



467-4300 September 29, 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS:

10/2 PTA meeting at ACPL
downtown at 6:30

10/3 School Evacuation Drill –
students and staff evacuate to Bishop
Luers at 1:30 pm

10/6 Grandparents Day at
Towles from 12:30- 2:00

10/9 McTeacher Night—McDonald’s
Coliseum & E. State 5—8 pm

10/13 Fall Break—No School

10/17 Parent Training

- ECHO for NT parents 6 pm
- Montessori Math for parents
6:30 pm

10/19 Great American Shake Out
(Earthquake drill)

10/19 Principal for a Day Visit

10/20 Dad & Kids Fun Night Out
at Towles 6:30—8:00 pm

11/1&11/2 Parent/Teacher
Conferences

Bunche/ Towles PTA needs your
opinions and talents to help our
school continue to grow and im-
prove! Please consider volunteer-
ing to help with any of the upcom-
ing events.

Grandparents Day

Grandparents Day is Friday, Oct. 6. We love all the smiles we see on this day as grandparents share the afternoon with their grandchild(ren) learning together. If your child will be going home with their grandparent, we do need the signed permission form. An additional copy of the form has been attached at the end of the newsletter.

Flower show results

Five of our Towles students participated in the Fort Wayne School Children’s Flower and Vegetable Association Blue Ribbon Show. Congratulations to Everen Akison, Zierre Akison, Jac Cook, Isabel Ortiz and Josie Woollacott. Each student had received a blue ribbon at our school flower show on Back to school night and then, additional recognition at the city show.

Related Arts Rotation schedule

This year our elementary related arts schedule is based upon a 6 day rotation. This schedule allows for some additional choice for our 9-12 students and an additional day to extend their learning in a related arts class.

We are entering our second rotation for the 6-9 students. Their “F” day class will be an additional experience in “B” day special. This will rotate through the year approximately every five weeks. 9-12 level students selected two specific elective related arts classes to attend- one each semester.



WE ARE YOUR SCHOOLS

MONTESSORI MOMENTS...

"The secret of good teaching is to regard the child's intelligence as a fertile field in which seeds may be sown, to grow under the heat of flaming imagination. Our aim therefore is not merely to make the child understand, and still less to force him to memorize, but so to touch his imagination as to enthuse him to his inmost core." Maria Montessori

The math materials are perhaps some of the most beautiful things to look at and to touch in a Montessori Classroom. Students and visitors often gravitate towards them and want to learn how to use them and know more about them. The materials build off one another, starting in preschool all the way to an upper elementary classroom. For example, the pink tower in a 3-6 room is laying the foundation for squaring and cubing in a 9-12 classroom.

In creating the math curriculum, Montessori followed what humans had always been doing. Humans first used fingers to count and keep track of things and then they gave the numbers symbols. Eventually, humans gave the numbers and symbols rules. Montessori starts with this in preschool, while the child is in the first plane of development. The child learns quantity through the red and blue rods. Once mastered, a child begins using the sandpaper numbers to give the quantity a symbol. The child begins to use quantity and symbols together and after much practice, they are introduced to the rules, using beads. As the students move up to lower and upper elementary, they use the materials and begin to see the patterns. After practice and repetition, they are able to find the rule on their own. This allows them to work abstractly with math and move away from the materials and do more written work. Montessori students are introduced to new concepts the way that is natural for humans. They are allowed to think, discover, and look for patterns through repetition and concrete materials.

To learn more about the Montessori Math Materials
from Preschool to Upper Elementary

Please join us for:

Montessori Math Night at Towles

Tues. October 17th at 6:30pm in the Media Center



NEW TECH NEWS...

7th Grade LASS/MASC Successfully Partner with Room to Escape

The seventh grade Language Arts and Social Studies (LASS) and Math and Science (MASC) classes partnered with Room to Escape in their first ever cross-curricular project. Students met with representatives from Room to Escape, a local company here in Fort Wayne to create escape room ideas that tied in content from all of their core classes. On Friday, September 15, the teams presented to a panel of judges including a facilitator and representatives from Room to Escape. Two teams from the 7th grade were selected, honored with a certificate, and the opportunity to try their luck in one of two escape rooms at Room to Escape.

