



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

Morning Star School Newsletter February 21, 2014

**Please return visitor or volunteer
lanyards before you leave
Morning Star!!**

**If you have some at home, please return
on your next visit.**



Morning Star Spelling Bee

Congratulations to our Champion, Sydney from Miss Fabian's Class; Runner-up is Wyatt from Mrs. Duncan's Class; and our alternate Ethan from Mrs. Dore's Class. They will now compete at the Gallatin County Spelling Bee, which will be held on Saturday, March 1st, 2014, at Meadowlark School located at 4415 Durston Road here in Bozeman. The spellers need to check in between 8:30 and 8:45 A.M. and the bee will begin at 9:00 A.M.

Morning Star Family Carnival

Thank you to Amanda Black, Lori Faure and the many parent and MSU volunteers who made this year's carnival another success. Students and their families enjoyed a variety of activities and food. Our classrooms were left in sparkling condition ready for children on Monday morning!

FULL COLOR YEARBOOKS- Time to order!

The Morning Star yearbook will be in full color this year and will feature original cover art from some of our 5th graders! Order forms went home in the Friday folders on Jan. 24th! Order online or by returning a check made out to Morning Star PAC by **March 7th!** You may also upload your favorite photos to our Community Upload page at <https://community.lifetouch.com/> using site access code XXEMAE.

Kindergarten and First Grade Musicals

Each class will be doing their own musical during their regular music class time in the music room. Mark your calendar!

Mrs. Stephens - April 21st @ 10:15
Mrs. Dean - April 21st @ 12:30
Mrs. Lakatos - April 21st @ 1:00
Mrs. McCullough - April 21st @ 1:30
Mrs. Hanson - April 30th @ 9:15
Mrs. Saboda - April 30th @ 11:00
Miss Jones - April 30th @ 2:10
Mrs. Hall - April 30th @ 2:40



**Ice rink is closed for the
season.**

We are Morning STARs!

We Solve Problems

Parent Liaison Corner

Our Parent Liaison, Libby Michaud is available as a key resource for parents. She may be reached at Morning Star on M, W, F 8-11:30 a.m. and Tu, Th @ 1:30-4:00 p.m. or by email at libby.michaud@bsd7.org and phone 922-4237.

~Here is a link to a great article for both parents and teachers about praise. It references a study and I feel that it is very meaningful for all of us to recognize the need. This is an article that helps parents see what kinds of different responses they can have with their kids besides... "I know you can do it, you're smart!" Here's the link.

<http://nymag.com/news/features/27840>

~Thrive will be hosting our 2nd Refresher Love and Logic Class, "Love Me Enough to Set Limits" February 25th, at Thrive, 6-7:30 PM. Cost \$25 per person, \$40 per couple. This is a great opportunity to refresh skills and talk with other parents. Registration at allthrive.org is encouraged or contact Libby Michaud, our Parent Liaison at 922-4237.

Altacare

Welcome to our new Altacare therapist Nikki Zelenka. Altacare is a therapeutic service for students experiencing social, emotional or behavioral challenges in school. We provide individual and group settings to support students in their developmental and academic needs at Morning Star. Altacare staff works closely with teachers and parents in an effort to improve students' experience at school, home and in the community. If you are interested in more information regarding Altacare service, please contact Nikki at 522-6645.

First Student Hotline

Please contact First Student to get updates on buses at [579-2731](tel:579-2731). Doug and Marie at First Student answer as many calls as they can in the office at [556-8039](tel:556-8039).

Olweus

As part of our work to support student social and emotional growth and meet the district standards for counseling, we continue to utilize Olweus class meetings. On a periodic basis you have been seeing information about our social skills instruction in teacher newsletters. For more information visit <http://www.violencepreventionworks.org/public/index.page>. For information on Morning Star's action plan visit <http://www.bsd7.org/search/default.aspx?q=Olweus&type=0.12418-117.112418-1271-1>

We Take Responsibility

Important Numbers...

Office phone: 522-6500

Reporting an absence or tardy?

Please call the attendance line: 522-6510

State Testing

~4th grade students will participate in the Science CRT (Criterion Referenced Test) March 4-6. It is critical that all 4th graders are present during this limited testing window

as they are required by the state to participate.
~Grades 3-5 will participate in the full-scale pilot of the new Smarter Balanced State Assessment beginning April 14. The assessment includes both math and English language arts and is aligned to the Montana Core Standards.

- ~April 14-18 5th grade testing
- ~April 21-25 4th grade testing
- ~April 28-May 2 3rd grade testing

Keep Us Updated!

