



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

March 2017

Feb 27 – Mar 10 ISTEP – Applied Skills
 March 4 MEC vs. ABE Boys/Girls Basketball, LECC 5:30 p.m.
 March 5 Latino Night, 5-8 p.m., Lawrence Central High School
 March 6 6th Grade Track & Field Call Out Meeting at Belzer
 March 6-24 Pennies for Patients – Assembly on 3/6
 March 7 PFO Meeting, 7 p.m.
 March 9 6th Grade Track & Field Call Out Meeting at Fall Creek Valley
 March 10 LT Foundation Gala
 March 13-17 IREAD3 Test – Grade 3 only
 March 16 Spring Pictures
 March 17 Report Card Distribution
 March 20 School Smiles Dental Program
 March 21 Science Fair, Grade 6, 6:30-7:30 p.m.
 March 21 Flower Sale Order Forms Due
 March 23 Possible Snow Make-up Day
 March 24 Possible Snow Make-up Day
 March 27-31 Spring Break – No School
 Month of April Food Drive
 April 3 First Day Back from Spring Break
 April 4 PFO Meeting, 7 p.m.
 April 5 Middle School Open House, 6:30-8 p.m. at either Belzer or Fall Creek Valley
 April 10-14 Book Fair
 April 11 Culver's Night, 5-8 p.m.
 April 13 4th Grade Musical and Art Showcase, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
 April 15 District Science Fair
 April 17 – May 5 ISTEP Multiple Choice
 April 21 Possible Snow Make-Up Day
 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.

5 School Days until IREAD3 (Grade 3)

6 School Days until ISTEP Part 2 April 17th-May 5th grades 3-6

MEC ISTEP+ A Few Tips for FAMILIES: Parents be sure to write your child an encouraging note letting them know how much you believe in their success and encouraging them to do their best. Our students are well prepared. **Our teachers have done a fabulous job all year preparing our students to be good thinkers and problem solvers.** Students should get comfortable and rest up. The night before the test they should lay out comfortable clothes to wear for the test. Simply being comfortable makes one feel safe, secure and relaxed. They should go to bed early. Being well rested is essential. Talk with your children about any last minute fears and reassure them that doing their best is what is most important. Prepare a healthy breakfast. A nutritious breakfast should be on the menu, especially for testing days. Insure a healthy breakfast balanced with fruit, protein and whole grains. A full stomach and a well-rested mind are ready to handle anything.

Here are a few strategies to share with your child on how to tackle the test:

- Listen and read directions slowly and carefully. If you have any questions, ask.
- Eliminate wrong choices or distracters.
- During reading passages, highlight sentences and refer back to them while answering the questions.
- Pace yourself. Do not spend too much time on one challenging question. Skip it and complete the test. Go back to any skipped questions after the test is complete.
- Check answers at the end if time permits.

International Connections

News from Gym: Jump Rope for Heart - Mary Castle had another successful year with Jump Rope for Heart. This year we raised \$4,863.14 as a school. Thank you to all the MEC families and MEC staff for supporting the American Heart Association.

News from Global Leadership: Hello from Global Leadership! We've had a busy February finishing our unit on winter, then with candy hearts we built towers, catapults, and did some experiments on sink or float. We also practiced some computer and typing skills. 6th grade is hard at work on the Science Fair...come see their awesome work on March 21st! As March approaches we are going to do some Engineering Fun with some different Dr. Seuss themes. Can the students stack 10 Apples up on Top? How tall can the Cat's Hat get? What is the importance of trees...Lorax, and more... Looking forward to spring right around the corner! -Mrs. Donnenhoffer

Student Council Project

Please support Pennies for Patients! Mary Castle students will be taking part in The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's (LLS) Pennies for Patients program from March 6-24. During this program, students will collect

Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

Student Achievement through Best During the month of February each classroom researched a famous African American and decided how they would represent their learning for all classes to view. Today one 3rd grade classroom is doing a play on the life of Mae Jemison. Other classrooms have created videos, board games, are holding debates. The list of creative projects underway of famous African Americans is exciting as our students' balance inquiry work and ISTEP.

