

THE MORNING STAR

<http://ms.bsd7.org/>

Principal's Place

Wow – can you believe how quickly our time is flying? We have so many interesting activities in the next few weeks that it is hard to keep track! Here are a few highlights:

Next week's Parent Night on April 29, 2014 from 6:00-8:00 will feature a Q&A session along with information from our Parent Liaison, Libby Michaud & an overview with opportunity for input on our positive behavior program presented by Student Coordinator, Jenn de Raoulx. We'll also talk about some of the changes in classroom instruction & homework with our MT Core Standards in math, ELA & College/Career Readiness. Please join us for refreshment and great conversation!

The district bike rodeo is May 1 @ Hyalite Elem. & the Morning Star Bike Safety Week festivities will take place May 6-9...check out p. 2 for more information & sign-up to volunteer!

On April 24, 2014 @ 8:00 a.m. our new Safety Committee met. We discussed traffic flow and some proposed changes to our parking lot along w/drop off & pick up procedures. Take a look at the last page for a proposal and PLEASE provide me with your thoughts before we put this into effect in the next few weeks.

Pending the availability of parent volunteers we will soon begin sign-ups for four square and basketball tournaments @ lunch - **please contact the Morning Star office @ 522-6500 if you can help any time, any day between 11:15-12:45.**

The 5th grade band/orchestra festival/concert, choir concert and the spring musicals performed by our general music classes have been spectacular - our students are a very talented bunch!

We are Morning STARS



We **S**olve problems in a respectful manner by attempting to work it out, getting adult help & reporting concerns.



We **T**ake responsibility for our behavior by following directions, being prepared & caring for equipment & materials.



We **A**ct safely to ensure all students may move through the hallways & participate in activities appropriately.



We show **R**espect for ourselves and others by actively listening, using appropriate language, waiting patiently & using good manners.

Handbook Highlights Act Safely

Pick Up & Drop Off

- ☆ In the morning...Please pull up to the curb before allowing your child to exit your vehicle.
- ☆ In the afternoon...Please wait in line patiently; your child is watching for your vehicle & will be escorted to the curb when you pull up.
- ☆ To park in the afternoon...slowly advance on the left of the line of vehicles and enter via the west driveway. Park in a designated space before proceeding into the building.

(See Student Handbook p 11)

Spotlight on Fourth Grade

Last Tuesday, we had a fabulous presentation from Dr. Lloyd & his robot Looney, from the MSU Computer Science depart. In addition to his presentation about computing & robots, the MSU CS department also has a set of "Looney Challenges." To learn more about the Looney Challenge program, please go to <http://www.cs.montana.edu/csblog/looney-challenges.html>. Our 4th graders are currently learning how to read/understand complex texts through the lens of historical fiction. All students are learning about historical events by participating in one of several books groups incl. the Revolutionary War, Civil War, Westward Expansion, WWII & Civil Rights. The Trout in the Classroom project in Mr. Mollgaard's class has provided opportunities for integrated art through trout watercolor along with other learning experiences that will culminate in a field trip to release the trout in June. Ms. Burgard's class has been participating in the Chromebook pilot with collaborative writing & research experiences, & all 4th-graders are working frequently & fluidly with Googledocs. You should see what great problem solvers they are - many surpassing their teachers in tackling new challenges on the computer!

FEATURED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Morning Star Bike Safety Week & District Bike Rodeo

~On May 2 the Bozeman Schools Bike Rodeo is taking place @ Hyalite Elementary. Information about this event was sent home last Friday.

~During the week of May 5-7 Morning Star is hosting our own Bike Safety Week as part of Screen Free week & National Bike to School Day on May 7. Events will take place from 3:45-4:45 each day & families are encouraged to attend. Participants will learn how to maintain their own bikes & interact with staff from our local bike shops and police dept. Students & families will learn to check tire pressure, change a flat, oil their chain, seat adjustment, parts of the bike, bike signals & safe riding.

