



MARY CASTLE ELEMENTARY • 8502 East 82nd Street • Indianapolis, IN 46256

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Ms. Carla Johnson, Principal
marycastle.LTschools.org

Dr. Shawn A. Smith, Superintendent
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Global Gazette

April 2017

Month of April	Food Drive
April 8	Math Pentathlon Tournament, Ben Davis High School, Grades 4-6
April 10-14	Book Fair
April 11	Culver's Night, 5-8 p.m.
April 13	4 th Grade Musical and Art Showcase, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
April 15	District Science Fair @ LECC
April 17 – May 5	ISTEP Multiple Choice
April 20	SkyZone, 3-8 p.m.
April 21	No School for students and staff
April 25	PREP Parent Engagement Series, 6:30 p.m. – An Evening with Dr. Smith
April 26	Elementary Track Meet, Lawrence North, 5-6 p.m.
April 27	Students vs. Staff Basketball Game, 6:30 p.m., MEC Gym. Pre-sale tickets \$1, At the door \$2
April 29	Math Pentathlon Tournament, Southport High School, Grade 1
April 30	Deadline for Submission of CAP Applications
May 1-5	Teacher Appreciation Week
May 1-5	ISTEP, Part 2 (Multiple Choice)
May 4	Flower Sale – Order Pick-Up at MEC
May 6	Math Pentathlon Tournament, Grades 2&3
May 9	PFO Leadership Meeting including MEC/ELC Parents
May 12	International Festival, 6-8:30 p.m.
May 17	Field Day P.E. Showcase & Volunteer Breakfast
May 23	Talent Show, Grades 4-6
May 24	Awards Day – Grades 1-5
May 25	Last Student Day of 2 nd Semester/Year
May 25	6 th Grade Picnic & Kickball Tournament
May 25	6 th Grade Clap-Out at 2:20 p.m.
May 25	Awards Day – Grade 6
May 25	End of Grading Period
May 26	Teacher Records Day – No School for Students
May 29	Memorial Day Holiday – No School

Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

Student Achievement through Best

ISTEP + Practice - April 17th-May 1st!!!

Grades 3 & 5 April 17th - April 24th

Grades 4 & 6 April 25th - May 1st

Be sure to avoid scheduling any medical or dental appointments during the ISTEP window. Perfect attendance is needed during ISTEP. Students will be testing for approximately 90 -120 minutes each day. It's imperative that students eat a healthy breakfast and get a great night's sleep. There will not be homework on the days that your child takes ISTEP.

Here are some helpful academic links for learning to use at home:

www.lexiacore5.com

[Dreambox](#) (click link)

Thoughtful Placement Parent Forms - In the office you may request a thoughtful placement form. Information supplied will help with your child's educational placement for next year. We have an excellent teaching staff. All forms are due by May 12th.

Report Cards went home on March 17th. Be sure to sign and return the report card envelope but most importantly find time to discuss your child's grades, celebrate and set goals to end the last 8 weeks of school on a high note. Everyday send your child to school with an academic mindset with a positive attitude and beliefs about learning

CONGRATULATIONS: Mary Castle Science Fair winners will compete with other 6th graders in the district on Saturday, April 15th at LECC. Last year Mary Castle walked away with first place at the District Science Fair. The science fair projects get better and better each year.

- Honorable mention – Gabe M
- Honorable mention – Roman C
- 3rd place – Matthew F-K
- 2nd place – Haley D
- 1st place – Sam G

STUDENT COUNCIL A big thank you to Student Council and the teacher sponsors Mrs. Freeze and Mrs. Smelser for a successful Pennies for Patients Drive. Our final total as of now is \$3843.86!!!!!!! The classroom that raised the most money was Mrs. Buhler's room. They raised \$419.12. Second place - Mrs. Cannon's room with \$394.83. Third place - Ms. Dorsel's room with \$371.87. Great job everyone! We are helping find a cure!!!!

Renovation-Over Spring Break grade 2 classrooms were completed and students returned all moved back into their pod. Art, Compass and Media Center have moved to a temporary location until the end of the school year. We are reaching the halfway point of our renovation as the majority of classrooms have been completed. Next work is already beginning on the new Media Center and restrooms. This summer renovation will encompass expanding our cafeteria, a new kitchen, a new area for Art, Music, Compass and the office.

1:1 World

Our fifth and sixth grade students are continuing to create and participate in amazing projects with their Chromebooks. Ms. Dorsel's class is starting a new project with students in New Zealand! They have filled out surveys through Google Connected Classrooms and are also asking and compiling data through this site as well! Stay tuned for more on this project!



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Other grade levels around the school are also utilizing the technology within their classrooms. Quizlet Live, Noteworthy and Plickers are just a few of the fun ways students are learning new topics!

