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.

April 3, 2015

Parent Input into Class Placement is now Open: Due May 1st
Newcastle Families, We are now opening the Parent Input into Class Placement for those with students with special needs or who have a concern about their child’s placement for next fall. Click on the following link for important information you should read fully before deciding whether to submit a letter to Mr. Mellish, Parent Input Class Placement.

Also consider these FAQ’s:

Should I submit a Parent Input letter? If your child has special needs not recorded in a 504 Plan or IEP that you think will affect class placement OR if you have a concern where certain placement decisions would result in a discussion with the principal; then don’t wait, submit a Parent Input letter.

Can I use creative descriptions to request a teacher? No. There is no way to ask for a specific teacher next year.

Do teachers pick their kids for next year? No. The admin team works with your child’s current teacher to make balanced classes for next year.

Is class placement “blind”? For most of the process we create balanced classes and then the admin team assigns each class to a teacher. All teachers are committed to meeting the needs of their students. Most special considerations have to do with student groupings. On the occasion when the special consideration has a teacher-specific implication that placement is handled by the admin team.

Are letters confidential? The letters are confidential shared only with the Principal, Dean and Counselor. The decision regarding impact to class placement is necessarily shared with the teaching team assisting with class placements.

Math Olympiad Competition
Math Olympiad students participated in a very challenging competition in Blaine, WA last weekend. Newcastle had 6 teams of 5th graders compete against some of the top
mathematicians in our state. The competitors took 6 tests over the course of the competition. They included individual exams, mental math, probability/statistics, algebra, geometry, and a potpourri category. After hours of crunching numbers, analyzing statistics, and measuring angles, our top team placed 12th out of over 100 teams! The students did an excellent job demonstrating their tenacity and teamwork. We are very proud of them.

Student Pictures
Class room pictures are scheduled for Thursday, April 16th. Families will also have the option of having individual student pictures taken as well. Look for the flyer that went home yesterday.

News from Mz. Mez
The PTSA at Beaver Lake Middle School is sponsoring a presentation on Strategies in Mindfulness. Click on the following link for more information on this important presentation, Strategies for Mindfulness Event.

Dates to Remember
Apr 6th-10th  No School, Spring Break
Apr 14th    Video Club, 8:00 am
            Chess Club, 3:40 pm
Apr 15th    Lego Club, 1:45 pm
Apr 16th    Chorus, 8:00 am
            Picture Day
            Scratch Code Club, 3:45 pm
Apr 17th    Site Council Meeting, 8:00 am
            Math Olympiad, 8:00 am