



# Childs Elementary School

2211 S. High Street, Bloomington, IN 47401 (812) 330-7756

Principal Chris Finley

## Important Dates

August 30th	PTO Open House	5:30-7:00 pm
September 3rd	Labor Day - No School	
September 7th	Picture Day	
September 27th	Family Picnic	5:30-7:00 pm
October 8-9th	Fall Break - No school	
October 10th	Walk to School Day	
October 19th	Picture Retakes	
October 25th	PTO Meeting	9:00 AM
November 19-23rd	Thanksgiving Break	
December 21st	Built-in Snow Day	
Dec 24th—Jan 4th	Winter Break	

OUR SCHEDULE!

### *A note from Mr. Finley...*

On Thursday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, we will have the Childs Open House from 5:30-7:00pm. We will have food trucks outside and the cafeteria will be open for seating. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the beginning of the school year, and to reconnect with the Childs School community.

We have some new staff members who have very important roles in our school community and they have been great additions to the Childs Elementary staff. Steven Marshall is our new assistant principal after serving for 6 years as a 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at Childs. Mary Anne Thacker is our new support secretary in the office, Hilda Mohr is a new first grade teacher, Maddy Keller and Gina True are new 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers, and Mary Alice Rickert is a new 3<sup>rd</sup> grade teacher. We are very excited about our new additions to the Childs staff this school year, and they will bring a wealth of experience and knowledge to our school community.

We continue to grow as a school community and it's exciting to see our programming expand through the years. We are monitoring and supporting the social and emotional well-being of all students at Childs. We will also continue to focus on high levels of student achievement and growth academically. We will schedule parent meetings throughout the school year to update our community on our current progress, and our goals moving forward as a school community.

We are looking forward to another great school year.



ENGAGE. EMPOWER. EDUCATE.

## *The Library Corner*

**The library program has some exciting opportunities in store for our students this year:**

- \*Many special events are being planned, including a book fair (Dec. 3 - 7) and reading events.
- \*I will promote the very best of children's literature.
- \*Skyping with authors.
- \*I will do my very best to get (or keep) your children "hooked on reading" by recommending specific reading materials to each individual student.
- \*100s and 100s of new titles will be added this year. These will be the latest and most exciting new books for young readers, including quality nonfiction.
- \*I will work with classroom teachers to help find materials especially suited to the individual interests and abilities of your child.
- \*Library lessons will stress good Digital Citizenship, helping your child make safe decisions when using the Internet.
- \*I will share with your children how to find nonfiction books for their inquiry projects.
- \*I will share with students in grades 3 -6 several databases such as Follett ebook (e-books), and our online card catalog called Safari.
- \* I will keep our library webpage updated with developmentally databases for children to search.
- \*I will continue to partner with the Monroe County Public Library in order to be up to date on the databases they provide so I can then share them with our students.

I am excited about this coming year and am committed to making the library your child's favorite place in the school!

### **FAQ**

How many books can my child check out?

- \*kindergarten, first and second grade students may check out 2 items at a time
- \*third, fourth, fifth and sixth grade students may check out 4 items at a time

How long can my child keep these books?

- \*all library materials are due back in two weeks but many students (especially the younger) choose to get something new every week or even more often

When can my child visit the library?

- \*when he/she needs another book

### **Social Media Sites:**

I invite you to follow me on twitter @judybooklady and Childs School @Childsschool to learn more about what is happening with the library program and at Childs.

Check out my Pinterest Account: Ms. Williams teacher/librarian

<https://www.pinterest.com/jwilliam1308/>

Greetings from the Literacy Café!  
(a place for reading, writing and reflecting)

My name is Kris Stewart. I have been called the Poetry Lady, the Reading Lady, and the school grandma. Officially I am the Instructional Coach and IB Coordinator at Childs Elementary. I know there are several families that are new to our school and for that reason, I am responding to a question that I am often asked...What is an instructional coach? My responsibility is to monitor and enhance student learning in all subject areas. I work with the staff to facilitate systemic changes in the school, allowing teachers access to the research, resources and the support they need to address the needs of our students.

