Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are excited to announce the coming 2016 Ingomar Elementary Spelling Bee!! This bee is an official qualifier for the Western PA Spelling Bee, as well as the Scripps National Spelling Bee. We offered sign-up sheets in each homeroom, leading up to the Winter Break for interested students, distributing the word lists to those interested prior to the break. It is not too late to sign up. If a student is interested, they are still welcome to join us. They need only stop by the office to notify me of their intent to participate to obtain a list** and we will ensure that we have plenty of room for them on their designated grade level spelling bee day.

While the students must be in at least 4th grade to be the official local winner, per the Official Scripps National Spelling Bee Rules, we invite all students in grades 1-5 to participate. The IES Winner could be from any of these grades, while the winner to advance to the local and potentially national bee would have to be in the 4th grade, minimally.

We will simply select the most successful student in grades 4 or 5 to send on in the competition, while also recognizing the top students at IES regardless of grade level. We wish to provide all of our students with the experience of competing in a spelling bee as a way to improve their skills and share in a new experience. As we explain to each of the students, they are already “winning” by having signed up for the bee to try something new and learn in the process!

Each grade level will have a mini spelling bee during recess on January 25th-27th, according to the schedule below. The top two students from each grade level spelling bee will advance to the school-wide spelling bee on February 12th. We will hold the bee at IES in an area without a crowd, but will by trying to televise it on our closed-network system at Ingomar, as we have done over the last two years. The parents of the students in the final round will be able to watch the bee at school, as can the other IES students and teachers from their rooms.

Your child should study their grade level’s list, while also keeping in mind that if the individuals in their grade are spelling all of those words correctly, we will continually advance into the next grade level’s list until we have 2 top students from that grade to take to the school spelling be on the 12th. Additionally, if they are successful in making it to the Western PA or National Bee, they would need to be familiar with all of the words through grade 8. A copy of the rules is accessible at the link provided in the text box below. We appreciate your support of our school’s spelling bee, which helps to build the academic skills of our students and benefits them regardless of the outcome! Best of luck to all participants!

Many Thanks & Happy New Year!

Respectfully,

Mrs. Silbaugh
Principal

**Due to the Scripps National Spelling Bee copyright permissions, we are unable to distribute the spelling lists electronically. If your child needs a list or lost their list, they can obtain additional, paper copies, in the main office. We appreciate your understanding and are happy to accommodate additional needs! Thank you!**