



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

317-964-4600 • Attendance Line 317-964-4605



Ms. Carla Johnson, Principal
marycastle.LTschools.org

Dr. Shawn A. Smith, Superintendent
LTschools.org

Global Gazette

January 2017

- January 13 Report Cards
- January 14 MEC vs Harrison Hill, Basketball, 6:30 p.m. – LECC
- January 16 Martin Luther King, Jr., Birthday – NO SCHOOL
- January 18 Pacer Order Forms are Due!
- January 18 Honors Day Breakfast Grades 3 & 4, 7 a.m.
- January 19 Family Game Night, 6:30 – 8 p.m., All families are invited. Family Fitness Activity in the Gym at 7 p.m.
- January 19 Grade 3 IREAD Literacy Night, 5:30-6 p.m. – Dinner for \$3, 6-7 p.m. Meeting
- January 20 Grade 3 Field Trip to the Children’s Museum, 9 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.
- January 20 Honors Day Breakfast Grades 5 & 6, 7 a.m.
- January 21 Exhibition Game – 2:30 p.m. – LECC
- January 28 MEC vs Crestview – 1:30 p.m. – LECC
- January 31 Culver’s Restaurant Night at 96th Street, 6 – 8 p.m.
- February 4 Robotics Competition at Cornerstone Noblesville Classic
- February 6 Morning Family Chat with Mrs. Johnson, 7 a.m.
- February 10 5th & 6th Grade Fun Friday, 2:45 – 4:30 p.m.
- February 14 Valentine’s Day/Friendship Day
- February 16 Pacer Game
- February 16 PREP Parent Engagement Series, 6:30 p.m.
- February 17 Movie Night, Grades 1-4, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- February 18 Robotics Competition at Heritage Christian School
- February 20 President’s Day – NO SCHOOL
- Feb 27 – Mar 10 ISTEP – Applied Skills

MEC Renovation: We opened 17 classrooms, in which students moved every 9 weeks, and 8 classes moved over winter break. Classrooms in grades 3-6 are now complete. We have a new restroom and new playground equipment. In 2017, we will see the renovation of grades 1 & 2 classrooms, a new Media Center, kitchen/café expansion, new Related Arts classrooms and office area. Our enrollment has grown to over 700 students.

New Staffing: 2016 brought us a new Assistant Principal, Mr. Blythe. We hired new staff members: Mr. Creger (5th grade), Mrs. Eads (4th grade), Mrs. Young, (ENL). We launched a new 5th Area Related Arts Class titled Global Leadership (STEM) led by Mrs. Donnenhoffer. In 2017, Mike Burchfield from IUPUI, just started student teaching at MEC for 8 weeks with Mr. Beattie in PE.

Service Learning: Our Mary Castle Globetrotters have been making a local and global difference through service projects in which we’ve collected coats, raised money for United Way/UNICEF and our Kids in Action club have volunteered and worked in the community to help others. In 2017 we look forward to partnering with Girls Inc. in which this organization will work with our 3rd and 4th grade girls on empowerment skills. In 2017 come and cheer on our MEC Girls & Boys Basketball teams. All games will take place at LECC.

- January 14 - 6:30 p.m. MEC vs Harrison Hill
- January 21 – 2:30 p.m. Exhibition game
- January 28 - 1:30 p.m. MEC vs Crestview

Testing: Just 31 School Days until ISTEP Part 1, 40 School Days until IREAD and 64 School Days until ISTEP Part 2.

Attention Pacers Fans: Don’t forget to turn in your Indiana Pacers fundraiser order forms by **Wednesday, January 18, 2017**. This is your chance to win some neat prizes such as Myles Turner Crazy Socks or a team-signed basketball! Everyone who turns in an order form with at least 1 ticket sold will be entered-to-win shoes autographed by Paul George! Invite your friends, family members, and co-workers to our school night on Thursday, February 16, 2017 vs. the Washington Wizards and pick up your prizes at the game!

Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

Student Achievement through Best Practice: Mary Castle earned a high “B” letter grade from the Department of Education on the more rigorous testing. Our growth grade was an “A” with new rigorous standards. We are going to stay the course as we work towards increasing instructional rigor at Mary Castle. We have a school improvement plan and we are studying and implementing Marzano Essentials for Increasing Rigor and embracing a growth mind set. Join us next week as we celebrate student achievement for first semester awards. Look for an invitation to come home in your child’s report card. Our students have started 2017 with setting academic and behavioral goals. We are transitioning from our Global Guidelines to the TROT in Globetrotters.

- T-Take Charge of your Learning
- R-Respect Others and Learning Environment
- O-Own Responsibility
- T-Think Safely

High Ability Testing

The district is currently accepting parent requests for High Ability Testing for students in grades 1, 3, 4, and 5 for the 2017-2018 school year. Requests may be submitted between January 10, 2017 and January 30, 2017. The testing will take place on February 22nd, 2017 from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. for students in grades 1 and 3, and on February 23rd from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. for students in grades 4 and 5. All testing will take place at the Lawrence Education and Community Center (LECC) located at 6501



Lawrence Excellence!

Archived copies of our newsletters are available on our website.

Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

Sunnyside Road. Please visit Itschools.org for more information and to register. Please carefully read all of the information on the registration link before requesting testing to be sure that your child might be a good candidate for the screening. Thank you! Jodi Peyton, MSD Lawrence Township, Interventionist/Title 1 Compliance/High Ability, 317-423-8470

Want to know what's for lunch at Mary Castle?