→We need volunteers to help guide students through different learning stations each day as well as help guide groups of children on our Fun Ride on Friday, May 9. Please sign up for one or more 45 minute time slots. Thank you for your time – if you have questions contact Robin Arnold, Jamie Gowdy, Barbie Huber or Lorrie Maffey.

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA4A72EA0FC1-bike>

National Drug Take Back Day is April 26, 2014

Drop off your old prescription or over the counter medications at the Gallatin County Sherriff's office in Three Forks on April 26th kids, families & environment by properly disposing of your unwanted & expired medications. There is also a Drug Take Back Box located in the lobby of the Gallatin Law & Justice Center and at the downtown Police Department on North Rouse. Unused, unwanted or expired medication can be deposited at either location. Thank you!!

School Supply Purchase through Bozeman Schools Foundation

The Bozeman Schools Foundation is offering the convenient services of SchoolKidz, Inc. Teacher Tailored back to school supply kit program. The kit includes all items from our Morning Star school supply list. Orders are placed online at <http://www.shopttkits.com/> with our account #10451. Part of the proceeds benefit Bozeman Schools Foundation and our PAC. Kits will be delivered w/your child's name on it to Morning Star in time for Sneak Peek in August.



Montana Recycled Art Mural

On Earth Day we offered "Art @ Lunch" & all students had an opportunity to contribute to a giant mural of Montana, complete with some of our geographic features. Barbie Huber & Kirsten Blunck volunteered their time to help Kim Dickerson guide the students as they worked with recycled lids, caps and bottle tops. The mural is on display in the Morning Star foyer for all to see - Thank you all for contributing caps and lids!!

Calendar of Events



Trout in the Classroom

Through our partnership with the Madison-Gallatin chapter of Trout Unlimited, we have two trout tanks at Morning Star. By next school year we hope to have a "Trout Cam" and even more project-based experiences for our students.

April 25 End of 3rd Mid-Trimester

April 29 Parent Information Night – Q/A, How to Help @ Home

April 28-May 2 3rd grade Smarter Balanced assessment

May 1 District Bike Rodeo @ Hyalite

May 2 Mid-Trimester Reports go home

May 5-9 Morning Star Bike Safety Week Clinics @ 3:45, *families welcome*

May 6 Room Parent Coordinated Staff Appreciation in Classrooms

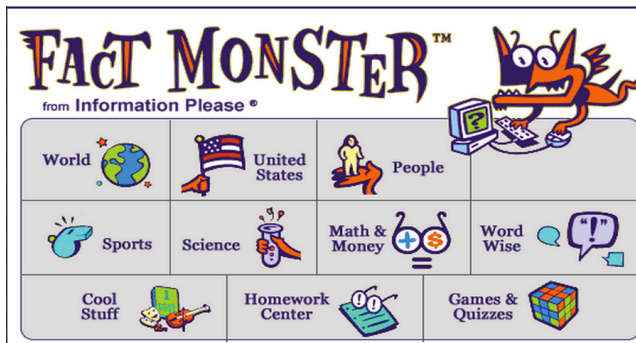
May 12 District meeting - Parent Feedback on Grading & Reporting – see Mrs. Arnold if you are interested in participating

May 15 Early morning PAC meeting @ 8:00 a.m.

May 21 Early Release, 1:45 dismissal

May 26 No School – Memorial Day

June 11 Last day of School – All students dismissed @12:35



How to Help @ Home

This issue focuses on a variety of online resources to support homework and practice at home. Some of these are already in use in our classrooms and will be familiar to your children.