Winning Teams:



Writing Center Helps Build Stronger Writers

Towles New Tech has opened its Writing Center for its third consecutive year. Specially trained 8th grade students are available during TNT's Half-Time to provide peer tutoring to students in need

of extra help. Students can sign-up for Writing Center using the link located in their Echo agendas.

8th Grade LASS Excited to Partner with Towles Montessori Classrooms

The eighth grade Language Arts and Social Studies (LASS) class partnered with the Towles Montessori 9-12 classrooms to help students learn the names and locations of states. The Towles New Tech students assessed the knowledge of their students, presented mini lessons, and created helpful posters for use in the Montessori classrooms.

8th Grade MASC Students Help to Prepare for Science Fair

The 8th grade Math and Science students will be creating videos based around the scientific investigations to present to Towles Montessori 4th graders in preparation for the upcoming Science Fair Competition. This project will help students in both grades conceptualize the requirements for creating successful Science Fair Projects. The Towles Intermediate Science Fair projects are due January 29, 2018.

Study Tables Offered

Beginning Wednesday, September 27th, Mr. McConnell will hold weekly Wednesday study tables. Students can stay after school from 2:45-4:30pm to receive additional help on school-work in any class. Towles New Tech students must sign-up 24-hours in advance utilizing the sheet located at the TNT office. Students should make arrangements to be picked up or take one of the activity buses home at 4:30pm.



POPCORN FRIDAYS

10/6 No Popcorn
10/13 No Popcorn
10/20 cheese—
 Fischer's class helping
10/27 Regular—
 Foss's class helping

PTA is in need of
 Volunteers to pop
 popcorn each Friday
 morning!

"Life is activity at its peak, and it is only through activity that the perfectionments of life can be sought and gained."

- Dr. Maria
 Montessori

CASE MANAGER...MRS. SMITH

At the end of September, Towles celebrated College Go Week. Classrooms read, discussed, and answered questions about careers, college, and saving for college. 9-12 Cluster students were able to go online and take an interest inventory. The inventory showed them careers and jobs that went along well with their interests. Students were able to research a job, look at education needed, and salary information. We also discussed things that they were practicing now in school that will use in any job in the future (being on time, finishing difficult tasks, getting along with others, time management). Parents can find lots of information at learnmoreindiana.org to help prepare their student(s) for future careers, education, and saving money for college. Be sure to check in with your student and remind them that is never too early to start thinking about their future! In October, each classroom will receive a lesson on bullying/conflict resolution. We will also be focusing on drug/alcohol prevention as we participate in Red Ribbon Week.

MEDIA CENTER...MR. DIEDERICH



Over the next three weeks, all elementary students will be learning how to be safe and how to treat others online.

6-9 students will be discussing non-fiction and fiction. I will read the non-fiction story, "A Penguin Named Patience", which is about how a penguin survived Hurricane Katrina. After hearing the story, the students will explain how this non-fiction story is different from the stories they have heard in previous weeks.

9-12 students are working hard at finding material in the media center. We have watched the Dewey Rap, which is a rap song designed to teach the students how the Dewey Decimal System works. They will be playing a shelving game, where they could win the title of "Master of the Universe." This title will allow them to volunteer in the media center during their recess.

The first of two Book Fairs will be the last week of the month during student led conferences. It is the perfect time to shop for some early holiday gifts.

Donating Eclipse Glasses

In 2019 there will be another total solar eclipse that will pass over part of South America. We have an opportunity to donate our eclipse glasses to students in those countries who need them. If you are interested please bring in your eclipse glasses to your teacher. There will be a donation box in Señorita Rae's room (120). Let's give our glasses a second life!

SPANISH...MRS. SANCHEZ

Las noticias de la clase de español (The news from Spanish class)

9 – 12 Cluster – These weeks are moving fast and smooth! We have been reviewing numbers 1 -50 orally and 1 – 20 spelling, practicing colors, greetings, calendar and classroom commands. We are also working on memorizing the alphabet and the vowels sounds, and learning some parts of speech like how and when to use **tú** (*you informal*) and **usted** (*you formal*). The students are adapting well to the world language subject environment and the class routine!

MS Classes – We are working on comprehension, writing skills and a variety of hands-on activities related to vocabulary, grammar and culture. There are also on-line quizzes to review spelling and listening which are always part of our daily routine.

