



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

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Mr. Carl Blythe, Principal
marycastle.LTschools.org

Global Gazette

Dr. Shawn A. Smith, Superintendent
LTschools.org

August 2018

LOOKING AHEAD

- Aug 13 Cub Scout Informational Meeting, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
- Aug 17 "Get to Know You" Picnic, 6:00 – 7:30pm
- Aug 21 Back to School Night, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- Aug 23 Parent & Family Resource Engagement Program – 6:30 p.m. at Fall Creek Valley Middle School – School Safety and Security
- Aug 31 Lawrence North vs Lawrence Central Football Game, 7 p.m. @ Lawrence Central
- Sept 3 Labor Day – No School for Staff & Students
- Sept 5 Picture Day
- Sept 17 Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School for Students
- Sept 18 Parent & Family Resource Engagement Program – 6:30 p.m. @ Lawrence North High School – Parenting: Tips for Reaching Today's Youth
- Sept 25 School Smiles – Must be pre-registered.
- Oct 8-12 Fall Break - No School for Staff & Students

Principal Corner – Mr. Blythe

MEC will SOAR – Students and Staff Obtaining Achievement with Rigor, Joy, Endurance, and Integration

We have had an amazing first 7 days of school! Students and staff have been building relationships, setting conditions for learning, and all while digging into instruction. Our staff has been immersed in professional development this summer and the evidence is visible through their immediate implementation of deliberate best practices in our efforts to obtain achievement with rigor. We are now in year two of being a demonstration school, along with Harrison Hill and now Brook Park. A demonstration school receives lots of instructional support, which is offered to teachers and leaders, from Learning International Sciences and the work

of Robert Marzano. However, we are now able to provide support to our fellow elementary schools in the district as we are leading learning.

Susan Jordan Summer Reading Challenge – Congratulations to the following student for their achievement in Reading during the summer:

- Grade 1 & 2: Russell J – 40 Hours
- Grade 3 & 4: Gideon O'R – 113 Hours
- Grade 5 & 6: Cadence B – 78 Hours

We celebrated all students that participated in the reading challenge with an ice cream celebration.

Safety Tips: Morning Arrival – Our front doors open each day at 7:35am. Car Riders are not to be released until a staff member appears on duty at 7:35. Continue to be patient with us as we have adjusted our car rider procedures. Our tardy bell rings at 8am. Afternoon Dismissal – Students begin dismissing at 2:30pm 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 will be working with our Director of Safety and Security as we look for continued recommendations to provide increased safety. [Click here](#) for details on our MEC Car Rider Procedures.

Meet our Amazing New Mary Castle Staff

Grade 2	Nancy Oseguera (Dual Language)
Grade 3	Kayla Howell
Grade 4	Heather Powell
Grade 4	Marcia Pritchard (High Ability)
Grade 5	LaShawn Howard
OT	Kari Miller
Resource IA	Bobbi Morrin
Café Monitor	Miranda West



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Current Mary Castle Staff in a New Role

Team Lead	Melissa Clarke and Jamia Jones (Team Teaching Grade 3)
ExTeam Lead	Molly O'Brien (Speech & Language Pathologist)
Grade 5	Hillary Church (High Ability)
Global Leadership Teacher	Christy Donnenhoffer

Ways to Stay In Touch at MEC

- All Early Learning Centers and Elementary Schools adhere to the district handbook:
<http://marycastle.itschools.org/about/student-handbook>
- Check out MEC on Facebook and "LIKE us"
<https://www.facebook.com/mecscool>
- Follow MEC on Twitter! @MaryCastleElem
--Mr. Blythe, Principal

International Connections

News from Global Leadership: Global Leadership is now called Global STEM. We have a new name, but will still be doing the same exciting lessons integrating Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math in our Global Studies. We will be doing fun science experiments, learning to type and code, building with the design process, estimating, measuring, and much, much more!!! This year our Global STEM theme is "Lifting Each Other Up." Ask your child how they can lift others up. We will be doing a fun STEM activity soon...building a house and lifting it up with balloons. Looking forward to a wonderful year of STEM. – Mrs. Donnenhoffer

News from PE: In Physical Education class it's extremely important that everyone wears tennis shoes on their P.E. day. If sandals, boots, slides, etc. are worn to school, then be sure to pack some tennis shoes for class. Wearing tennis shoes is much safer for physical activity and it prevents the wood floor from getting damaged. Be sure to check over your child's schedule to see what day they have P.E. Let's have a great year and be sure your child gets 60 minutes of movement each day. Thanks.

News from Art: The new school year has started and that mean Art class will soon be starting our annual Art to

Remember Fundraiser! For well over a decade, our Mary Castle art students have participated in this memorable fundraiser. Art to Remember is a program we use that helps raise funds to buy supplies in the Art Room. Students start by drawing their artwork in art class, after a short time the students are provided with an online order code. Families are able to go to the Art to Remember website, using their order code, and view dozens of keepsake items such as water bottles, lunch boxes, t-shirts, coffee mugs, magnets, key chains and much more! If a family chooses to place an online order their child's drawing is then printed on the keepsake item and sent home a short time after the order is placed. Participation in purchasing items is purely by choice of each family and is not required. Any keepsake items that are purchased on-time before our deadline will arrive before the winter holiday season. Watch for flyers to come home in the next month detailing all of the information, you don't want to miss out on these fun items!

