via Family Access can be found on the Family Access section of the Issaquah School District Web site. Please notice that when you click on the report card file, you will be prompted to electronically acknowledge that you have viewed the report card. We appreciate you taking the time to complete this step. This helps us to ensure that all student report cards are viewed by parents. Parent/Guardian Reference Guides will help parents navigate
the grade level report cards. These documents are also posted on the Elementary Report Cards section of the Issaquah School District Web site. The report card and Parent/Guardian Reference guide have been translated into Spanish and Chinese (Traditional) and can also be found in the Elementary Report Cards section of the Issaquah School District Web site.

Lockdown Drill Report
Last week we practiced our Lockdown Procedure with the Newcastle Police department; even your Police Chief Melinda Irvine attended. The "scenario" we practiced was one of the more common actions: a report of police action in the neighborhood. The drill went very well and working with your local Police was a completely positive experience. Students and staff followed their training in an exemplary manner and the officers were impressed with the thorough and quick response. The technology used to coordinate school and police activity was activated and worked flawlessly. We did identify two areas of improvement in our planning to help first responders in the case of a real emergency, and these improvements are being put into place.

Finally, the Newcastle Police have offered to increase our partnership and their presence so that students and families see our officers as an influence promoting a positive community experience rather than solely responding to emergency or traumatic situations. So over the year to come we hope to invite our officers to Newcastle more often. A big thanks to NPD and our King County Sheriff liaison, David Montalvo.

Before & After School Care Summer Internship
The Issaquah School District’s Before & After School Care Program is seeking out incoming 9th grade - 12th grade students (for the 2015-2016 year) that are interested in gaining work experience, earning community service hours, and having fun this summer. We have summer camp elementary locations at Creekside, Challenger, Cougar Ridge, Endeavor, Grand Ridge, Sunset, Newcastle and Middle School Locations at Beaver Lake, Pacific Cascade and Maywood. Internship hours are from 9:00 am - 5:00 pm for a consecutive two week period during the summer. A two week intern can earn up to eighty hours of community service during the summer and at the end of a successful internship they will have the chance to earn a letter of recommendation. Interns will provide a positive role model for children, assist staff with activities, help clean up snack, and accompany students on field trips. To be considered for an interview, students must have a complete application and submit 1-2 letters of recommendation. Applications and reference forms are available online at http://beforeandafterschoolcare.weebly.com/summer-internship.html. If interested, any questions can be addressed to Derrick Capdeville at capdevilled@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Dates to Remember
Mar 16th 1st Grade Toy Maker Workshop
Mar 17th Video Club, 8:00 am
        Chess Club, 3:40 pm
Mar 18th Great Kid Lunches
        Lego Club, 1:35 pm
Mar 19th Chorus, 8:00 am
Mar 20th Math Olympiad, 8:00 am
Report Cards Available on Family Access, 5:00 pm