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FYI

On the last day of school your child brought home a large manila envelope. Please take a minute to look through it. Included is info about things happening this summer such as Book Bus, Summer Food Service, and a summer reading program at the Lake County Public Library. There is also important info about next school year like the corporation calendar, supply list, Young Hoosier lists, and more. Some teachers may have added testing data, awards/certificates, or other important information. Check Skyward for grades on or after June 13th.

John Wood Elementary School
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Merrillville, Indiana 46410
(219) 650-5305
<https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/wood>

The John Wood Parent Newsletter



Principal Petralia's Page

Dear Families,

As this school year comes to a close, I want to wish you and your family a wonderful break together. To our fourth graders moving on to MIS, you will be missed! Make sure you come back to visit your teachers at John Wood! To those not returning due to moves, we will miss you as well. Parents, if you are not returning to John Wood next year, please remember to withdraw your child(ren) in the office before it closes on June 13th.



I usually spend my summers tying up loose ends from the previous school year and getting ready for the next. This year I will do the same but in a different way since this is my last year at John Wood. As of July 1st, I will be the principal at Bibich Elementary in Dyer, Indiana. Your new principal will be Mrs. Sharon Igras, who is leaving her position as assistant principal at Pierce Middle School.

Thank you for trusting me with your children each and every day for the past five years. I have loved them like I love my own. Thank you for the beautiful memories over the years, including all of the field days, the music concerts, second grade searching for me while I was locked in a closet, all of the Pirate Powers where we celebrated everyone, and so much more. Thank you for letting me know that I was loved in return with the surprise at Pirate Power last week, where all of our students sang "Thank You for Being a Friend" to me. Our staff has also surprised me with a few after-school get-togethers, where at least one person got the tears flowing each time!

Being a part of the John Wood family is a special place to be and while I am sad to say goodbye, I am excited to share such a wonderful gift with Mrs. Igras. A quote that I came across and have referred to since I accepted my new position is from Winnie the Pooh: "How lucky am I to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard." Thank you for making John Wood what it is and for all of the love and support you have given me and your children. I will truly miss you all.

Love,
Mrs. Petralia

P.S. Please keep in touch! My new email is apetrali@lcscmail.com

Good Citizens May 2022

ECD

Logan Riley –
Miss McCorkle (Miss Kati)

ED

Jaiden Woodson – Ms. Hannigan
Jai'Lon Wheatley – Mrs. Spoolstra

Kindergarten

Mason Krivanek – Mrs. Anderson
Mia Walton – Mrs. Scott
Josiah Correa Garcia – Mrs. Shalla

1st Grade

Oren Mihail – Mrs. Pace
Jazzmari Warren – Miss Welsh
Marina Arrellano – Miss Wiley
King Nelson – Miss Wiley
Micah Watson – Miss Wiley

2nd Grade

Cain Martinez – Mrs. Carney
Aurora Eberly – Mrs. Foster
Jade McMillon – Mrs. Marshall

3rd Grade

Aleana Colbert – Mrs. Busch
Isabel Whittinghill – Mrs. Cseke
Liam Perez – Mrs. Mahy

4th Grade

Maite Aylin Gomez – Miss Jongsma
Travis Smith – Miss Jongsma
Devontah Johnson –
Miss Vlassopoulos
Haley Wright – Miss Vlassopoulos

Multi-Grade

Jersey Finnearly – Mrs. Gates
Twyla Rearick – Mrs. Gates
Mikal White – Mrs. Mansfield

Winner of the Chick-fil-A Family Meal

Isabel Whittinghill

Chick-fil-A could not be at our May
Pirate Power Meeting, so the April
Winner was also announced at the
May meeting:

Winner of the April Chick-fil-A Family Meal

Koralynn Gerstner

Super Citizens

These students have been chosen
for being Super Citizens throughout
the entire school year.