Parents, if you have a change in address, phone number or email address, please let us know immediately so we can keep our records accurate. Thank you very much.

Borrowed Clothing from School Office

If your child has borrowed clothes from school because their clothing from home was wet or soiled, we would appreciate prompt return of the items to the office so we have them for other students (underwear does not need to be returned). Our supply is currently very low because items are not being returned. If you have gently used children's clothing (pants, shirts, sweats) feel free to send a few items for our loaner collection.

We Act Safely

Dress for the Weather

As we continue to experience some variations in our weather, please send your child to school in weather appropriate clothing and shoes. Children not dressed appropriately (see guidelines in Student Handbook) will be unable to participate in all activities. In particular, K-2 students must have snow gear to play anywhere other than the blacktop. Regardless of the temperature in the morning, students must come to school dressed appropriately. If the weather reaches 10 degrees any student not dressed for the weather will stay in the office during recess.

Safe Routes to School

Please help teach your children the safety and health benefit of walking or biking to school.

Upcoming Dates:

March 17th (Monday) St. Patrick's Day - Shamrocks

April 21st (Monday) Earth Day - Flowers

May 19th (Monday) Morning Star Spirit Day

Bike Celebration Week at Morning Star is May 5-9, National Bike Safety Day is May 7

More information coming – here's a quick overview...

Tuesday: Proper Seat and helmet adjustment

Wednesday: Bike Safety

Thursday: Fix a flat and Pump up your tires

Friday: Fun Ride

Preventing Colds and the Flu

~Following are important steps you can teach your child to help prevent the spread of germs.

- Cover your coughs and sneezes
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth

· Wash your hands often with soap and water (for at least 20 seconds)

~In order to ensure that these habits are developed, practice these healthy habits with your children at home. If your children do get sick, please keep them at home to prevent other students from getting sick, too!

We Show Respect

Beverages in the building

Please remember that if you bring a beverage into the building it must have a lid on it. If you have a spill, please notify the office immediately so it can be cleaned before it stains the carpet. We appreciate your help in maintaining Morning Star.

Dropping off student items

Office staff will be happy to deliver items to your student - Just leave them at the office. This minimizes interruptions during valuable classroom instruction.

Reminder from our Neighbors and the Police Department

~We continue to have drivers on their cell phones and texting as they proceed through these areas. Please help ensure the safety of all individuals by paying close attention to your surroundings.

~Speed Limit - The Bozeman Police Department has asked us to remind you all that the speed limit on S. 3rd, Arnold and Westridge is **25 mph**. When you cross Westridge on Arnold the speed limit drops to **15 mph**.

Lessons from the Library

~February 5th was Digital Learning Day. Every classroom at Morning Star contributed a video short or photos demonstrating integration of technology in their classroom. These will be available soon on our website.

~Mrs. DeWolf and Mrs. Jesness continue to work with classroom teachers to make our students good digital citizens. Ask your child about internet safety and how they can be sure they are using the internet in a positive and safe manner.

~For links to keyboarding practice programs, electronic resources and more visit

<http://library.bsd7.org/common/servlet/presenthomeform.do?jsessionid=87FBADFEF61DDD8A1FEBBC245549FD24C?l2m=Home&tm=Home&l2m=Home>

Reminders from the Office

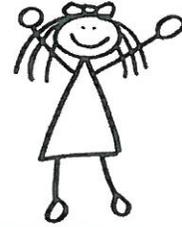
Electronic School Newsletters!

This is our eleventh issue using our email listserve. If you have not provided your email address(es) and wish to receive our newsletter, please let us know. This is the most important means we have of communicating with you and appreciate having current, accurate information on file. If you have provided your email address and are not receiving the newsletter, please check your email filter and add robin.arnold@bsd7.org to the approved contacts. Newsletters are also posted on our school website and a few hard copies are available in the office.