D3 (Instructional Coach) Information

MEC has made significant growth as a Marzano demonstration school and we're ready to learn even more this year! We have made additions to our distributive leadership model with Mrs. Clarke and Ms. Jones co-teaching in third grade and supporting/coaching teachers with our Marzano work. We are excited to focus on the integration of English/Language Arts and Social Studies (Humanities) and Math and Science (STEM) within the classroom. Another focus will be to engage our students in cognitively-complex tasks. We are ready to hit the ground running so stay tuned!

News from Technology

It is going to be an exciting technology year at Mary Castle! This year students in grades 1 and 2 will be utilizing iPads and Chromebooks and students in grades 3-6 will have their own devices. We cannot wait to showcase all of the amazing things your students will be creating this year. Stay tuned next month for a snapshot of a new learning system that grades 1-4 will be using!

News from the Nurse

Welcome back! I am so excited for another school year. My name is Katie Fout. I am a Registered Nurse. I started my nursing career at Riley Children's Hospital on the Hematology/Oncology Unit and loved it. I still miss this

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group of kids dearly. I then moved on to working as a Registered Nurse in the schools with Community Health Network. I was a school nurse for a few years at Winding Ridge Elementary School here in Lawrence Township, worked in various MD offices and various schools in and out of the district as a resource team member for Community Health Network and found a home here at Mary Castle Elementary School. I still do resource in MD offices on breaks and in the summer. I am married and have a step son whom is fifteen years old and a sophomore at Pendleton Height High School. I also have a three year old who is in Pre-School next door. I will treat your children as if they are my own and never hesitate to call with any questions or concerns.

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As we start a new year I wanted to pass along some reminders and give you some dates to be looking out for in the future.

Just some reminders:

- If your child has a fever of 100.0F, he/she CANNOT be at school. Please DO NOT give your child fever reducing medication prior to school and then send them.
- You may bring in medication for your child, but unless the parent's bring it in, I have nothing to administer to your child.
 - Examples of things that might need to be brought in: Tylenol, Ibuprofen, cough drops, Anti-Itch Medication.
 - A form needs to be filled out stating it is okay for me to administer these medications so please, parents bring in the medication to school and fill out the form.
 - If you are bring in inhalers, they need to be left at school, UNLESS, you fill out a Permission for your Child to Carry Medication Form.
 - If you are bringing in nebulizer vials, I have a machine in the office, I just need a

mask and the medicine (with a Prescription label on it).

- **If you are in 6th grade and have not received your 6th grade shots, you need to get those ASAP! The 6th grade vaccinations include the TDap and the Meningococcal.**
- If you do not have TWO **Hepatitis A** vaccines, your child needs to complete these as well. Recently there has been an outbreak in the Midwest of Hepatitis A and it is now required, by the state of Indiana, that all children have two doses. Children in 5th and 6th grade are NO longer grandfathered in.

Healthy Schools is going to be here on **November 11th** to give out **FLU SHOTS** from 12:00-2:20pm to the students. There is NO copay, it is done in school, during school, and therefore no time wasted. If you are interested in your child receiving a flu shot through the Program called Healthy Schools look for the flier sent home, you can go online to: LTSchoolsflu.com or call 1(800)566-0596.

School Smiles will be back this year as well. **September 25th** is the *tentative date*. I learned last year that School Smiles will contact all the families and let them know if they are eligible. So, if you are not sure, go ahead and fill out the form sent home on the bright green paper and send it in. They will contact you and let you know if insurance covers it or if there is going to be fee. You then can let them know if you want to go ahead with the visit or not. School Smiles, also comes to the school and they will do a follow-up visit the second semester of school as well.

District News

RSVP—Returning Student Verification Process - If you did not complete the Returning Student Verification Process, or RSVP, in the spring, it's not too late to do so. This process is completed through Skyward Family Access and is mandatory for all families. In order to complete this process, you must be able to log in to Skyward Family Access. If you do not have your Skyward Family Access account information, please visit your child's school with a valid ID to obtain the information.

Safe Visitor Solutions - As part of our ongoing commitment to school safety for both students and staff, LT schools will

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partner with Safe Visitors Solutions System beginning at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. See the Announcement on our website for more information.

Parent Engagement Series—PREP - Our first Parent and Family Resource Engagement Program of the 2018—2019 school year will be held on August 23rd at 6:30 at Fall Creek Valley Middle School, 9701 East 63rd Street. In Lawrence Township schools, keeping students safe is a top priority. District leaders and partners in safety preparedness will discuss what preventative measures are in place, security procedures and communication plans. Visit the Announcements on the website to learn more or to submit a question.

**Bears vs. Wildcats Friday,
August 31 at 7pm at
Lawrence Central High
School**

Kick off football season by
cheering on your favorite
team!

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