ECD

Valentin Rivas –
Miss McCorkle (Miss Kati)

ED

Jayden Washington – Mrs. Hannigan

Kindergarten

Trinity Dennie – Mrs. Anderson
Gabriel Fitzgerald – Mrs. Scott
Dean Fiste – Mrs. Shalla

1st Grade

Ashton Scott – Mrs. Pace
Ashton King – Miss Welsh
Allison Shooltz – Miss Wiley

2nd Grade

Zoey Moreland – Mrs. Carney
Alondra Gonzalez – Mrs. Foster
Brooke Baisden – Mrs. Marshall

3rd Grade

Brody Finnearly – Mrs. Busch
Brooklynn Phillips – Mrs. Cseke
Samantha Gonzalez – Mrs. Mahy

4th Grade

Tori Muiser – Miss Jongsma
Antoni Babel – Miss Vlassopoulos

Multi-Grade

Twyla Rearick – Mrs. Gates
Karter Josway – Mrs. Mansfield

PTO News

As we reach the end of our first full
in-person school year (post-COVID),
we are excited that we have been able
to include in-person PTO meetings all
year. We were even able to begin
introducing a few family events into the
schedule!

We have discussed several ideas for
things we would like to do next year.
Some are old favorites, and some are
new ideas. We look eagerly looking
forward to the 2022-2023 school year!
Watch your email and Facebook for a
possible July PTO meeting!

End-of-Year BBQ

Thank you to all who attended and/or
volunteered at our recent picnic!
Everyone who attended had a
wonderful time. We had a multitude of
volunteers, not only that evening, but
also working behind the scenes in the
weeks leading up to the event! We
could not have had the success we did
without the help from all of you! Thank
you!

Collection Reminder

Remember during the summer
months to continue redeeming receipts
for Box Tops for Education and
collecting Coca-Cola codes, and pop-
top rings.

The pop-top rings collected this year
will be donated to the Ronald
McDonald House of Indiana!

Curt Hoffman Scholarship Winner, Aidan McLaughlin!

This year's Curt Hoffman Scholarship
winner was announced at the MHS
Awards Night in May. Aidan plans to
attend Purdue in West Lafayette, Indiana
and pursue Computer Science.

Congratulations, Aidan! We are so
proud of your achievements!



3rd Grade Honor Roll 3rd Trimester 2021-2022

A Honor Roll

**Rylan Dworak
**Isaiah Watson
*Isabel Whittinghill

A/B Honor Roll

*Jaxx Anoman
Arturo Briano-Dominguez
*Andwele Cook
Samantha Gonzalez
Destany Kelley
*Kaelyn Kitchens
Issac Mendoza
Avery Renk
Mariah Williams

4th Grade Honor Roll 3rd Trimester 2021-2022

A Honor Roll

*Tori Muiser

A/B Honor Roll

*Amy Avila
*Antoni Babel
Savannah Cabrera
Makayla Denson
Sierra Eubanks
Maite Aylin Gomez
*Bailey Larson
*Kaylee Shooltz
*Atlas Theodorakos
Johnathan Williams

** - indicated A Honor Roll
for all three trimesters

* - indicates Honor Roll for
all three trimesters.

Watch for a VOI Letter

If you have children returning to a Merrillville school next school year, you will receive a letter in July requesting you to verify your information online as a form of enrollment for the 2022-2023 school year.

After receiving the letter, all parents are requested to log into their Skyward account to complete the Verification of Information (VOI) process. This information is used to update school records and confirm enrollment, so it is important that it is current.

The best way to complete this process is on a tablet, laptop, or desktop computer. If you only have access to the Internet on a cell phone, or if you just need access to a computer to fill out this form, please feel free to stop in at the MCSC Central Office on Delaware (just north of the high school building) during business hours. You will be allowed to use one of their available computers to fill out your VOI.

If your address has changed but you are still in the Merrillville district or if the address on your Skyward is incorrect, you must visit the school with verification of address. Families who have children attending multiple Merrillville schools need only to visit the oldest child's school. Address verification items can take the form of driver's license, utility bill, mortgage statement, or lease. For additional information regarding acceptable proofs of residency, call the school office or visit the corporation website.

For more information, call the MCSC Central Office at 219-650-5300.

Farewell to Staff

Many of our staff will be leaving us at the end of this school year or left during the last month of school. We wish them all well in their future endeavors.

Mrs. Gates

Title One Teacher
Retiring after 36 years with MCSC
(35 of those at John Wood!)



