



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  
LTschools.org

# Global Gazette

## May 2017

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|----------|--|
| 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<br>Grade 3 – 8:15 – 8:45 a.m.<br>Grade 1 – 9 – 9:30 a.m.<br>Grade 2 – 9:45 – 10:15 a.m.<br>Grade 4 – 10:30 – 11 a.m.<br>Grade 5 – 11:15 – 11:45 a.m. |
| May 25   | Last Student Day of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester/Year  |
| May 25   | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Picnic & Kickball Tournament   |
| May 25   | 6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Clap-Out at 2:20 p.m.  |
| May 25   | Awards Day – Grade 6, 10 – 10:30 a.m.  |
| May 25   | End of Grading Period  |
| May 26   | Teacher Records Day – No School for Students   |
| May 29   | Memorial Day Holiday – No School   |
| August 1 | Together on a Tuesday, 4-6 p.m.  |
| August 3 | First Student Day – Semester 1   |

### Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

**Student Achievement through Best** - These last two weeks of school will be very important that your child is at school on time and has good attendance as many of the year end assessments are taking place plus some fun annual activities. Look for your child's report card to come home on Thursday, May 25, the last day of school. We hope you will join us for our grade level End of Year awards the last day of school as our students have worked hard this year and deserve a to be acknowledged. Thank you for partnering with the staff at Mary Castle for an excellent year as we worked upon increasing our Rigor towards Student Achievement through Best Practices. Join us on May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to learn more about the excellence in academics and meet our Global Citizens at the End of the Year Awards assemblies.

**Recognition** - It was just announced recently that Mary Castle and Harrison Hill will serve as a National Demonstration Marzano school focused on best instructional practices. Our teachers at Mary Castle are the very best. We are committed to providing excellence to our students. Our teachers will be immersed this summer and next year in professional development around RIGOR!

**Staff News** - "Behind every successful student is a fabulous teacher (or staff member)." The Honor an Educator program is a great way to personally thank the teachers, administrators, bus drivers and staff members, coaches, who encourage, influence, and inspire your students to be the best they can be. Information can be found on the MSDLT website, too. When you make a gift to the Honor an Educator Fund, the Foundation sends the recipient a custom designed card with your special sentiment and

notifies his/her supervisor of the recognition. All proceeds benefit Foundation programs in Lawrence Township Schools that empower children to tap into their unlimited potential. Please submit your Honor an Educator forms by May 15, 2017, so that the honored educators receive their cards before the end of the school year. For more information, visit the Foundation's website at [www.msdlf.org](http://www.msdlf.org).

**Summer Reading** - This summer Mary Castle and all schools will have a summer reading program in which we want 100% of our students involved in maximizing reading time this summer. You can partner with the public library's program which is allowed and encouraged. Students can "double dip" in the award category by counting their reading for both programs. In August, Dr. Smith will be hosting an ice cream party for all summer readers and a traveling trophy. LET's go Globetrotters!! A packet of information will be coming home the last week of school.

**Student News - Congratulations** to our 1<sup>st</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math Pentathlon teams for a great season and lots of medals earned during competition. Students will be recognized at the End of the Year Awards assemblies.

**Renovation - MEC** will continue to be under renovation this summer as we focus upon our new Related Arts area, new kitchen with two serving lines and additional seating in the cafeteria, New Media Center and office. All classrooms have been finished except for new lighting and ceiling tiles which will be replaced this summer. **STAY tuned for more highlights as we meet at school on August 1<sup>st</sup> for our get "Together on a Tuesday" from 4-6pm. School will start on Thursday, August 3rd**

**Parent PFO NEWS** We would like to thank Mrs. Mesterharm for organizing this year's flower sale. Thanks to all parents for making Teacher Appreciation Week fantastic. Special thanks to Mrs. Drake and Mrs. Rowland for organizing a staff breakfast and luncheon. Our next big school event is the International Festival which takes place May 12<sup>th</sup> from 6 to 8:30pm. Join us and support the PFO Tuesday, May 9<sup>th</sup> for the final meeting of the year. All leaders and parents are welcome. Mrs. Oliger has served as our wonderful PFO President this school year. Thank you for an awesome year. There will be a few PFO key positions that are open for next year. Please come to the meeting or contact the office if you are interested in one of these positions.

