

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year to all of you from all of us at the Nock! We have settled right back into our routines this week and our school is bustling with activity.

The Lion King musical production is now in full swing as students begin practicing for the April performances. Brian Nickerson and Jamie Sokolowski have been collaborating with professors and Doctoral students from Harvard University to give our students a richer theatrical experience and a deeper understanding of the culturally rich heritage of Mali and Burkina Faso. Mrs. Ntuli Qoboza-Akyeampong (pronounced Ah-CHEM-pong), an African Languages Professor at Harvard University, produced a series of videos to help our students with pronunciation of their lines. She very generously spent much time slowly and meticulously going through each line of the various African Languages in the show, providing proper pronunciation and accurate translations to guide our students as they practice. We will be welcoming her to a rehearsal in late January where she will further guide our performance and help craft correct pronunciations. I will communicate more of this great collaboration as play practices move along. If you would like to view the site you can find the videos at: nocklionking.weebly.com

Our Winter Concert is scheduled for Thursday, January 21st with our Chorus students beginning their performance at 6:00 and our Band at 7:00.

Our second semester explore classes will begin on January 25th. Students will be given new schedules for those classes that change. Academic classes will remain the same.

Our students have an early release day on Thursday, January 14th at 10:45 and the MLK holiday is observed on Monday, January, 18th.

Enjoy the weekend,
Beth

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Beth Raucci
Principal, Nock Middle School
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