Mrs. Petralia

Principal

Mr. Butler

PE Teacher

Mrs. Hill

Instruction/Behavior Aide

Mrs. Kramer

Speech

Mrs. Mansfield

LRE Teacher

Mrs. Ooms

Family and Community Engagement
Specialist (FACES)

Mrs. Riggle

LRE Aide

Mrs. Serrano

Office Secretary/Clerk

Mrs. Spoolstra

ED Teacher (Grades 3/4)

Free/Reduced Lunch/Textbook Program

Parents whose children are on the free and reduced lunch and textbook program can reapply to participate in the 2022-2023 school year beginning July 1st. Applications currently on file will expire September 28th. The USDA may instruct schools to begin charging for meals in the 2022-2023 school year.

Parents who apply can also take advantage of reduced textbook fees in addition to other benefits that may be offered by state or federal programs, like P-EBT and the Broadband Benefit.

You can reapply using one of the following convenient methods:

- During the VOI process that will begin sometime in July.
- Apply online using Skyward.
- Download an application from the corporation website to complete and mail or bring to Central Office.
- Visit your school office or Central Office during office hours to obtain a form to complete.

May Attendance

It always gets difficult at the end of the year to get up and get to school every day, but we are so proud of all the students who made the effort. It was a month filled with learning, educational projects, and fun!

The class with the best attendance for the month of May was able to have the honor of the "Beary" trophy in their classroom for the few days we were in the building in June.

May

Mrs. Cseke – 3rd Grade – 96.51%

Thank you to ALL the students who made the effort to attend daily during this school year!

Perfect Attendance 3rd Trimester 2021-2022

The following students had perfect attendance for the third trimester.

Brooke Baisden
Elia Escobar
Brody Finneary
Dean Fiste
Alondra Gonzalez
Olivia Gutierrez
Jacob Jenkins
Tanya Johnson-Vazquez
Keiridon Mays
Thaya Nunn
Dominic Richard
Gabriella Rusk
Eva Shaw
Ella Shooltz
Kaylee Shooltz
Zara Treneski
Mikal White
Isabel Whittinghill
Mariah Williams

Perfect Attendance Entire 2021-2022 School Year

The following student accomplished the remarkable achievement of perfect attendance for the ENTIRE school year!

Dominic Richard

Outstanding Attendance Entire 2021-2022 School Year

The following students missed two or less days during the ENTIRE school year!

Andwele Cook
Kamarion Flakes
Alaysia Parker
Twyla Rearick

Important Reminder

As this school year ends, please remember to settle all debts to the school. This includes book rental, library fees, and damaged/lost computer fees that are still owed.

Checks must be made out to "John Wood School" and must have your driver's license number on the check. Payments can also be made online through your child's Skyward account.

If you need to pay in person, our school office will only be open through June 10, 2022. Our office is open from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Facebook Reminder

Remember to "friend" the John Wood PTO Facebook page! Our Facebook administrator will post reminders throughout the summer to help keep you informed.

Upcoming Events

June 13

Report Cards

Report cards will NOT be mailed. Grades will be posted on Skyward on this day.

August 16 *TENTATIVE DATE*

Meet the Teacher / Meet the New Principal Night

The Meet the Teacher Night is tentatively set for this day. Watch your email in August.

August 17

First Day of School

Today begins a new school year for all students. This is a full day of school.

*From all the staff of John Wood School,
Have a safe and restful summer!*





Here Comes The Bus®



Here Comes the Bus

A School Bus Tracking App for Parents

Tracking Features

Shows the real-time location of your child's bus on a map

Gives scheduled and actual arrival times at home and school for bus routes

Provides push and email notifications when the bus is near

**RIGHT BUS.
RIGHT STOP.
RIGHT TIME.**

Sign Up Instructions For Parents:

1. Download Here Comes the Bus app or visit herecomesthebus.com
2. Click the "Sign Up" button
3. Enter school code **6601** and click "Next" followed by "Confirm"
4. Complete the "User Profile" box
5. Under "My Students," click "Add." Enter your child's last name and student ID number
6. Once you confirm your information, you're ready to begin



Download on the
App Store



GET IT ON
Google Play

For more information, visit: herecomesthebus.com