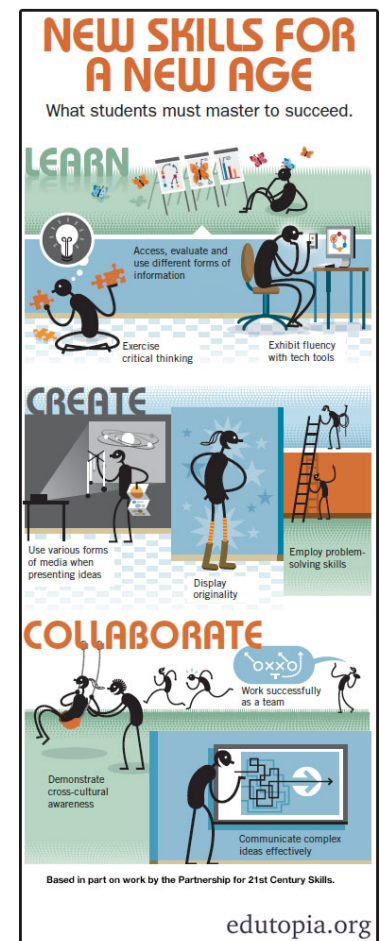
Take a peek at this article from the e-journal Educational Technology and Mobile Learning. It's focus is on homework help and includes live links to a variety of interactive sites such as *Brain Pop*, *Schmoop*, *NASA Space Place*, *History for Kids* and *Smithsonian Education Students*.

http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2014/04/10-great-homework-help-websites-for.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+educatorstechnology%2FpDkK+%28Educational+Technology+and+Mobile+Learning%29

9 Skills Students Must Master to Succeed

Take a look at the graphic to the right or the brief overview in the article below that describes the three areas every student needs to master in order to succeed in a world that is constantly changing: learn, create and collaborate. As our classrooms make this shift you will continue to see fewer worksheet or textbook type assignments and more opportunities for students to collaborate with each other, create and share products that are the result of problem solving and learn through experience. At home this might look like allowing your child to explore a problem and guide their thinking through questions; allow your child to safely fail and use this experience to approach a problem from a different direction; provide opportunities to build, experiment and then communicate with you about what they are learning.

http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2014/04/10-great-homework-help-websites-for.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+educatorstechnology%2FpDkK+%28Educational+Technology+and+Mobile+Learning%29



CELEBRATIONS

Chess Club evolves into Chess @ Lunch

~A big thank you goes out to Mr. Boone who sponsored our Monday Chess Club through the winter. The club is no longer meeting, but we have a giant chess and a giant checker set that students may check out during recess.



Staff Appreciation Week, May 5-9

Staff appreciation week is rapidly approaching. On Tuesday, May 6 each room parent is coordinating a breakfast for their teacher at 8:15 (rooms will be open at 8:00 for set up). ~Parent volunteers (approx. 2-4 in each classroom) will assist with serving and clean-up.

~Small, meaningful, handmade gifts are also being coordinated by room parents. Other appreciation activities for teachers and paraprofessionals are being coordinated by PAC and school administration.

~ **Thank you for all that you do to support our children, staff and the Morning Star community.**



Garden Boxes @ Morning Star

If you have connections to someone with good quality soil we need your help! This fall Lucky Stars after-school students and staff built three 8'x4' garden boxes. Now that the snow has melted, we are working to fill the boxes with topsoil and begin planting vegetable and flower seeds. Contact Jamie Gowdy, Lucky Stars Director, or Robin Arnold @ 522.6500.

PAC SNACK

By Kristen O'Brien



Rice Roll-Ups

Wash your hands!

In a large bowl stir:

2 tablespoons shredded carrot, 1 tablespoon sweet-sour sauce, 1/8 teaspoon salt & 3/4 cup cooked brown rice.

Spoon 2 tablespoons rice mixture onto thin slice of deli roast beef or other meat; add a thin slice of red bell pepper & avocado. Roll up and cut in half diagonally.

Serve fresh or make ahead for a healthy after school snack!

