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.

February 25, 2016

Upcoming Dates

Feb 26th  Math Olympiad, 8:05 am  
4th Grade Wax Museum, 2:00 pm  
Tech Adventures Coding Club, 3:40 pm  

Feb 29th  Read Across America Week  
4th Grade Fieldtrip  
5th Grade Leaves for Camp  

Mar 1st  Bus Emergency Drill (upon arrival at school)  
Read My Shirt Day  

Mar 2nd  Chorus, 8:00 am  
Spirit Day-Book Character  

Mar 3rd  Silly Sock Day  

Mar 4th  Red & White Day  
Drop Everything and Read  

2016-2017 Kindergarten Enrollment

There was a great turnout and lots of good discussion at our February 11th kindergarten information night. Please remember that it is critical that you turn in your registration packet by March 10th, 2016 in order to assist in staffing for next school year.

Read Across America Celebration

We have a very fun schedule of activities scheduled next week to celebrate Read Across America (see below)

Monday, February 29th: We’ll all say the Reader’s Oath together in the morning.
Tuesday, March 1st: Read My Shirt Day. Wear a shirt with words on it.
Wednesday, March 2nd: Dress as your favorite storybook character.
Thursday, March 3rd: Silly Socks Day. Wear silly socks!
Friday, March 4th: Cat in the Hat Day. Wear red and white, a Cat in the Hat hat or anything Suess-y that you feel like! At some point, we’ll have a school-wide Drop Everything and Read time

Breaks & Pre-Approved Absences

In recent years we have noticed an increase in student’s taking pre-planned vacations during school days. This is highly disruptive to learning and adds significantly to the workload of teachers as they have to catch students up on core learning activities upon return. Please try to avoid extending vacations
into school days. That said, if you do plan to miss more than 2 days of school for a vacation, please be sure to get pre-approval using our pre-approval forms available on our website (here). Forms are due to the office at least one-week prior to the first absence.

Author Visits
Newcastle Elementary is excited to welcome TWO wonderful authors to our school! Suzanne Selfors, of Imaginary Veterinary fame, will be here on Thursday, March 10th for author assemblies and writing workshops with students in 2nd-5th grade. Samantha Vamos, bilingual author of the award-winning The Cazuela That The Farm Maiden Stirred and more, will be here on Wednesday, March 16th to meet and present to our Kindergarten and 1st graders.

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. Click this link to the book order forms.

Suzanne Selfors book orders are due back by Wednesday, March 2nd. Samantha Vamos book orders are due back by Wednesday, March 9th. If students own their own copies of books by either author, they are more than welcome to bring them in on the day of the visit to have them signed.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Berry, 425-837-5825, berryl@issaquah.wednet.edu.

Summer School
Registration is now open for elementary school students. See below for program information.

* Elementary Summer School is offered to current kindergarten through fifth graders only. The summer school program provides for both reinforcement of learned skills and remedial assistance for students who need a little extra academic support. Classes are held on weekdays from July 11th through August 5th, 9 am to 12 pm, at Issaquah Valley Elementary School. Tuition is $400 and applications are available on the District website beginning March 1st.
* Summer Robotics Class—Returning this summer is a two week Robotics Class for current fourth and fifth graders only. This course teaches the fundamentals of robotics using LEGO Mindstorm Kits. Due to popular demand for this class, two sessions will now be offered. Summer Robotics Class, Session 1 runs weekdays from July 11th to July 22nd. Summer Robotics Class, Session 2 runs weekdays from July 25th to August 5th. Both sessions meet between 9:30 am-11:30 am, at Issaquah Valley Elementary School. Tuition for this two-week program is $250 and applications are on the District website beginning March 1st. A minimum of 12 students is required for this class to proceed. You must select ONE session at time of registration.

Science Tech
Families of current third graders: Are you interested in enrolling your student in our Science Technology Magnet Program? The Issaquah School District offers three programs serving 4th and 5th grade students in unique multi-age classrooms. Each magnet serves 50+ students in a two-year program. Each program covers all standard 4/5 district adopted curriculum, with an added emphasis on science and technology. Grade specific math instruction is provided.

Families interested in enrolling their student in this program must attend a mandatory informational meeting—unless they have previously had a student enrolled in this program. Informational meetings
will be held at Briarwood on Tuesday, March 1st, at Clark on Thursday, March 10th and at Cascade Ridge on Monday, March 28th. All meetings are scheduled for 6:00-7:00 pm.

**Shrek—The Musical at Maywood Middle School**

Are you looking for some quality family entertainment? Mark your calendar and plan to attend Maywood Middle School students’ performance of *Shrek – The Musical*. Show dates are March 3rd, 4th and 5th. All the performances will be on stage in Maywood’s cafeteria and start at 7:00pm. Tickets are $8 each and can be purchased at the door. Hope to see you there! Please call the Maywood Middle School office at 425.837.6900 if you have any questions.