International Connections

News from Music: The 4th Grade Spring Concert will be held on Thursday, April 13th at 6:30 pm. The concert will be held on the MEC stage. Come join the MEC 4th graders for beautiful singing and recorder playing! Mrs. Rouse

News from COMPASS: In COMPASS we are starting a new unit on Russia. We will be looking into Russian government, geography, history, economy and culture. We even have some MEC students who are from Russia!

News from Global Leadership: Month of March - March was an EXCITING time in Global Leadership. We took our STEM skills and used them to participate in some Dr. Seuss games. We tried to stack 10 Apples Up on Top, build Lorax trees, see how high we could stack the Cat's Hat, balanced Green Eggs, and puzzle making too. Teams competed for Thing 1 and Thing 2. Then we had a race. We made THING 1 and THING 2 move forward with balloons. We discussed how the air in the balloon became stored energy, and the energy powered the THINGS. Ask your student about their Dr. Seuss FUN. **Month of April** - April we have started with Technology...3-6 grades are practicing their typing skills; grades 1&2 are learning the parts of the computer and other types of technology. The rest of April we will be studying EGGS which will include magnet fun, experiments, an egg drop, and much more!!! -Mrs. Donnenhoffer

News from Library: Want a free book (up to \$8.00) from the Scholastic Spring Book Fair? Please consider volunteering for the Scholastic Book Fair scheduled from 4/7/17 – 4/14/17. Your child will have the opportunity to purchase books from the book fair at their REGULARLY SCHEDULED MEC LIBRARY CLASS. For instance, if your child has library on Tuesdays from 9:30 to 9:50, that is the time your child will be able to purchase book fair books. Please consider volunteering during that time so you can shop with your child and help other children purchase books! If interested, please

- call Mrs. Fislar at 317-964-4675 or
- email her at catherinefislar@msdlt.k12.in.us or
- go to Signup.org and sign up for the time that suits you best

MEC 2nd Annual Students vs. Staff Basketball Game

Come cheer on the 6th Grade Boys and Girls Basketball Teams as they take on the teachers and staff of Mary Castle! The game is scheduled for Thursday, April 27 at 6:30 p.m. in the MEC Gym. Presale tickets will be available April 24 – April 26 for \$1. Tickets will be sold at the door for \$2 on the night of the event. Popcorn, candy and drinks will be available for purchase at the game. All money raised will go to the MEC Kids in Action Club. The event is sponsored by the MEC Kids in Action after school club.

Up and Running Club

Up and Running Program is to train and run in the Geist 5K on Saturday, May 20th. Please be sure to return the packet no later than Monday, April 10, if you are interested.

Kids in Action Club

Before spring break the Kids in Action Club spent a Saturday building a wheelchair ramp for a family in need with the help of a local service group called SAWS. This is the third wheelchair ramp that our MEC club has built since we started.

Global Citizens for 3rd Quarter

Grade One

Cesar L-E
Haley P
Annabel K
Kevin M
Marla O
Anthony B
Jaden F
Brooklyn L
Cynthia C-J
Jaydon J

Grade Two

DeJuane R
Ava C
Estela S
Brandon G-T
Eva A
Oscar V-J
Mazzy C
Evan D

Grade Three

Janetsy T-R
Arturo C-G
Gelsyn B
Eve J
Alivia D
Luis R
Ja'lyn L
Ariah L
Oliver H
Quinn G

Grade Four

Sergio P-M
Nayeli S
William G
Kayla R
Jared D-Z
Ximena B
Anabel T-C
Amy P
Jose C

Grade Five

Chloe A
Liam O
Ava M
Colin D
Maddox M
Kendall A
Autumn R
Jack W
Jasmine R
Kevin P

Grade Six

Kevion W
Guadalupe T-C
Kamryn M
Zacharia K
Anthony Q-L
Kaniah R
Olivia N
Sam G

PFO News

Mary Castle Flower Sale! - Pick up your delivery on Thursday, May 4th at Mary Castle. For any questions or to volunteer on delivery day, contact Kelley Mesterharm at mecpfo@gmail.com or text 317-372-8870 (be sure to include your first and last name). Also, Thank You Kelley for organizing this year's Flower Sale and online store!

Teacher Appreciation Week – Teacher Appreciation Week is scheduled for May 1-5! Stay tuned for ways to show your appreciation for our wonderful Mary Castle teachers. Thanks to Amber Rowland and Cherone Smith for organizing teacher appreciation events this school year.

International Festival - This year's festival will be held at the school on Friday, May 12 from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. This is a fun evening for the whole family including food samples, activities, a raffle, a photo booth, DJ, and more. Submit your entry to the art contest and see it on display (and vote for your favorite) at the festival. Grade level baskets are a big hit at the raffle -- a flyer of requested donations went home recently. Thank you for your help! This is one of our biggest fundraisers of the year and help and volunteers are still needed for the festival. Contact Alysson Olinger at (317) 498-6112 or alyssonoliger@gmail.com if you can help.

