



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 2018

- 4/9-12 Book Fair
- April 10 PFO Meeting, 7 p.m.
- April 12 4th Grade Musical, 6 p.m.
- April 14 Math Pentathlon Tournament – Grades 4,5 &6
Ben Davis High School
- April 17 PFO Sponsored Culver’s Night – 96th Street –
5 p.m. – 8 p.m.
- 4/18–25 ISTEP Testing Grades 3 & 4
- April 25 First Grade Field Trip – Fire Station –
11:30 a.m. – 1 p.m.
- 4/25-5/2 ISTEP Testing Grades 5 &6
- April 26 6th Grade Science Fair @ MEC
- April 26 Second Grade Field Trip –
11:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
- April 28 Math Pentathlon Tournament – Grades 1 –
Southport High School
- April 30 MSDLT Board Meeting – LECC – 7 p.m.
- May 4 International Festival, 6-8:30 p.m.
- May 5 Math Pentathlon – Grades 2&3 –
Avon Middle School South
- May 5 District Science Fair @ LECC
- 5/7-11 Teacher Appreciation Week
- May 8 PFO Meeting
- May 16 Talent Show
- May 21 5th & 6th Grade Chromebooks will be collected.
- May 23 Field Day & Volunteer Recognition Breakfast
- May 25 First Grade Field Trip to Garfield Park,
9 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
- May 29 Awards Day – Grades 1-5
- May 30 Last Student Day
- May 30 Awards Day – Grade 6 - 10 a.m.
- May 30 Grade 6 – Picnic & Kickball Tournament
- May 30 6th Grade Clap Out – 2:20 p.m.

You're invited to join the Mary Castle staff as we help students SOAR to achievement with Rigor and JOY! It's hard to believe but we have 7 full school days until ISTEP round two. Excellent student attendance is essential as we work towards student achievement. Our March attendance average was 96%. Every student should be in their classroom by 8am daily. Be sure to check your child's backpack for 3rd quarter awards that went home on Friday. During the month your child's 3rd quarter report card was made available online. Be sure to check grades and reach out to your child's teacher with any questions. As we begin to think about the next school year if you should need to provide us with any helpful information you can inquire in the office about completing a thoughtful placement form for your child. Thoughtful placement forms will be available until May 11th.

ISTEP round 2 testing schedule (Online multiple choice)

Grade 3 - April 18-24th

Grade 4 - April 18-25th

Grade 5 - April 25th-May 2nd

This week events at Mary Castle: Our Spring Book Fair is here, and our PFO is in need of volunteers this week! If you are available to help out, please click on the link below and sign up. <http://signup.com/go/scvCCyH>. You can also call the main office to share your availability to volunteer in the Spring Book Fair. Tuesday, April 10th, join the Mary Castle PFO as we meet at 7pm to finalize plans for the International Festival and many other end of year events as well as planning for the kickoff of school for August 2018. This Thursday, April 12th, is our 4th grade Spring Concert. All 4th Graders and the Folk Dancing Club members should arrive by 5:40 pm as the show starts at 6 pm. Students should wear pink, green, or white. Best wishes this month to our Math Pentathlon students in grades 1-6 who will be competing in state tournaments in April and May. A

Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

SOAR (Students and Staff Obtaining Achievement & Rigor) with JOY – STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT – Be the Change You Want to SEE in the World by Mahatam Ghani.



Lawrence Excellence!

Archived copies of our newsletters are available on our website.

Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

special thanks to all of the parent leaders of Math Pentathlon.

Our annual Returning Student Verification Process, or RSVP, will open in Skyward Family Access on Monday, April 16th. RSVP will verify that your student or students will be returning to MSD of Lawrence Township for the 2018-2019 school year. Through this process, you will verify contact information and complete the required Medical, Technology and Bus Forms that will have your students up and running for next year!