**THANKS** for attending our first Staff vs. Student Basketball game which was a great deal of fun. Your support helped us raise money for the Kids in Action Service club. These students will be completing a service project in the community this weekend.

**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 12<sup>th</sup>.



## Lawrence Excellence!

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## Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

### 1:1 World

We are wrapping up our first year with the 1:1 initiative. It has been an overwhelming success! The availability of technology has enhanced both teaching and learning. Student and teachers have been able to do so many exciting things with the Chromebooks that have not been possible in past years. In a poll of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students 90% of them said that Chromebooks have improved their learning this year and allowed them to do things that they had been unable to do in the past. According to students, some of the best things about having their own Chromebook include: the ability to work on projects at home and be more efficient, collaborative work through Google with other students in the class, going paperless, having resources at their fingertips, the ability to get help from teaching videos and websites at home, keeping all of their work in one place and organized, showing off work from their screen on the smartboard, and checking out books on overdrive and reading them on the computer. All Chromebooks will be collected at the end of the year. Students who remain in Lawrence Township will receive the same Chromebook each year through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

### International Connections

**News from Music:** Talent Show tryouts are coming up on Thursday, May 11th! Please make sure to turn in your permission slip so that you can get a tryout time! Tryout times will be sent out at the beginning of the week of May 8th. The Folk Dancing Club will be performing at the International Festival on May 12th! The Folk Dancers should arrive to the music room at 6:30, and they will perform between 6:45 and 7:15.

**News from the Library:** Please send all library books back to school as soon as possible so the library can be inventoried.

**News from COMPASS:** Thank you to the Kid's in Action Club for hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Student/Staff basketball game. It was a great school community night! The students really gave the teachers a run for their money!

**News from Global Leadership:** Global Leadership is finishing up our unit on Eggs. 1st and 2nd graders made baby chicks and learned about the life cycle of a chicken. They also saw how eggs make it to the supermarket in Australia and the different types...caged, free range, and barn laid. 3rd and 4th graders found out how strong eggs were by placing text books on top of a tripod of eggs. The record was 38 text books...WOW!!! 5th and 6th graders worked hard on their egg drop designs and Mr. Davis dropped them off the roof. THANK YOU MR. DAVIS AND MS. ROSE!!! Many groups built a design that protected their egg...only a few were scrambled...GREAT JOB!!! Ask your students about the *EGG* fun in Global Leadership. The rest of May we will be typing a little more with the upper grades, practicing technology skills with the primary grades, all grades will have some engineer fun with STEM stations, and everyone will enjoy some science fun with floating gummy worms. Looking forward to a Marvelous May and a FUN end to the school year!!! Please look for your child's STEM packet they've worked on this year to come home soon. - Mrs. Donnehoffer

**News from P.E.:** Mr. Beattie is looking for volunteers to help with the Mary Castle Field Day on Wednesday, May 17. The 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup>, grades will have their Field Day from 9:00-10:30. The 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades will have their Field Day from 12:00-1:30. If you would be interested in helping all of the day or just part of the day please fill out the parent volunteer form sent home this week and have your child give the form back to their homeroom teacher or have them place it in my teacher mailbox by May 12.

Thank you for your help and the more volunteers we can get the better our Field Day will be.

**News from Art:** Students in Art class are currently learning about textiles. Each grade level is working on creating their own individual weaving project to represent a textile from an area of the world. Grade levels one thru four are creating a Kente Cloth from Ghana, Africa. One thru four are learning grade level appropriate techniques and processes to create the Kente Cloth using paper strips and/or yarn. Grades five and six are also focused on textiles but from the Native American Navajo Tribe. They are also learning grade level appropriate techniques to weave yarn together on a self-created loom.

### News from the Nurse

All incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade students for the 2017-2018 school year need to have the TDap and Meningococcal Vaccination before school begins in August. Updated shot records need to be sent to the nurse when received.

All medications need to be picked up by the parent from the clinic prior to 4 p.m. on Thursday, May 25. All remaining medications after 4 p.m. on May 25 will be destroyed.