Working with me are four preventionists. These instructional partners help each grade level for approximately thirty-five minutes every day during our PAWS (Personal Academics with Support) time. PAWS time is a special time of day dedicated to supporting students in essential aspects of literacy and math. With the preventionists, myself and other possible personnel (Inclusion teachers, ENL teacher, instructional aides), the students can be divided into smaller groups and taught targeted skills. You will find our team in all corners of the building leading book clubs of all ability levels, helping groups of students with fluency, and working with individual and small groups on a targeted skill in reading or math.

What is the next most often asked question? How can I help my child with reading at home? That's easy...find at least 20 minutes a day to read together. I know that our days are filled with activities, but it is easy to find 20 minutes or more per day for this important reading practice. When I was a little girl my mother took time for each of us to read (all five of us). I remember sitting on the kitchen counter reading to my mom while she cooked our meal or folded clothes. Bath time is a great time for a read aloud with younger children. Reading is a wonderful way to end the evening and calm everyone down for bedtime. Older children can read to younger children. Younger children can read to older children. Children can read to each other on car trips, even on their way to and from school. What about those endless times we wait: at the doctor or dentist office, for prescriptions to be filled, at the bus stop, in line at the grocery store, or waiting for food to be delivered? What about shutting off the television for 20-30 minutes to read... and share? Make the most of every available moment. Find 20 minutes or more a day to read together knowing that you are helping to nurture a lifetime reader.

I am looking forward to a wonderful year! Feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

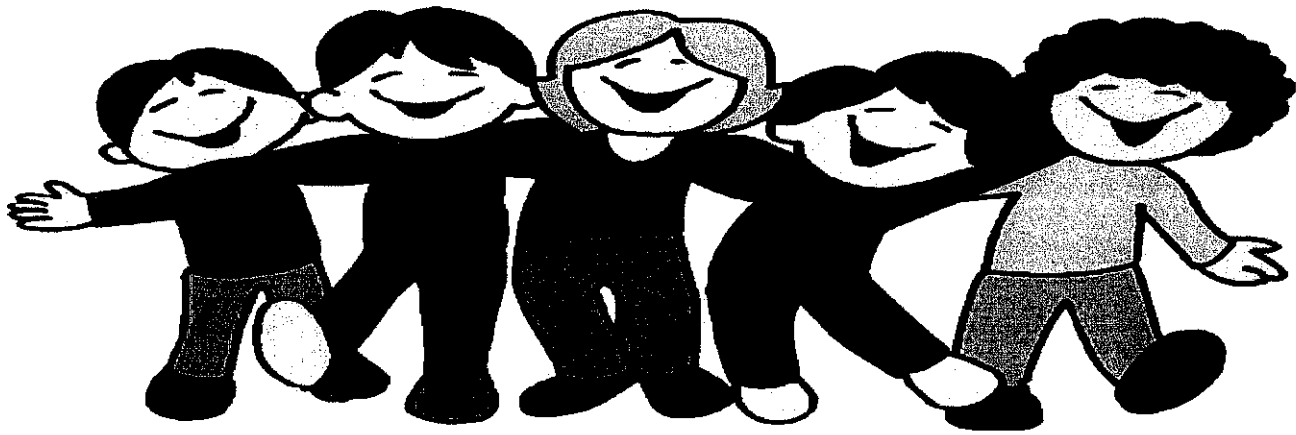


## **International Baccalaureate**

Childs Elementary is a fully authorized International Baccalaureate World School offering the PYP (Primary Years Program). The PYP is an inquiry-based educational framework that seeks to develop the whole child, in that it recognizes the importance of the academic, social, emotional, cultural and physical development of children from ages 3-12. The curriculum sets high standards and has high expectations of students. While the learning of information is still a major part of the PYP program, an emphasis is placed on the process of learning and students' awareness and understanding of how to learn. As they develop into lifelong learners, students realize that learning is about being curious, asking questions and finding answers that lead to further questions.

