

THE Bear Claw



FROM THE BEAR'S DEN

📱 Change in Yondr Pouch and Cellphone Protocol

As you know, we implemented the Yondr pouch system this year for cell phone use, bringing our school into compliance with House Bill 208. We appreciate everyone's support as we continue refining this process to best support student learning and focus.

As with any new system, students are finding creative ways to work around expectations. We have encountered situations where students report not having their phones but keep them on their person, leave phones in lockers during homeroom and retrieve them later, or bring additional personal devices such as iPads and tablets to school.

To ensure consistency and clarity moving forward, we will implement the following protocols:

- All cell phones must be secured in a Yondr pouch at all times, regardless of location.
- Any cell phone confiscated during the school day will require parent pickup. Phones will not be returned directly to students.
- iPads and other personal tablets will no longer be permitted at school, as all students have access to school-issued Chromebooks.

These updated protocols will take effect on Monday, January 12. Thank you for your continued partnership as we work together to maintain a focused, distraction-free learning environment for our students.

January 15 Breckinridge Elementary School Family Night

We will be on hand for the Breckinridge Elementary School Parent Night on January 15. We are looking forward to meeting our future Bears and sharing all of the exciting opportunities and experiences we have planned for them!

Track Interest Meeting

Is your student interested in running, jumping, or throwing this spring? Join us to learn more about our Britton Track & Field program and meet our head coach, Lindsay Roberts!

- Tuesday, January 13
- 6:30 PM
- Cafeteria

All interested students and families are encouraged to attend. We'll share season details, expectations, and answer questions.

THE BEAR NECESSITIES FOR SUCCESS

- Be Curious
- Be Kind
- Be Bold
- Be Responsible

VISION: BRITTON AND BEYOND

- Expose Students to Career Pathways in Health and Medical Sciences
- Ensure Equitable Access to Courses So Every Student Earns at Least One High School Credit.
- Provide Opportunities for Civic Engagement.
- Foster School Pride and a Sense of Belonging.

THIS WEEK

MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2026

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Boys' basketball travels to Crawford at 5:00 PM
- Cheer practice at 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, JANUARY 13, 2026

- Dance practice at 7:15 AM
- Boys' basketball practice at 4:15 PM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- Get Fit club at 4:15 PM
- Super Cool Variety Club meeting at 4:15 PM
- Academic Team composition at EJH at 5:00 PM
- Track interest meeting in the cafeteria at 6:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 2026

- Tutoring at 4:15 PM. [Sign up here.](#)
- Crash in the 7th grade flex room at 4:15 PM.
- BEARitones jazz band at 4:15 PM.
- Boys' basketball hosts Winburn at 5:00 PM

THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2026

- Dance practice at 7:00 AM
- FCA meeting at 8:00 AM
- Get Fit Club at 4:15 PM
- Cheer practice at 4:15 PM
- HOSA meeting at 4:15 PM
- SBDM council meeting at 5:00 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16, 2026

- BEARS meeting at 8:00 AM
- Winter dance at 4:15 PM
 - Rescheduled from December

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026

- Cheer practice at LEX Athletics at 9:00 AM

LOOKING AHEAD...

- January 19: No school
- January 21: Boys' basketball vs. Beaumont
- January 26: Boys' basketball vs. Southern
- January 27: SBDM meeting
- January 28: Boys' basketball hosts LEX
- February 2: Boys' basketball hosts Bryan Station
- February 4: Boys' basketball travels to Bates Creek
- February 9: Boys' basketball hosts Morton
- February 11: Boys' basketball travels to Edythe J. Hayes
- February 12: SBDM council meeting
- February 13: Valentine's Dance
- February 14: Dance team Kiddie Camp

The mission of Mary E. Britton Middle School is to foster a safe and supportive environment where every student is valued and inspired to reach their fullest potential. Through academic rigor, civic engagement, and strong relationships, we cultivate leaders prepared to thrive today and build a better tomorrow.



Art Club Coming Soon

We're excited to kick off Art Club for students who love to create, experiment, and express themselves in a fun, relaxed environment! This is a great opportunity for students to explore new techniques, collaborate with peers, and build a portfolio of their work.

- Sponsor: Mrs. Carrie McGuire
- When: Every Thursday (weekly)
- Time: General dismissal – 5:30 PM
- Start Date: January 22, 2026
- Location: Room C128
- Fee: One-time \$10 club fee

What to Know

- Students are expected to respect materials, the studio space, and each other
- Cleanup is part of the art process!
- Please notify the sponsor if your student will miss a session
- Pickup is promptly at 5:30 PM—please plan transportation ahead of time
- Permission slips and registration forms are required, and are available in the front office and in the art room.