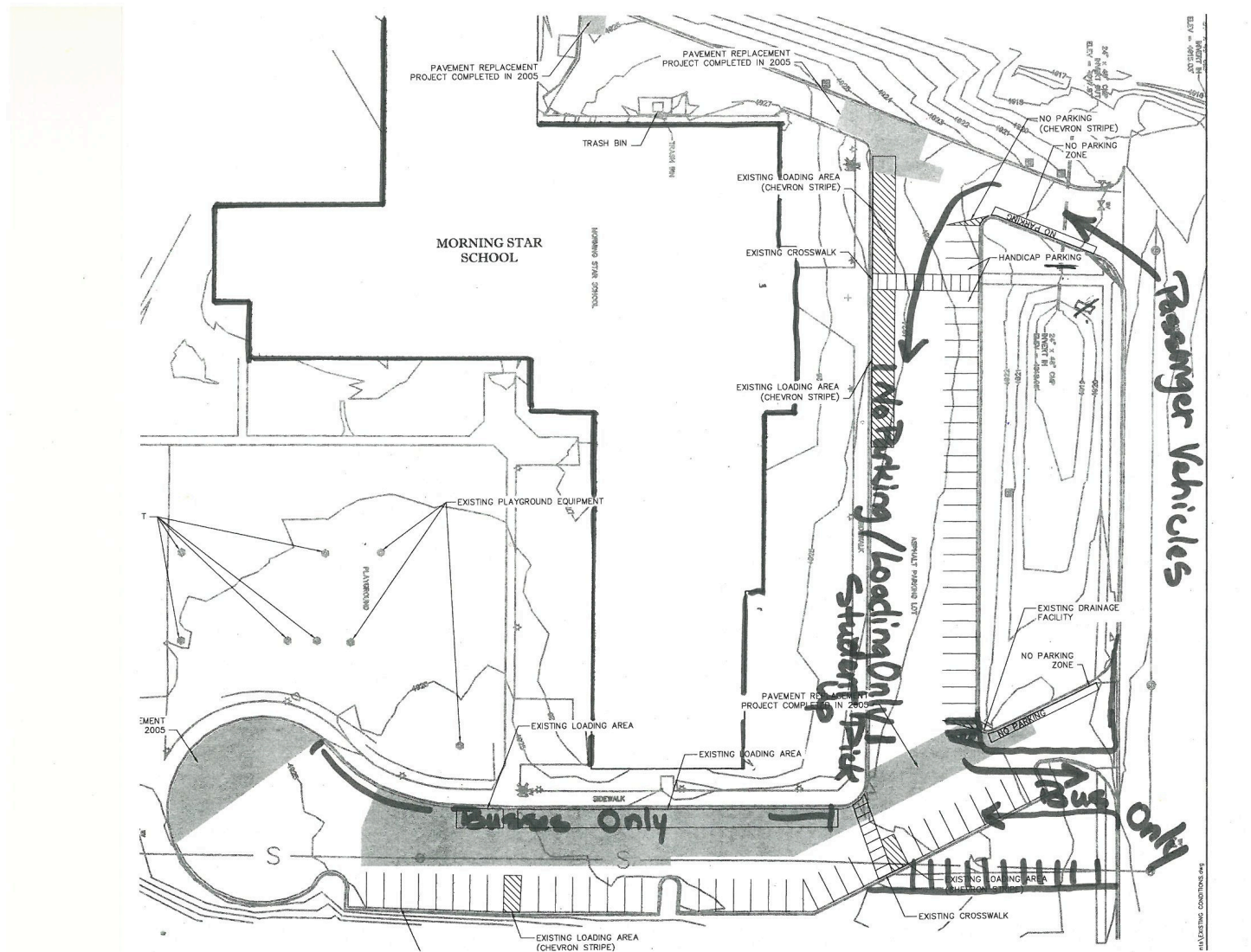
Give Us a Call!

Office phone:

522-6500

Reporting an absence or tardy? Please call the attendance line:

522-6510



Key changes to current traffic flow include:

~Afternoon pick up will be moved from the front doors of Morning Star to the curb area along the front of the building. This area will be supervised by a staff member.

~Curb-side parking along the front of Morning Star will be eliminated, providing extended space for drop off in the morning and pick up in the afternoon.

~Crosswalks will continue to be supervised by staff.