Student Achievement - Mary Castle's goals for 2017-18

- Increase ISTEP Proficiency by 5% in both ELA and Math for Grade 3.
- Increase ISTEP Proficiency by 10% in both ELA and Math in every cohort 4-6.
- Score above the national average of 1.8 on Rigor Walk
- Every ELL student shows growth on WIDA by one level.
- Student Attendance increases to or above 96.9%. (District Goal – 97%) MEC is currently at 96%

ATTENDANCE Matters:

December student attendance 95%
January student attendance 94%
February student attendance 95%
March student attendance 96%

WAYS TO STAY IN TOUCH WITH MARY CASTLE:

- All Early Learning Centers and Elementary Schools adhere to the district handbook:
- <http://marycastle.itschools.org/about/student-handbook>
- Check out Mary Castle on FACEBOOK and "LIKE us" <https://www.facebook.com/mecschoo>
- Follow us on Twitter! Mary Castle Elem @MaryCastleElem
- Check your child's first day of the week blue folder for important school information.

--Carla Johnson, Principal

International Connections

News from Global Leadership: Global Leadership in April...We are starting the month by **Typing**. Don't forget to

have your child(3rd-6th)practice home row position (ASDF/JKL;) at www.typing.com. Ask them about their WPM...words per minute. 1st and 2nd graders can practice their skills at www.abcya.com. All grades will be working on their **Coding** skills at www.code.org. Then at the end of April and early May we will be starting a unit on the **Indy 500**. For this race car fun, we are in need of **paper towel rolls**. If you have any, please send them in with your child by **Friday, April 13**. Also, 6th Grade Science Fair is April 26th. Mr. Donnenhoffer, a scientist at Roche, is coming into each 6th grade class to discuss their ideas and answer any questions students have. Can't wait to see all their finished projects!! Thanks, Christy Donnenhoffer

News from Art: In the Art Room our Clay Unit has started! Students absolutely love when we get to begin our clay projects! Each grade level is focusing on a different clay building adventure...pinch pots, finger puppets, whimsical sea creatures, coil pots, Cubism faces, totem pole spoons and Aztec Day Signs! In the lower grade levels students learn techniques to use their hands and fingers to manipulate the clay while pinching and pulling. As students get older they learn to create coils and roll the clay. Once students have a good understanding of techniques they can begin using score and slip to glue their clay together and even begin rolling slabs of clay! Each year students surprise me with how amazing their clay looks! Clay is always a long process from start to finish so watch for the fragile clay projects to come home in backpacks towards mid to late May! All of our other amazing projects will be coming home around the same time!

Robotics Club: This summer, the World's-qualifying Gearcat Robotics will be offering a 4-day robotics summer camp at Fall Creek Valley Middle School for current 4th through 7th grade students. **The 4th/5th Grade camp will run from 9:00 AM until 12:00 PM Monday, June 25 to Thursday, June 28.** We are offering a separate camp for students currently enrolled in 6th and 7th grade. **The 6th/7th Grade camp will run from 1:00 PM until 4:00 PM Monday, June 25 to Thursday, June 28.** Students will have the opportunity to design, build and program a robot to compete in a series of challenges. Students will be mentored by award-winning robotics coaches and mentors as well as have a chance to prepare for the upcoming *Vex IQ Robotics* Competition Season.

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Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

Details:

WHEN: Monday June 25 – Thursday June 28

TIME: Current 4th/5th Graders: 9:00 - 12:00 PM

TIME: Current 6th/7th Graders: 1:00 - 4:00 PM

WHERE: Fall Creek Valley Middle School

COST: \$80.00 – T-Shirt Included

WHEN IS THIS DUE?: May 13th

Registration is \$80 per student for participants who return registration by **May 13th. This price includes a t-shirt for your student.** Late registrations will be \$90 and spots cannot be guaranteed. (FORM IS ON OPPOSITE SIDE).

