



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

August 2017

- Aug 18 Get to Know You Picnic & T-Shirt Exchange, 6-7:30 p.m. - Mary Castle Playground
- Aug 22 Parent Faculty Organization Kick-off Meeting – 7 p.m.
- Aug 31 Back to School Night – Grades 1-6 – 6-7:30 p.m.
- Sept 1 School Picture Day
- Sept 4 Labor Day – No School
- Sept 14 PREP Speaker Series – Lawrence North High School – Dr. Smith Speaking – 6:30 p.m.
- Sept 18 Parent Teacher Conferences – No School for Students
- Sept 29 Indy Do Day
- Oct 6 End of Grading Period
- Oct 9-13 Fall Break – No School for Students and Staff
- Oct 20 Report Cards available on-line

Principal Corner – Mrs. Johnson

Student Achievement through Best Practices- Susan Jordan Summer Reading Challenge - Congratulations to the following students for their achievement in Reading during the summer. Grade level winners are Brooklyn W (1854 minutes), Gideon O'R (8750 minutes) and Miraculous R (10536 minutes). We plan to celebrate all students that participated in the reading challenge with an upcoming ice cream celebration.

Our first 7 days of school have been great. It's exciting to see all of the instruction taking place and students interacting during lessons. Our staff has been immersed in professional development and the evidence is already in their immediate implementation of best practices around increasing RIGOR. We are proud to have been selected to be a demonstration school along with Harrison Hill as our staff is SOARING with best practices around RIGOR. A demonstration school means lots of instructional support is offered to teachers and leaders from the Learning International Sciences & the work of Robert Marzano.

We look forward to you seeing all of renovation projects that will be nearing completion at the end of this month. Our expanded seating in the cafeteria is scheduled to open in the next couple of week.

SAFETY TIPS - Morning Arrival - Our front doors open each day at 7:35 a.m. Car Riders are not to be released until a staff member appears on duty at 7:35a.m. Our tardy bell rings at 8 a.m. Dismissal begins at 2:30 p.m. for Car Riders. Be sure to get in the parent pick up line versus entering the front doors while we are dismissing for everyone's safety. For families that have a student at the ELC be sure to drop them off first and then come to MEC and turn right. We've invited the head of district security to come and observe our morning arrival procedures as we look for recommendations to provide increased safety.

Meet our Amazing NEW Mary Castle Staff

- Grade 1 Dual Language - Noelia Miller
- Grade 2 Elizabeth Guynn
- Grade 3 Beth Schlotman
- Grade 3 High Ability - Elaine Fogleman
- Grade 4 Samantha Campbell
- Grade 6 High Ability - Whitney Coake
- Grade 6 Regina Tippmann
- Nurse Katie Fout
- ENL Mary Ragsdale
- OT Karen Clements
- Head Custodian Ronnie Shircliff

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



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Parent Faculty Organization - PFO Parent Faculty Organization- Our PFO invites you to get involved. A kick off meeting is planned for Aug. 22nd. Read about the open PFO officer positions. Let us know if you are interested.

PFO Open Executive Board Positions - Three of the six MEC PFO Executive Board positions are currently vacant. The Exec Board meets once a month throughout the school year except in December. Please consider filling a position. Contact Kelley Mesterharm mecpfo@gmail.com call/text 317-372-8870

Vice-President: Assist the President in running PFO meetings and events; Serve as a substitute in the absence of the President

Recording Secretary: Record minutes of the meetings; Provide copies of the minutes to members of the Executive Board before the next scheduled meeting

Co-Corresponding Secretary: Provide notices to staff and parents about meetings and events; Assist in the creation and dissemination of communications to staff and parents

PFO Leadership Vacancies

We are in need of leadership and committee members to help plan and execute our events. Contact Kelley Mesterharm mecpfo@gmail.com call/text 317-372-8870 for more information.