Here is the lunch menu link:

<http://www.Itschools.org/MediaLibraries/Itschools.org/Documents/District/Food-Service/Menus/Elementary-Lunch-Menu-second-semester.pdf>

1:1 One to the World

Fifth and Sixth grade students have been busy working and learning with their Chrome Books! Before winter break, students started bringing their Chrome books home. With their Chrome books, they are able to complete their homework, collaborate with peers on assignments and even create awesome video responses. Leah, from Ms. Jones' 5th grade class likes taking her Chromebook home to type stories in Google Docs. "It is fun working with my friends on my story from home!" Alex, from Ms. Jones' class likes taking his Chromebook home and playing math games. "Dreambox is awesome because the games get harder and harder!" Stay tuned each month for some more highlights from our 1:1 initiative!

International Connections

News from Music: The music classes this semester will be learning folk dances from many different countries. We are also excited to be starting the recorder!

News from Global Leadership: Happy New Year from Global Leadership! We will be studying winter weather, snow, ice, solid versus liquids, and learning the Scientific Method as we do experiments. We will be melting Elsa's ice castle, making snow, making ice grow, and other fun winter activities. We have already learned the Engineering Design Process and will continue to include that as we create snowball launchers. 3-6 grade students will also continue practicing their typing skills. Looking Forward to SNOW much FUN in January! -Mrs. Donnehoffer

News from Gym: In Physical Education class it's extremely important that everyone wears tennis shoes on their PE day. If boots are worn to school, then be sure to pack some tennis shoes for class. Wearing tennis shoes is much safer for physical activity than boots and it prevents the wood floor from getting damaged.

News from Library: I have had a few students ask for a new public library card because their card has been misplaced or is lost. If this is the case, I am asking the parents to send me an email at catherinefislar@msdlt.k12.in.us or call me at 317-964-4675. **In your communication to me, please include your child's name and the name of your child's teacher.** I will then create a new library card and send it home in an envelope addressed to you. Thanks! -Mrs. Fislar, MEC Library Instructional Assistant

Mary Castle Robotics Team

A grant we received in June has helped us launch a Robotics Club led by Mrs. McLaren, Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Donnehoffer. Mary Castle's two robotic teams, Robot Knights and Robot Dynasty, have been working hard. Each team has designed and built a robot for competitions. In addition to robot design, programming, and driving, the team members are also working on a STEM project to present at the upcoming competitions. Team members attended their first competition in December at Fall Creek Valley. Both teams did an outstanding job finishing 4th and 13th overall on the teamwork challenge out of 23 teams. Additionally, both teams placed in the top 10 for the robot skills, programming and driving. They have 2 more upcoming competitions: February 4th at the Cornerstone Noblesville Classic and February 18th at Heritage Christian School.

2016-2017 Mary Castle Yearbook

Order forms are available for the 2016-17 Yearbook. The cost is \$15. Please contact the office if you need another order form!

School Fees

School fees are past due at this time. All outstanding fees will be sent to Statewide Credit Collection Services in February. Please contact Carol Perry, Treasurer, 317-964-4682, if you should have any questions.

Please Help Us Out!

Please contact the school if you have a change in phone number, e-mail or address. Address changes need to be made at the Welcome Center, 6301 Sunnyside Road. All other changes can be made with the school.

PFO News

We are thankful and appreciative to our Parent Faculty Organization for all of their work and effort in supporting our school through Back to School Picnic, Global Games, Book Fair, Movie Nights, Fun Friday's, t-shirts for every student, teacher support of wish/grant ideas and so much more. Thanks to the best parent team, led by Mrs. Alison Olinger, President. There is a place for you to serve in our PFO you are Invited to participate especially as we get ready for the 2017 International Festival!

Family Game Night: Mark your calendars for Family Game Night Thursday, January 19th. This free event is a great way to spend time with your family and friends and the Mary Castle community. The event will be held in the evening at the school. Watch for details!

Kroger's Community Rewards: Kroger's Community Rewards Program helps raise money for the Mary Castle PFO, and it's easy to participate! Just go to: <https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow> and log into your Kroger account, or create a new login. Then select MARY CASTLE ELEMENTARY PFO (Organization# 10947) as your Community Rewards organization. Every time you use your Kroger Plus card, Mary Castle will benefit. It's that easy! Thank you for supporting the PFO!

Lawrence Excellence!

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Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

Global Citizens

We would like to congratulate the following students for being selected as Global Citizens:

Grade One:

Rhett J
Jada R
Abbi V
Luke N
Olyver M
Lucianna D
Andrew G
Emily B
Hunter A
Saniyah M

Grade Four:

Gabrielle R
Averie L
Jayla B
Cameron R
Stephanie R
Shelby M
Julien G
Mariah M
Rakin A
Ryan W

Grade Two:

Brailynn B
Sean M
Ashton L
Addison L
Tyler D
Chase L
Keely F
Ethan L
Lily C
Gideon O

Grade Five:

Aniyah G
Eric P
Emma N
Maria R
Ben S
Wyatt B
Jasmine S
Maria G
Jesus T
Lawson H

Grade Three:

Christopher L
Brian M
Ana G
Joselyn C
Lucy W
Tony C
Keira G
Wyatt S
Haley F
Alex L

Grade Six:

Mallori W
Riley C
Maliat R
Simon M
Xavier V
Miyana C
Franco C
Haley D

Ways to Stay in Touch at Mary Castle

All Early Learning Centers and Elementary Schools adhere to the district handbook: <http://marycastle.ltschools.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.

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