Questions? Contact Mrs. McGuire at carrie.mcguire@fayette.kyschools.us

INFO

TIMES

- Doors open daily at 8:35 AM
- First period begins at 9:05 AM
- Dismissal is at 3:55 PM
- Walkers and car riders should be picked up by 4:15 PM

LINKS

- [Absence form](#)
- [eOS](#)
- [Campus Parent](#)
- [Canvas](#)
- [Student and Family Handbook](#)
- [Voluntary Student Accident Insurance](#)
- [Consent for Outside Traceable Communication](#)
- [Tutoring sign ups](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)
- [YouTube](#)
- [PhotoSnap \(Upload pics for the yearbook\)](#)
 - [Access code: BEARS26](#)

CURRENT ENROLLMENT

- 6th grade: 242 (-2)
- 7th grade: 180 (--)
- 8th grade: 136 (-1)
- **Total: 558 (-3)**



BEAR HUGS

- The

STUDENT ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, January 5... No school
- Tuesday, January 6... 95.37%
- Wednesday, January 7... 94.36%
- Thursday, January 8... 95.43%
- Friday, January 9... 94.18%

STAFF ATTENDANCE

GOAL IS 95%

- Monday, January 5... No school
- Tuesday, January 6... 100%
- Wednesday, January 7... 96.67%
- Thursday, January 8... 92.22%
- Friday, January 9... 96.67%

WEEKLY DISCIPLINE

SIXTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 1
- Number in detention... 0
- RESET days... **.25**
- Suspension days... 0

SEVENTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 2
- Number in detention... 0
- RESET days... 1
- Suspension days... 0

EIGHTH GRADE

- Number of referrals... 2
- Number in detention... 0
- RESET days... 0
- Suspension days... **.25**



**Preferred Financial Partner of
Mary E. Britton Middle School**
Call us at 859.293.0411

Are you thinking of buying a home this year? Before you start house hunting, get pre-approved. Does it not make sense to know what your budget is that fits your overall financial/life goals? Pre-approval gives you a clear budget, strengthens your offer, and saves time once you find "the one". But a TRUE pre-approval should come with an in-depth consultation with one of our knowledgeable and trusted mortgage planners. Give us a call first!

How can we help?
Scan for our website:



lexington.benchmark.us
Call us: 859.293.0411 & let us know you are a Britton Bear

Arla Lo-Tex Financial Services, LLC NMLS# 2943 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org). All loans subject to borrower qualifying. This is not a commitment to lend. Other restrictions may apply. (<https://benchmark.us>)



BEAR SNAPS



M A R Y E.
BRITTON
MIDDLE SCHOOL

INTERESTED IN TRACK?

JANUARY 13, 2026

- Interest meeting on January 13
- 6:30 PM
- MEBMS Cafeteria
- Students and parents both welcome to attend
- Meet our Head Coach Lindsey Roberts

CONTACT

lindsey.roberts@fayette.kyschools.us





ART CLUB

BEGINS

JAN. 22, 2026

4:15-5:30 PM

MEETS EVERY THURSDAY

ROOM C128

ONE TIME FEE OF \$10.00

MRS. CARRIE MCGUIRE, SPONSOR
EXPECTATIONS

1. BEHAVIOR: STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO RESPECT THE ART SUPPLIES, THE STUDIO SPACE, AND EACH OTHER. CLEANUP IS A REQUIRED PART OF THE CLUB.
2. ATTENDANCE: PLEASE LET THE TEACHER KNOW IF YOUR STUDENT WILL MISS A SESSION.
3. PICKUP: THE CLUB ENDS PROMPTLY AT 5:30 PM. PLEASE ENSURE YOUR STUDENT HAS A RIDE ARRANGED AHEAD OF TIME.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS FOOTBALL

CLASS OF 2030 S&C PROGRAM

TU/THURSDAY

4:30-5:30PM

SATURDAY

9:00-10:00 AM

MORE INFO :

joel.wardle@fayette.kyschools.us

FDHS WEIGHT ROOM

*****WORKOUTS BEGIN 1/13/2026, ALL ATHLETES MUST BE DISTRICTED TO FDHS*****





TEACHING & LEARNING

at Frederick Douglass High School

Join us if you:

- Enjoy hands-on learning in real teaching environments
- Want to pursue a career in education or leadership
- Want to obtain paraeducator certification your senior year and have application preference when applying to FCPS

Qualifications

- Resident of Fayette County
- Current 8th grader
- 2.5 GPA
- 60th percentile or higher in Reading

Apply by January 30

<https://www.fcps.net/academicprograms/masp>



BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

at Frederick Douglass High School

Join us if you:

- Love math and science
- Enjoy hands-on learning (labs, dissections)
- Want to pursue a career in the science or medical field

Qualifications

- Resident of Fayette County
- Current 8th grader
- Algebra 1 with C or higher
- Science grade of B or higher

Apply by January 30

<https://www.fcps.net/academicprograms/masp>

BEARS, YEARBOOKS ON SALE NOW!



What will you remember from this historic year? The yearbook has the complete story of the year – reserve your copy today!

COST: \$35
TO PURCHASE:

Want to make your book EXTRA special?
Cover Personalization/Name stamping
starts at just \$9.15, but hurry, it's only
available until March 1!

To use a credit card, debit card or PayPal, go to **yearbookforever.com** and enter our school name or **scan the QR code**.

For cash or check, bring order form and payment made out to Mary E. Britton Middle School to Room A218.

Student name _____ Grade _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Number of yearbooks _____ x \$ _____ = _____ Total cost