~We are working with Bozeman PD and our Facilities Supervisor to possibly eliminate part of the grass area along the eastern border of our property & straighten the line to increase the number of parking spaces.

Bozeman Public Schools

Calendar 2014-2015

July						
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Dates to Remember

August 27-29	K-12 PIR Days (No school K-12, required for teachers only)
September 1	Labor Day Holiday
September 2	School Begins, Grades 1-12
September 2,3,4	Kindergarten Orientation
September 5	Kindergarten Full Days Begin
September 29	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)
October 16-17	Dist. Flexible PIR Days (School not in session)
October 20	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)
November 10	K-5 PIR Day (No school K-5, Parent/Teacher conf.)
November 11	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)
November 26	K-5; 9-12 PIR Flex (No school K-12)
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 22- Jan. 2	Winter Break
January 26	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)
January 27	6-12 PIR Day (No School 6-12, required for teachers only)
February 16	Presidents' Day Holiday
March 9-13	Spring Break
April 9	K-8 PIR Day (No school K-8)
April 10	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)
May 22	9-12 PIR (No school 9-12)
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
June 11	Last Day of School (Students released @ 12:45 p.m.)
June 12	PIR Day (No school K-12, teachers only)

Grading Periods

<u>K-5</u>
December 5
March 20
June 11
<u>6-8</u>
November 25
March 6
June 11
<u>9-12</u>
Grading Period 1- October 10
Grading Period 2- November 25
1st Semester- January 23
Grading Period 1- March 6
Grading Period 2- April 24
2nd Semester- June 11

Symbol Codes

	No School K-12
	No School K-5 (PIR K-5)
	No School K-8 (PIR K-8)
	No School 6-12 (PIR 6-12)
	No School 9-12 (PIR 9-12)
	School Begins
	School Ends
	Full Day Kindergarten Starts

With the approval of this calendar, the Board of Trustees, in commemoration of Martin Luther King Day (January 19), is directing that all teachers (K-5) and all social studies teachers (6-12) take action in the class-room to recognize and celebrate the principles for which Martin Luther King stood.

**BOZEMAN
ELEMENTARY
BIKE RODEO
THURSDAY
MAY 1st, 2014
HYALITE ELEMENTARY**

**FREE and open
to ALL
BOZEMAN
ELEMENTARY
STUDENTS!**



**If you have any
gently used
children's books
please consider
donating them at the
bike rodeo. We will
have a drop-off box.**

**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE OUT
FOR A REGISTRATION
FORM AND INFORMATION
COMING HOME WITH YOUR
CHILD.**

**PLEASE BRING YOUR BIKE,
HELMET, AND PARENT TO
HYALITE ELEMENTARY FOR
A BIKE RODEO'N GOOD
TIME!**

PRIZES WILL BE DRAWN AT THE BIKE RODEO!

Dear Parents,

The Bozeman Schools Foundation is offering the convenient services of SchoolKidz, Inc. and their Teacher Tailored back-to-school supply kit program. Why fight long lines trying to find every single requested item on your child's supply list? Let us do the shopping for you! The kit offers brand name items as well as some Staples items, and is exactly what is on your child's supply list minus a few 'personal' items requested (*Please check the Comments section on the order Form that will come home with your child!*). The entire package comes in a reusable



personalized kit. Orders are placed online only in order to simplify the collection process and final order date is JUNE 27th. All you need to do is go to <http://www.shopttkits.com/> and enter your schools account # which is 10451 for Morning Star.

Best of all, part of the proceeds benefit the BOZEMAN SCHOOLS FOUNDATION and your local school's PAC. Because we've been able to negotiate kit-pricing for most of the schools in the district, we've been given a discount, which in turn, gets passed on to the Foundation and the PAC's. All kits will be delivered to the school at the end of the summer and will be ready for pick up during the 'TBD' pick up event, whether it's a Meet the Teacher or Ice-Cream Social etc.

Thank you for your Support!



For questions, please contact the Bozeman Schools Foundation, 406-522-6071 or info@bozemanschoolsfoundation.org