### Spirit Week – Sponsored by MEC Student Council

Let's show our MEC Spirit by participating in the following days:

May 18 - Twin Day – Dress like a friend.

May 19 - Backward Day – Wear your clothing backwards.

May 22 - Hat & Sunglasses Day – Wear your favorite hat and sunglasses.

May 23 - Career Day – Dress like the job you would like to have.

### PFO News

**Thank You!** Thanks to all the families who participated in Culver's Night, Book Fair, SkyZone, the Flower Sale delivery, and Teacher Appreciation Week! It takes a team of families to make all of these events a success. Because of your help, the PFO is able to help make Mary Castle the best it can be!

**International Festival** - The festival is almost here! Join friends and family next Friday, May 12, from 6:00 to 8:30 for a fun evening of games, dancing, and fun! Students will get their passports stamped as they travel to stations around the festival. All art contest entries will be on display and everyone can vote for their favorite piece of art for each grade level. Check out the many options at the raffle, take a photo at the international photo booth, light a floating lantern at the close of the festival... so many opportunities for fun! Details and a pre-sale order form came home this week. Credit card payments are available this year for the first time. Save money by turning in the order form no later than Wednesday, May 10!

As one of the biggest fundraisers of the year, many volunteers are needed to make this night a success. Please sign up to volunteer for a shift at <http://signup.com/go/tjfxdlz>. You may also volunteer by contacting Alysson Olinger at (317) 498-6112 or [alyssonoliger@gmail.com](mailto:alyssonoliger@gmail.com). For Spanish, please contact Berenice Marquez at (402) 417-6828 or [calaquitas\\_27@hotmail.com](mailto:calaquitas_27@hotmail.com).

**Calling all Volunteers and Leaders!!** - The time to plan for next year is now. Every parent is part of the Mary Castle Parent Faculty Organization. If you have ideas on how the PFO can improve, want to lead an event, or just want to join in the planning process, please contact Alysson Olinger at (317) 498-6112 or [alyssonoliger@gmail.com](mailto:alyssonoliger@gmail.com). There's a place for you in the PFO! All the event leaders this year, volunteers, and anyone who wants to learn more about leadership opportunities within the PFO is invited to

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## Mary Evelyn Castle Elementary

attend the PFO Leadership Meeting this Tuesday, May 9th at 6:30 pm. The PFO has many opportunities for families to serve the school and we welcome your input for planning next year! For Spanish, please contact Berenice Marquez at (402) 417-6828 or [calaquitas\\_27@hotmail.com](mailto:calaquitas_27@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!

### 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)** - If your child is returning to a Lawrence Township school next year and you have not already done so, be sure to complete the **Returning Student Verification Process** as soon as possible! Complete instructions can be found on our website – [www.ltschools.org](http://www.ltschools.org)

Look for **RSVP 2017-2018** under the Announcements on the left side of the homepage, or log into Skyward and click on Returning Student Verification Process.

**Summer Servings** - Lawrence Township Schools, in partnership with the USDA Food Service Summer Program, is offering free lunches to children ages 18 and under June 5 through July 21, Monday through Friday. See our website for exact times and locations.

**Summer sports leagues, camps and activities** are enrolling now. And check out the **Robotics Camps** being offered at both Fall Creek Valley Middle School and McKenzie Center for Innovation and Technology. See the **Community Activities** page on our website linked in the lower right side.

**Honor and Educator** is a wonderful way to show a teacher or staff member how much you appreciate them. When you make a gift to the *Honor an Educator* Fund, the Lawrence Township School Foundation sends the recipient a custom designed card with your special sentiment. More information can be found on our website under the Announcements.

The **"Fore the Kids"** Golf Outing will be held on Thursday, June 1, 2017 at Old Oakland Golf Club. Visit the Lawrence Township School Foundation at [msdlf.org](http://msdlf.org) for complete details.

**The last day of school is  
Thursday, May 25.**

**The first day of school  
for the 2017-2018  
school year is  
Thursday, August 3.**

**Have a safe and  
wonderful summer  
break! See you in  
the Fall.**

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