For more information, please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/GearcatInfo45> - 4th/5th Grade Camp

<http://tinyurl.com/GearcatInfo67> - 6th/7th Grade Camp

To Register please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/GearcatReg45>

<http://tinyurl.com/GearcatReg67>

To Pay please visit:

<http://tinyurl.com/GearcatPay1>

One to the World – Technology Corner

In 5th grade, students are highly engaged in the learning through creating with technology using We Video to make movies and mini commercials. Do you like making music? Students had a blast creating their own songs in a program called Sound Trap. Many classrooms are using a program called Quizziz to check for understanding in the form of a game. Students can be heard saying, "Can we please do a Quizziz today?" Students in third grade are enjoying creating their own questions to show their learning in a variety of ways. One way is through Plickers. Students work together to create questions to show their learning and quiz their peers as well! First and second grade students have been using Kahoot, an online game, to play and review their learning. Some of the classrooms have even begun creating their own quizzes, and then have enjoyed playing each other's Kahoot.

Pennies for Patients

Mary Castle Elementary is proud to announce that our school collected \$1714.88 for Pennies for Patients this year. Classroom totals are being finalized and will be published soon. Thanks to everyone for helping us raise money for the fight against blood cancers!

PFO News

International Festival - Friday, May 4th from 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm. Come and check out your child's classroom as the class showcases their amazing learning. Admittance is free, but food, carnival game tickets, a raffle, and other items will be available for purchase. Our goal is to not only show student work but to raise \$4000 dollars. Your purchases and donations can make this happen!

We need raffle items - Can you donate items that we can put into raffle baskets? Want to make a themed basket of your own? Grade level baskets are a big hit at the raffle – look for a flyer coming home soon.

Volunteers make this event happen! Without you, there won't be an event. We need people to decorate (set-up), build games, run games, man the food station and people to help clean up. Please attend the April 10th PFO Meeting to find out how you can help. Or, contact Kelley Mesterharm, call/text 317 372 8870 or email mecpfo@gmail.com

Book Fair – The Book Fair is April 9th- 12th and volunteers are needed! Students shop at the book fair during their normal library time. Parent volunteers should try to come during their child's library time to help their student and others. **All volunteers who serve a 2-hour shift are eligible for a free book up to \$8 in value.** Sign up at <http://signup.com/go/scyCCyH>

Culver's – April 17 from 5-8 p.m. – Please join us Tuesday, April 17th at the East 96th Street Culver's for the last MEC family night of the school year. Want to really have fun? Help deliver food orders to tables and the drive-thru by signing up for a 1-hour shift at <http://signup.com/go/QQpCsCG>

Members of the PFO Board will be on hand to help you.

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Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

Visit our web site for more information and to sign up for volunteer opportunities. mecpfo.org

District News

MyStop Bus App- Lawrence Township Transportation is working with My Stop to provide GPS tracking information for our buses and give families more exact information about their child's bus arrival. My Stop can be utilized via the MyStop website, <https://bus.ltschools.org/onscreen/Login>, or via the app on your smartphone/mobile device. Visit Ltschools.org/transportation for complete details and instructions.

Computerized Admittance Process for Elementary

Students - The MSD of Lawrence Township CAP (Computerized Admittance Process), for those **students who wish to apply to attend a school other than their current assigned school is now open through Sunday, May 20th**. Visit the website under Announcements for complete details.

Return to Neighborhood Elementary School - If you wish to transfer your elementary student from his/her current elementary school to his/her neighborhood elementary school, the application must be submitted by June 8th. More information and a link to the online form is on the website under Announcements.

Student Health Assessment Questionnaire - Students in grades three and above will participate in the Student Health Assessment Questionnaire (SHAQ). The purpose is to assess the need to improve our nutrition and physical activity practices and to better understand if our efforts are improving the health of students. More information and a sample questionnaire are available under the Announcements on the website.

Summer Childcare Camp - Summer Childcare Camp for children ages 3 - entering kindergarten is available at two locations this summer, the Early Learning Center at Brook Park and the Early Learning Center at Amy Beverland. Online registration is linked on our website. Summer Childcare Camp for children in first grade and older is available through the Benjamin Harrison YMCA.

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