More about culture...from September 15 to October 15 is the **National Hispanic Heritage Month** celebration in USA. All the MS students are working on projects to celebrate this event. Partners/small groups are assigned to work on special topics including history, geography, art, music and food. We have an agenda for each week's activities posted by the Spanish class door. We are cooking (*once a week/4th period class only*), making a piñata, decorations, presenting student project, Hispanic visitors, and a Fiesta in the last week.

Spanish



ART CORNER...MRS. TOY



We have officially opened both our drawing and collage centers. Students have been creating great works that have been posted to Artsonia and hanging in our halls at school. For “F Day” the 9-12 students have been working hard on their stop motion movies and the 6-9 students studied Australia through their art.

The middle school classes have been very busy as well. The general art class is finishing up their 3rd project based on food. Next they will learn to draw from observation and have a chance to be entered into a great competition. The advanced art students have been exploring emotions and how to portray those in art. Look for all of these great pieces on Artsonia soon.

MUSIC...

MRS. THORSON

Hello Parents! Welcome to October! Music class has been rolling right along this year. Our 6 to 9 classes have been learning different folk songs and games to go with them. We focused on the steady beat and reading rhythms this past month. In October we will be working on patriotic music for Veteran's Day. We will also learn about dynamics and tempo in music.

The 9 to 12 classes are working on the recorder. We are using a program called Recorder Karate. The students learn folk songs and earn belts for their recorders. We will also work on patriotic music and learn about dynamics, tempo, and reading music on the treble clef.

Our elementary choir sang at the Peace program on the 21st and did a fantastic job. We are working on patriotic music for Veteran's Day. Thanks for your support of the music programs!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION...

MR. QUINONES

Cool air is upon us again and fitness testing is almost complete. As the first quarter comes to an end, I am hoping all the new students, as well as the first graders have made a smooth transition to school as well as building meaningful relationship with the Related Arts Team. Our students will be one of 13 schools participating in the Parkview's Taking Roots fitness challenge program starting in October. We will only be collecting and turning in data on 4th and 5th grade only, but all my grade levels will participate. This is new to our school and will be a change of pace from our traditional fitness testing. Until next month, I hope to see many of you at our parent/teacher conferences in November.

Very Respectfully,
Mr. Q

FORT WAYNE
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
Dr. Wendy Robinson,
Superintendent

TOWLES INTERMEDIATE MONTESSORI ELEMENTARY & NEW TECH MIDDLE SCHOOL

Tim Captain, Principal
Jennifer Witzigreuter, Asst. Principal
Derek Leininger, New Tech Director
420 East Paulding Road
Fort Wayne, IN 46816
Phone: 467.4300 • Fax: 467.4364
www.fortwayneschools.org

TOWLES MISSION STATEMENT

Towles Montessori Elementary & New Tech Middle School, through the Montessori & New Tech philosophies, develops peaceful world-class citizens who have an intrinsic love of learning and a desire for academic excellence.

FWCS MISSION STATEMENT

**Fort Wayne Community Schools
educates all students to high
standards enabling them to
become productive, responsible
citizens.**

FWCS VISION STATEMENT

**Fort Wayne Community Schools
will be the school system of
choice and a source of
community pride.**

Non-discrimination statement: In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

Grandparents' Day

Friday, October 6th
12:30-2:00 at Towles

- Grandparents are invited to visit Towles and spend time in their grandchild's classroom.
- This activity is for grandparents. We will have a VIP Day for other family members and/or friends later in the school year.
- Grandparents need to check in at the front tables before going to classrooms.

It will be VERY helpful if grandparents know the room numbers and teachers of the child(ren) that they are visiting.

~~~~Please have the grandparent that is visiting bring this portion on October 6<sup>th</sup> ~~~~

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Room# \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Room# \_\_\_\_\_

Child's name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Room# \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Middle School grandparents will go upstairs to meet students after lunch at 12:45\*\*

## Towles Grandparents' Day October 6 ~ 12:30-2:00

Yes, my child will have a grandparent(s) visiting on October 6.

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Room # \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes** – the grandparent, \_\_\_\_\_, has permission to take my child home at 2:00 on October 6, 2017. We must receive permission from parents to be able to release your child with their grandparent. Thank you for your understanding!

**No** – my child will go home following their regular dismissal process.

# of grandparent(s) attending \_\_\_\_\_ Parent's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup>  
One form per child please!