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 14, 2016

Upcoming Dates
Jan 15th  Math Olympiad, 8:05 am
Jan 18th  No School, Martin Luther King Day
Jan 19th  Chess Club, 3:40 pm
          Scratch Code Club, 3:40 pm
Jan 20th  Chorus, 8:00 am
          Great Kids @ Lunches
          French Class, 1:40 pm
Jan 21st  YMCA @ Recesses
          Geography Bee, 2:20 pm
Jan 22nd  Coffee Talk with Principal Mellish, 9:30 am
Jan 25th  No School, Teacher Professional Development Day

Emergency Drill with NC Police
On Tuesday, January 19th we will be holding our monthly emergency drill. In an effort to ensure the safest school we will be coordinating this drill with the Newcastle Police and Sheriffs Department. Officers will be on campus to run the drill and debrief with the school administration team to review our procedures and practices. Teachers will prepare students so they know that this is a drill and learning experience. You are welcome to discuss this before and after with your child so they know that we do such drills not because they are unsafe, but because our school wants to make sure they are in the safest place possible – and statistically students are safer at school than any other place.

Voice Mentor Program
January is National Mentoring Month so resolve to make a difference this New Year. The VOICE Mentor Program is looking for community volunteers to work one on one with Issaquah 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.

Please help us recruit your neighbors, friends, relatives or colleagues to become a mentor. For further information contact Susan Gierke or Teresa Bretl (VOICE Mentor Directors; e-mail VOICE@isfdn.org, phone: 425-837-6801.

VOICE is funded by the Issaquah Schools Foundation in cooperation with the Issaquah School District.

Newcastle Culture Fair Coming Soon.
For our February 4th Newcastle family night we will be holding our first Culture and Heritage Fair of the last several years. We are very fortunate in this community to have a wealth of cultural experiences and diversity. Our community is international in nature and our families tend to be well traveled and
exposed to many different cultural experiences. With the formation of our school Culture and Diversity Committee we are building our capacity to engage our community in all its richness of culture and diversity. I believe cultural competency – the ability to operate effectively across cultures – is a critical 21st century skill; and a great deal of fun! In the days and weeks to come you will learn more about how you can contribute and participate in our Culture Fair. Please consider this family opportunity to learn together! [click here to learn more on the topic of culture and diversity at Newcastle.]

Principal’s Coffee Talk-January 22
You are invited to join Principal Mellish for a discussion of current events and interests. The conversation is open and free flowing based on the interests of those attending. Current Hot Topics include:

- Changing the school start times...
- School Bond issue
- Positive Behavior Supports & Social-Emotional Learning
- The proposed new math adoption
- Our School Improvement Plan and School Achievement Data
- Renewing the Culture Fair and Culture & Diversity Committee

What else is on your mind? Come and bring topics to discuss.