The framework contains five essential elements: concepts, knowledge, skills, attitudes and action. These elements are developed through six themes that are applied across all subjects. The themes are: Who we are, Where we are in place and time, How we express ourselves, How the world works, How we organize ourselves, and How we share the planet. Knowledge is explored from local and global perspectives within these units of study. The IB standards are aligned with best practice in education and are supported by effective teaching practices. PYP teachers collaborate in the planning of units of inquiry both as grade level teams and as a whole faculty.

The IB maintains a learner profile of specific skills that schools must develop in students at every level of IB which has a positive impact on school culture. The goal of PYP and all IB programmes, according to the International Baccalaureate Organization, is to "develop internationally minded people who, recognizing their common humanity and shared guardianship of the planet, help to create a better and more peaceful world." Developing lifelong learners who are positive contributors to society is something many schools strive to achieve.



Learner Profile Attribute	Definition	Dates of school- wide focus
Caring	Helpful to others, empathetic, thoughtful, considerate, recognizes that he/she is part of a group.	8/13-8/24
Open-Minded	Listens to others thoughts and ideas, accepts that there is more than one way of looking at things.	8/27-8/9/7
Balanced	Uses time wisely, and participate in a variety of activities.	9/10-9/21
Risk-taker	Willing to make mistakes, prepared to try something new, willing to try things in unfamiliar ways.	9/25-10/6
Principled	Honest, makes good decisions, responsible, has a sense of fairness and justice.	10/10-10/19
Inquirer	Ask questions, does not give up easily.	10/22-11/2
Thinker	Uses what he/she already knows and can build on his/her own ideas and the ideas of others.	11/5-11/16
Knowledgeable	Learning more about self, others and the world.	11/26-12/7
Communicator	Expresses feelings and thoughts across the curriculum.	12/10-12/20
Reflective	Thinks about his/her actions, learning and different ways to do things.	1/7-1/18

**For more information, check out this site on the IB website:**

**<https://www.ibo.org/benefits/learner-profile/>**

**You can also check out this site for videos explaining the learner profile.**

## **Social and Emotional Learning (SEL): Why Is It Important?**

During the 2018-2019 school year, MCCSC will begin implementing Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum in all grade levels thanks to a 1.1 million dollar grant by the Lilly Foundation. The Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL) breaks SEL down into five competencies: Self-Awareness, Self-Management, Responsible Decision-Making, Relationship Skills, and Social Awareness. Teaching these skills has been shown through research (randomized control trials, longitudinal follow-ups, and multiple replications) to increase/improve the following: academic achievement, social skills, positive behavior, the ability to manage stress and depression, and self-esteem. At the elementary level, these skills will be taught through the Second Step program, an evidence based curriculum. You can find out more about Second Step at [www.secondstep.org](http://www.secondstep.org) and learn more about SEL at <https://casel.org/> or contact Bronwyn Shroyer, School Social Worker, for more information.

## **Meet Kiley! Follow her on Twitter: @kileyschooldog**



If you are new to the Childs family, we'd like to introduce you to Kiley. Kiley is a two-year-old Labrador retriever who was bred for temperament and trained to be a service animal by the Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN), the only service animal organization in Indiana who is accredited by Assistance Dogs International.

Kiley spent the first two years of her life training to be a service dog within the Indiana prison system, which allows inmates to give back to society through training these special animals. She graduated in December, 2018 and joined Childs as a Facility Dog at that time. Her handler is Mrs. Shroyer, the school social worker. Mrs. Shroyer and Kiley spent two weeks training together in Indianapolis to become a working team and will continue to have skills assessments, public access tests, and training every year during Kiley's career.

Kiley knows over 40 commands, which include giving hugs and reading three words off of cue cards. She's one smart dog! She loves her work at Childs, belly rubs, and meal times! Kiley helps support Childs' dedication to nurture and educate our students as whole children. She helps comfort children who are having a rough day, provides reading/writing support to reluctant and emerging readers, helps build social skills at recess, and brightens the hallways of Childs with her wagging tail and welcoming presence. You can learn more about ICAN at <http://www.icandog.org/>