SkyZone - Join the Mary Castle community on Thursday, April 20 at SkyZone for a fun night while supporting the school. A portion of sales

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between 3:00 and 8:00 will go to Mary Castle. Look for a flyer to go home soon. Thanks to Jamila Richmond for organizing SkyZone and Incrediplex this year!

Calling all Volunteers and Leaders!! – The time to plan for next year is now. The Mary Castle PFO has many opportunities to serve the school and welcome your input for planning the next year. Please attend the PFO Leadership Meeting on May 9th at 6:30 to learn more about opportunities to lead and to share your thoughts. You can also contact Alysson Olinger at alyssonoliger@gmail.com or (317) 498-6112 to learn more and discuss opportunities. There's a place for you in the PFO!!

Book Fair – The Book Fair is next week and volunteers are needed! Students will be able to shop the book fair during their normal library time. It is recommended that parent volunteers try to come during their child's library time to help their student and others. All volunteers are eligible for a free book up to \$8 in value. Sign up for a shift at <https://signup.com/go/EmhVSN> or by contacting Mrs. Fislar at (317) 964-4675 or catherinefislar@msdl.k12.in.us. Thanks to Tyni Birdsong, Tamara Brusca, and Mrs. Fislar for organizing!

Culver's – April 11 from 5-8 p.m. – Please join us Tuesday, April 11th at the East 96th Street Culver's for the last MEC family night of the school year. We need four volunteers an hour to deliver orders to the tables and the drive through. This is a fun way to meet school families/staff and help raise funds for Mary Castle! A portion of the sales go directly to the Mary Castle PFO. Sign up for an hour shift at: <http://signup.com/go/U5EzAP>. Thanks to Matt Heimann for organizing this year's Culver's Nights!

Kroger's Community Rewards - If you have a Kroger Plus Card, please take a few minutes to log into your account and select the Mary Castle PFO as your community rewards organization. Once linked, each time you use your Kroger Plus Card a percentage of sales will go directly to the Mary Castle PFO. Thank you to all households who have already linked their Kroger Plus Card -- you're helping support teachers and students every time you shop!

District News

Computerized Admittance Process – The MSD of Lawrence Township CAP (Computerized Admittance Process), for those residing within the MSD of Lawrence Township boundaries, will open on Saturday, April 1 and will remain open through Sunday, May 21.

Additional Information Regarding the CAP Process –

- April 1: CAP application opens for all current MSDLT families
- April 30: Deadline for submission of CAP applications to be considered for the first run to take place mid-May. The first run will only be for kindergarteners applying to Forest Glen, and for first graders applying to any/all schools. A separate run will take place for all other grade level placements (1-6) in late June.
- May 21: CAP application closes at midnight
- Week of June 26: School placements finalized for the 2017-18 school year. Families will receive e-mail notification regarding placement status on or before July 1.

Returning Student Verification Process (RSVP) - The MSD of Lawrence Township is undergoing a digital upgrade for 2017-2018 and will move to a paperless online registration verification through Skyward Family Access.

To prepare, we ask that all parents/guardians please ensure that the email address currently on file with your child's school is accurate. You can do this one of two ways: log into your Skyward Family Access and verify your email account by clicking "My Account" in the upper right hand corner. Or, if you do not have your Skyward Family Access account information, visit your child's school with a valid ID to obtain the information and verify your email account. The week of April 10th, we will begin the Returning Student Verification Process (RSVP) by sending an email with important directions to the primary email address on file for each student. Completion of Returning Student Verification will not only complete necessary forms for 2017-2018, but will facilitate a more efficient registration and records update process moving forward. Expect more information the week of April 10th.

Summer Camp/Day Care - The MSD of Lawrence Township, in partnership with the Benjamin Harrison YMCA is offering a variety of summer camp opportunities for children ages 3 through 15. Check the website for complete details and registration information. <http://www.ltschools.org/announcements/summer-camp>

Lawrence Swim Team FREE Swim Lessons - Lawrence Swim Team is offering free swimming lessons on Saturday, April 8th at Lawrence Central High School and Saturday, April 22st at Lawrence North High School. Contact Coach Tom Burchill: Tom.Burchill@yahoo.com.

PREP-Parent Engagement Series - Mark your calendar for the final Parent Engagement (PREP) presentation of the 2017 - 2018 school year, **A conversation with Dr. Shawn A. Smith, Superintendent.** April 25 at 6:30 pm at Lawrence North High School, 7802 Hague Road. Child care and Spanish translation will be provided.

Summer sports leagues are forming now. See the **Community Activities** page on our website linked in the lower right side.

**THERE IS NO
SCHOOL ON
FRIDAY, APRIL 21!**

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