- Global Games
- Movie Nights
- 5th/6th Grade Fun Fridays
- Book Fairs
- Craft Night
- Game Night
- International Festival
- Flower Sale
- Teacher Appreciation Week

--Carla Johnson, Principal

Assistant Principal Corner – Mr. Blythe

Greetings MEC Families:

We are off to a superb start to the 17-18 school year. On Thursday and Friday, all students participated in lessons about our school-wide expectations, T.R.O.T.

T.R.O.T is an acronym for:

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

Students were able to learn how T.R.O.T applied to the classroom, hallway, restroom, playground, and cafeteria. We are expecting MEC Globetrotters to TROT with success!

--Mr. Carl Blythe, Assistant Principal

School Pictures

Picture Day is Friday, September 1. Look for order forms to come home within the next few days. You can also order pictures on-line. Go to: <https://inter-state.com/FlyerEntry/19620EA>

International Connections

News from the Library: The Media Center is currently under renovation. It's going to be a beautiful place to read books!

News from COMPASS: Welcome to a new year in COMPASS our International studies class at MEC. This year we will be learning how to be citizens of the world. We have started by learning the procedures at school and how to be a good citizen at Mary Castle.

News from Global Leadership: Welcome Back to Global Leadership! We started the year by reviewing what STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) stands for, going over the rules, and learning our theme, "Just Keep Swimming." We know if we just keep "swimming" there's nothing we can't accomplish. The first few weeks we are going to have some Engineering fun with school supplies. Looking forward to a wonderful year! -Christy Donnenhoffer

News from P.E.: The Up & Running program is open to all students (of all ability levels) for 5th and 6th grade. The mission of Up & Running is to challenge students to experience the benefits of goal-setting, character development, adult mentoring, and improved health by

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providing them with a true life-changing experience. The ultimate goal is to train and compete in a 5K run on October 7, 2017. The Up & Running program and the 5K Run is \$5, as long as the student participates in at least 75% of the Up & Running practices. More information will be coming home soon.

News from Art: Welcome back MEC Globetrotters! This year in Art we are going to have a great time in our new art room! We are going to be making amazing artwork to decorate the new room and the amazing new building! Art to Remember will be starting soon, so watch for paperwork to come home in the next month. Ordering will be all online this year. Art to Remember is an art fundraiser where students get to create a drawing and then have the option to purchase keepsakes like coffee mugs, night lights, keychains and lots of other fun treasures!

Solar Eclipse

On August 21st, there will be a total solar eclipse. A total solar eclipse is when the moon moves between the sun and Earth. The lunar shadow will darken the sky, temperatures will drop and bright stars will appear at a time that is normally broad daylight. The 46236 zip code is projected to be at 91% darkness at 2:25pm. This is the time we begin dismissal. I want you to be aware and let you know that we will do everything possible to ensure that your child arrives home safely.

News from the Nurse

All incoming 6th 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.

PFO News

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

Food Service - If your student was receiving Free/Reduced lunch last year, September 17 is the deadline to reapply. New This Year—Our new and enhanced lunch menus now include nutritional information.

Footloose Auditions - Students in grades 3 through 8, are invited to audition for **FOOTLOOSE** the musical in the Lawrence North auditorium. Auditions are August 23 at 4 p.m.

Stadium Dedications - All are invited to attend a dedication ceremony at our newly renovated football stadiums on August 25. The Lawrence Central Stadium Dedication will take place at 6:30 PM at LC and the Lawrence North Stadium Dedication at 7:00 PM at LN.

An Evening with Dr. Smith - The first of our Parent Engagement Series, An Evening with Dr. Smith, will be Thursday, September 14 at 5:30 pm in the Lawrence North School Little Theater, 7802 Hague Road. Come meet Dr. Smith, Superintendent of Schools, and learn where we are and where we are going as one of the top school districts in the state.

Marching Pride of Lawrence Township Color Run - The MPLT marching band is hosting a My School Color Run on August 19, 2017 at Lawrence Park. Save the date! This is a FUN run. Visit the website for details.

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