

May Newsletter IVEC 2026

May 4th, 2026

Principal's Message

It's hard to believe that only a few weeks of school remain this year. This month, there are many school events and field trips, so please pay close attention to the notes and letters that come home with students. It has been a great year, and we are looking forward to a fun and exciting end to our school year.

Mr. Portzline and Mr. Zook



One Book One School - Author Visit

Kevin Lovegreen was born, raised, and lives in Minnesota. His mission is to inspire as many kids as he can to read, write, and enjoy the outdoors. He does this by having young readers follow Lucky Luke on amazing hunting and fishing adventures, in the one-of-a-kind book series, Lucky Luke's Adventures. To complement the books, he uses his unique outdoor theme to inspire, teach, and entertain kids through world-class presentations.

Students will be provided with his book, "Best Vacation Ever!".





All 25 Lucky Luke Books

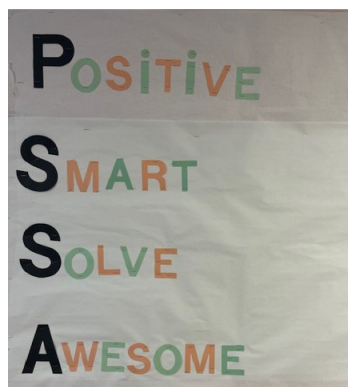


PSSA Testing

Our 3rd-5th-grade students have been taking the ELA and Math PSSA tests for the past two weeks.

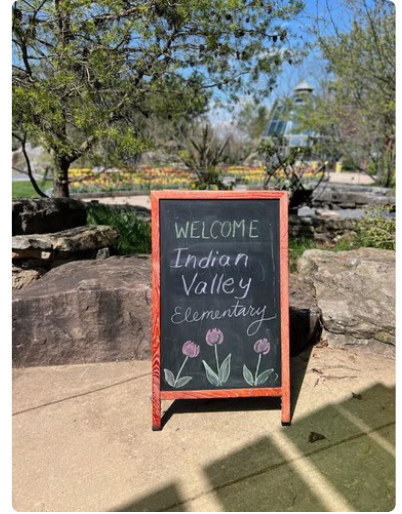
We are very proud of the effort our teachers and students put into preparing for and taking the tests. Fifth-grade students also took the Science PSSA test this past week.

The teachers throughout the building and our K-2 students pulled together to show their support and encourage all of our test takers to work hard and try their best.



Kindergarten Field Trip

Our kindergarten classes took a field trip to the Arboretum at Penn State this month. The Arboretum is a nature museum of sorts. It's spread across hundreds of acres and blends gardens with natural woodlands and wide grassy areas. One of the highlights of the trip was walking through the beautifully arranged flowers and plant collections of the H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens. The students also spent time exploring the Childhood's Gate Children's Garden. It has interactive features, playful structure, and hands-on learning spaces.



Chalk the Walk

As part of PSSA preparations, we had the STEM interns from the high school join students to decorate and write positive messages for our PSSA test takers on the sidewalk leading up to the school.



We celebrated our next one hundred Leader of the Pack - blue ticket winners this month. This is the third time we have hit 100 students this year. Our Leader of the Pack winners are selected by their teachers for consistently demonstrating Respectful, Responsible, Ready, and Safe behaviors.

For this celebration, our committee organized a cookie-decorating activity for the students to enjoy. YUM!



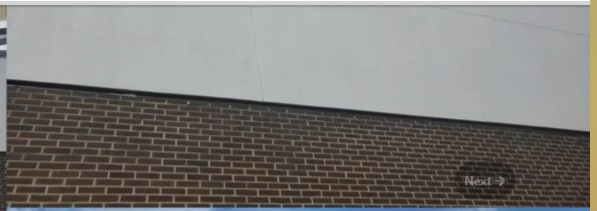
PSSA Madness

This month, we wrapped up our first-ever PSSA Madness competition among our students in grades 3-5, 5 who are taking the PSSAs. Our PSSA Madness competition was focused on engaging students in learning using a fun competition. Each day, 2 grade-appropriate PSSA questions were given to each student: one in math and one in ELA. Each class earned 1 point for each question each student answered correctly. We also added some fun extra activities to help classes earn additional points. The students and teachers took the challenge seriously and worked hard for a chance to earn a prize at the end for being in the top 3. **Mrs. Holland's** 4th-grade class won **1st place**, **Mr. Pearce's** 3rd-grade class won **2nd place**, and **Mrs. Willard's** 5th-grade class won **3rd**.

Middle School New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation will be on August 14 at 6:00 p.m. at the Mifflin County Middle School for upcoming 6th grade students.

Students and Parents will begin the evening in the auditorium for a brief introduction and general information. They will then be permitted to tour the building.



**Mifflin County
Middle School**



Chorus

Every year the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association holds a special choral concert called "5th Grade Chorus Fest". Only a few 5th grade singers are selected from Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Huntington, Fulton, Juniata, and Mifflin Counties.

Four 5th grade students from Indian Valley recently had the honor of participating in the Chorus Fest held at East Juniata High School. They practiced 6 difficult songs, some in a foreign language, and performed with students from all over Central Pennsylvania. We are very proud of these young musicians!!