Calendar of Events

March 4-6 4th grade Science CRT administration
March 7 – End of 2nd Trimester, Yearbook orders due
March 9 – Daylight Savings Time begins
March 10 – 14 – No school – Spring Break
March 21 – 2nd Trimester Reports go home
April 4 – No School – PIR Day
April 8 – Thurs. April 10 – Book Fair (Tentative date)
April 14-18 5th grade Smarter Balanced assessment
April 16 – Early Release – All students dismissed @ 1:45 pm
April 21-25 4th grade Smarter Balanced assessment
April 25 – End of 3rd Mid-Trimester
April 28-May 2 3rd grade Smarter Balanced assessment
May 2 – 3rd Mid-Trimester Reports go home
May 5-9 Bike Celebration Week
May 21 – Early Release – All students dismissed @ 1:45 pm
May 26 – No School – Memorial Day
June 11 – Last day of School – All students dismissed @ 12:30

Bozeman Public Schools Kindergarten Registration Kick-off



WHERE

WILLSON GYM
404 W. Main
(Enter on 5th Street Entrance)

* Streamline bus stops at 7th and Babcock

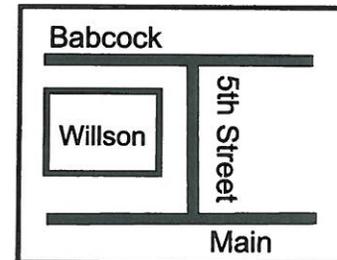
TIME

8:00 am - 2:00 pm

(Drop by anytime during open hours)

DATE

Monday March 3, 2014



WHO

Anyone who:

- Is interested in registering children who will be 5 on or before September 10, 2014 for Kindergarten in the Fall of 2014 in the Bozeman Public Schools.
- Is interested in learning about community resources for children and families.
- Is new to Bozeman School District with a student K-5.

***If unable to attend, paperwork for enrollment can be picked up from the enrollment office. Return paperwork to the enrollment office throughout the month of March to be included in the first round of enrollment.**

Children welcome to attend!

Information: Bozeman School District Registration for new students * After School Programs * Immunizations * Children's Health and Nutrition * Special Education * Early Childhood Development * Child Safety *

Meet: Thrive * Youth Dynamics * Family Outreach * CDC Evaluation/Diagnostic Center * Child Care Connections * Gallatin Valley YMCA * City of Bozeman Park and Recreation Department * Children's Museum of Bozeman * Greater Gallatin United Way * Gallatin City-County Health Department * Bozeman Public Library *

Questions? Call Liz Cleary 522-6005



Capital Expenditure Update:

The Capital Expense request that was put forth by the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) was presented, voted on and approved at this week's PAC Meeting.

It was approved to spend up to \$12,070 to purchase 20 iPads and the supporting Wi-Fi access point for the teaching staff.

This technology will support instruction, data collection and formative feedback to students. The iPad provides access to numerous apps many that are common core apps they will enhance teaching and learning in all content areas including core subjects, art, music, library and health enhancement.

Ice Rink

Once again we owe Don Curtice a huge Thank You for his dedication to our kids and for providing the Morning Star Community such an amazing ice rink. This project is no small undertaking and requires a great deal of his personal time and energy. **THANK YOU** Don for all you do!

Also, the ice rink would not be possible without the hard work of many parent volunteers. Thank you to Shawn & Mary Black and Barbie Huber for coordinating the volunteer effort and all parents that tied laces.

Thank you, Carnival Team!!

Thank you to the Carnival Co-Chairs Amanda Black and Lorie Faure for organizing a fun filled evening for Morning Star students and families. 555 students and siblings took in the event.

Thank you Room Parents and all parents who helped with set-up, cleanup and game management. Also, a BIG Thank You to Tony Renslow and Ania Bulis from Pure West Christies for sponsoring the Photo Booth!! The kids loved it!

Yearbook Order Deadline approaching quickly!

The Morning Star yearbook will be in full color this year and will feature original art from some of our 5th graders! Order forms were sent home on January 24th. Please return your order form and check made out to Morning Star PAC by **March 7th**!

Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

Next year is right around the corner! There are several committees in need of chairs and participants. Please start thinking about how you can participate!

If you are interested in additional information please contact us mailto:mspac@gmail.com.

Current Committees:

Fun Run
Book Fair – spring & fall
Year Book
Science Fair
Enrichment
Staff Appreciation
Thanks for Giving
Holiday Celebration
Carnival
Incentives
Ice Rink

What's coming up for PAC!

Keep a look out in the next PAC Corner for the list of nominations for next years PAC Directors. Elections will be held on Thursday, March 20th. Rob Watson, Superintendent of BSD#7 will join the next meeting to discuss the districts plans regarding boundaries and land that they currently own and may purchase for future school sites. Please bring your questions and comments, as Dr. Watson is interested and willing to speak to them.

Mark Your Calendars

3/21	PAC Meeting- Elections for next year Board of Directors will be elected.
4/8-4/10	Book Fair Dates
4/17	PAC Meeting
5/15	PAC meeting – Last for the year!