ISTEP+ Part One has started. Monday, March 6th-10th grades 4-6 will take ISTEP+ Part One Applied skills. Our 3rd and 5th grade students finished ISTEP this week.

The Spring countdown to other standardized testing is as follows:



Lawrence Excellence!

Archived copies of our newsletters are available on our website.

Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

money to support LLS' mission: cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Students will learn about service, leadership, philanthropy and how they can make a difference by changing patients' lives. Mary Castle has its own online giving page that students, parents and faculty can share with friends and family:

<http://events.ils.org/pages/in/MaryEvelynCastleElementarySchool-2017>

Thank you in advance for helping LLS to create a world without blood cancers! For more information on the Pennies for Patients program, please visit: <http://www.studentseries.org> Our fundraising goal this year is to reach \$1,250. Remember every penny counts!

Kids in Action – KIA Club

The Mary Castle Kids in Action or KIA Club started up again on Tuesday, March 28. The club is made up of hardworking 5th and 6th graders that want to give back to the community. This year we have already done projects beautifying a church playground, donating and organizing clothes at Lambswear, and build a wheelchair ramp for a family in need. We look forward to seeing what great things they do for the community this semester.

PFO News

Thank you! - We had a busy February! Thanks to everyone who attended, helped plan, and/or volunteered for Movie Night and Fun Friday! The events were a lot of fun for the students and helped raise money for the school. Thanks to all the parents that came to the Morning Chat as well. It was a great opportunity to catch up on things going on at the school.

Join Us! - The next PFO meeting will be held this Tuesday, March 7 at 7:00 pm. Come hear updates on testing and school construction as well as what's happening with the PFO.

Mary Castle Flower Sale! - The Mary Castle 2017 Annual Spring Flower Sale is officially underway. Choose from a wide variety of hanging baskets, bedding flats, and specialty planters at affordable prices all while supporting our school. Place your orders online at mecflowers.ecwid.com by Tuesday, March 21. Pick up your delivery on Thursday, May 4th at Mary Castle. If you need a paper order form, please contact your child's teacher or the front office. 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).

Mark your Calendar:

- Flower orders due March 21
- The April PFO meeting will be held Tuesday, April 4 at 7:00 pm
- The next Culver's night is tentatively scheduled for April 11
- The International Festival is May 12
- Teacher Appreciation week is May 1-5. Stay tuned for details on how you can help make sure the staff at Mary Castle feel appreciated!

International Festival - The International Festival will be held Friday, May 12 at Mary Castle. If you are interested in joining the planning committee and/or gathering donations for the raffle, please contact Kamba Rozak at (317) 504-8897 or kdrozak@hotmail.com.

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!

Reminder to Staff and Leaders - Please note that all grade level and special interest grant requests are due to the PFO by March 31st so that they can be reviewed at the April PFO meeting.

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.

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>

“Light Their Future” Celebration - On **March 10, 2017**, the Lawrence Township School Foundation will host its 17th annual **“Light their Future” Celebration**. It will be an evening of dinner, dancing, socializing, and a fantastic silent auction. Check the Foundation's website at www.msdlf.org for more information or if you or your company is interested in donating something to be used in the silent auction.

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.

6th Grade Track and Field - Sixth graders are invited to join the Track and Field Team of the middle school they will attend next year. Shuttle bus service from elementary schools is provided to 6th graders participating in athletics. Belzer call out meeting is March 6. Fall Creek Valley call out meeting is March 9. Check the website for details.

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

Spring Break is March 27 - 31.
If there are NO snow days prior to Spring Break, there will be no school Thursday & Friday, March 23 & 24.
The first day of school after Spring Break is Monday, April 3.

Lawrence Excellence!

Archived copies of our newsletters are available on our website.

Lawrence Excellence!

Archived copies of our newsletters are available on our website.