ECOday

ECOday is coming soon for our students here at IV. This is a great experience for our 5th grade students to celebrate the natural heritage in Mifflin County as-well-as the role of our watersheds in providing healthy living environments and recreational activities to our community. This even includes collaboration between MCHS Ecology students, MCHS STEM Interns, MCHS CSO's, MCSD teachers, and Mifflin County environmental & conservation specialists.



Trout in the Classroom

Tout in the Classroom is an educational opportunity, provided by Trout Unlimited, for students to raise trout from eggs to fingerlings. The program allows students to develop a personal bond and sense of conservation ethics. Our 5th grade students will be releasing the trout into Kish Creek during this year's ECOday.

Thank you to Mr. Yearick and Mr. Parson for making this opportunity possible for our students here at IV.



🐣 My Peeps 🐣

We have a number of teachers hatching chicks in the classroom this year as they learn about chicken development and growth.



IV Students Showing Off Their Green Thumbs

Aside from raising trout and chicks in the classroom, our intermediate students have also been learning about plant growth and development by growing a variety of different plants in their classrooms and hallways.



Parent Handbook for Elementary Schools

At Indian Valley Elementary Center, we strive to create a safe, respectful, and engaging learning environment for all students. To support this goal, we ask that families review the Parent

Handbook for Elementary Schools, which outlines important policies, expectations, and guidelines. The handbook can be found at this [link](#). We encourage parents and guardians to read through the handbook with their student to ensure everyone is familiar with school rules, attendance policies, and behavior expectations. Please note that as policy updates occur, there may be changes to this handbook.

Mifflin County School District Policies

If you have any questions or concerns regarding school policies and procedures, all adopted policies and procedures can be found [here](#).

Complaint Procedures - Policy 906

Indian Valley Elementary Center is committed to maintaining a positive and responsive school environment. If you have a concern or complaint about Board policy and procedures, programs, personnel, operations or facilities, concerns should be addressed directly with the teacher, staff member or administrator involved. Many issues can be resolved through open and respectful communication. More information on complaint procedures is provided in Policy 906 of the [MCSU Policy Manual](#).

Board Policy 105.1 Notification - Review of Instructional Materials

Mifflin County School District School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians and students that parents/guardians and students have an opportunity to review instructional materials and have access to information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques. Requests to review instructional materials and access information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques should be made by submitting a written request to the building principal.

Nurse's Office Information

Dear Parents and Guardians,

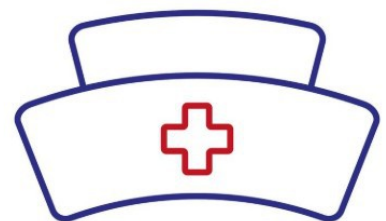
The Pennsylvania School Code requires that all school-age children must have a physical and dental exam on file upon entry to school, Kindergarten, and in addition, a 3rd-grade dental exam must be completed as well. This must be on file no later than May 1, 2026, for the 25-26 school year.

Information for the 26-27 School Year:

2nd Grade Students: All students entering 3rd grade are required to have a 3rd-grade dental exam completed and on file. It is preferred that your private dentist complete the exam. With that being said, we realize parents/guardians may have difficulty obtaining dental care for different reasons. The Mifflin County School District also has the option of your child being seen by the Mobile Dentist at school. If this is your preferred option, parent permission forms must be completed for the 26-27 school year. Dental exams may be completed up to one year before the beginning of the school year and should not be dated prior to September 1, 2025. Dental forms and more information have been sent out to parents/guardians.

The next visit to Indian Valley from the Mobile Dentist will be in the fall of 2026.

5th Grade Students: All students entering 5th grade are required to have a 5th-grade physical exam on file. It is recommended that the family physician complete the examination report for school



records, because the physician has a good knowledge of your child's medical history and can update immunizations. Please note that 7th graders are required to have a Tdap and Meningitis immunizations; this usually can be given with the 6th grade physical. Submitted physicals should not be dated prior to September 1, 2025. Physical forms have been sent out to parents/guardians. Over-the-Counter Medication forms were sent home with students in the fall of 2025. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child has not submitted the Over-the Counter medication from to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available in the nurse office.

As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry on them or bring any medications to school. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops, or anything used for medicinal purposes. Any medication that is required to be taken as school MUST be transported to school by a parent/guardian or designated adult and accompanied with a physician's order. Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off.

If your child requires any medication at school, a new physician order MUST be submitted to the school EACH school year before your child can be administered medication. This includes inhalers, epi pens, or any medication. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.

Please contact Mrs. Connolly, School Nurse, if you have any questions

Email: kac47@mcsdk12.org

Phone: 717-667-6608 Option 3

Fax: 717-667-6608

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

May 4-6 - Grandparents Day

May 8 - Outdoor Movie Night

May 20 - 2nd and 3rd grade Spring Concert for families, 9:00 AM

May 20 - 4th and 5th grade Band/Chorus Spring Concert for Families 7:00 PM

May 25 - Memorial Day -**No School for Students**

May 26 - IVEC Field Day (Rain date May 27)

May 29 - **Last Day of School for Students (**Pending Weather)**



Travis H Zook

Beautiful class updates in a snap

