

THE MORNING STAR

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

Principal's Place

Our first Fall Family Night was a rousing success with 120 children and their families attending. Math games, recess games, reading dogs and Olweus activities were big hits along with pizza generously provided by the LaFoley family. Thank you to the student leaders who taught the math games and helped with recess games in the gym.

On Tuesday, Nov. 18 our Board of Trustees, Superintendent and central office staff joined Morning Star staff and students for the annual report of progress. This year we featured our Student Leadership program and 12 of the student leaders presented to our guests. Several students shared a slideshow on bully prevention, some students spoke about their observations and two students showed their video regarding student perceptions about Morning Star.

“Holiday Roadtrip” Holiday Program

~With a theme of “Holiday Roadtrip” our students are working with our talented music staff to provide variety of music and dance showcasing their talent. We have again set aside a special area for individuals who wish to take pictures and video. A “Scenic Overlook” is available near the stage on both the east and west sides of the seating area.

~With 500 students and their families looking forward to another spectacular performance, we have carefully considered how to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to sit and enjoy the show. Seating will begin @ 8:30 for the 9:00 performance and 12:15 for the 12:45 performance. Following the morning performance, all audience members are asked to leave the seating area, taking all personal belongings with you. This allows our staff time to ensure equipment and all details are fine-tuned for the afternoon show. Any personal items left in the gym will be carefully accounted for and may be picked up in the office.

~Please let us know if you require special seating for a wheel chair or other assistive device, we'll be happy to set aside a spot for you and your immediate family.

~Once again we will provide transportation on Dec. 19 from one of our local churches to Morning Star. Details soon to come.

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.

Skill Builder of the Month:

ACTING SAFELY

December's Skill Builder of the Month focuses on ACTING SAFELY including Playground Safety & Safety Outside of School. Seasonal changes mean adjustments to our playground rules and an emphasis on appropriate cold weather attire.

Spotlight on 4th Grade

Our fourth grade students have been participating in problem-based learning on most Friday mornings, featuring science, engineering, and mathematical thinking. A recent problem was to create a safe, entertaining roller coaster using foam tubing and a marble.

You should see their creations!

To deepen their connection with print, teachers utilize metacognition to relate reading and thinking to each child's own experiences and help students comprehend what they read in a meaningful way.

FEATURED EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Fall Conferences

Thank you for making time to join us for fall conferences. 99% of our parents participated to discuss student goals and progress. We appreciate your partnership in educating our children.

Recycling

Thank you to Jennifer Pawlak for coordinating our recycling program. We are now recycling drink pouches, **glue sticks, pens, markers** and **highlighters**. Drop them in the box on the stage steps.

Crow Tipi – Thank you PAC and Bozeman Schools Found.

Caroline Klarr, in partnership with Missey Dore and Justin Mollgaard were awarded a SPARK grant that provides funds to install an authentic Crow tipi as an outdoor classroom.

PAC SNACK

Frozen Yogurt
Strawberries

By Kristen OBrien

Using clean hands cut green stem off 1 pint of strawberries and rinse well under water. Do not dry them. Spread them out on a parchment lined baking sheet (not touching) and allow to get very cold in freezer about 1/2 hour. Take out and using a fork dip and roll in Greek vanilla yogurt until well coated return to freezer and chill for 3 hours! Yum!

Bozeman Schools Foundation - APPLE Recognition Awards

Looking for the perfect way to say Thank You or Happy Holidays? The Bozeman Schools Foundation presents the APPLE Recognition Award. An APPLE Recognition Award honors special teachers, administrators, staff and school leaders for their dedication and contributions to excellence in education. As a recipient of a SPARK grant, Morning Star directly benefits from your donation AND the Foundation will honor deserving recipients with the following:

- A personalized card with a message from you
- An actual ‘Apple for the Teacher’
- Recognition of their honor on the Bozeman Schools Foundation website
- Acknowledgement of their distinction given to their school principal

Your card will be presented, along with the apple, during the week of December 15th so your entries **MUST BE RECEIVED** by December 12th. For more information about the Bozeman Schools Foundation or to make your Apple donation online, visit www.BozemanSchoolsFoundation.org. An Apple Donation form will also be sent home with students K-8.

Cans 4 our Community Food Drive

As we wrap up our participation in “Can the Griz “ Food Drive we are proud to have donated 398 lbs. of food to the Gallatin Valley Food Bank. From November 24-December 18 we will hold our annual “Cans 4 our Community” food drive. **Please drop off non-perishable food in the foyer.** Our kindergarten students count and weigh the items each week, applying their ability to count by 10s – you should see how amazing our kinders are!

Calendar of Events

November 26-28 - No School, Thanksgiving Break

December 5 - International Volunteer Day, Walk/Wheel to School

December 12 - Report Cards go home

December 19 - Holiday Program @ 9:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m.

January 5 - End of winter break, school resumes

CELEBRATIONS & Reminders

Ice Rink Plowing – Help Wanted!

Mr. Curtice is looking for someone with a plow truck to clean the ice rink at Morning Star. Please call 522-4866 and leave a message or [e-mail don.curtice@bsd7.org](mailto:don.curtice@bsd7.org) This year's rink is soon to be up and running and your help as a volunteer skate tyer, a.m. or p.m. shoveling and other small tasks makes our rink one of the best in Bozeman!

Veteran's Day Assembly

~Thank you to Chris Dover for organizing our annual Veteran's Day assembly. This year we were joined by a dozen veterans in person and a slide show of veterans that represent families and friends of Morning Star students and staff. Saul Martinez spoke to students about the value of learning and doing your best every day.

November's Walk/Wheel to School featured turkey toe tokens and over half our students participated! The next opportunity is on December 5, National Volunteer Day. Dress in red and green to help celebrate the many volunteers that partner with our school.

Book Fair

Thank you to everyone who visited our book fair! Your purchases provided \$3000 for library materials and leveled readers in our classrooms.

Wishing Tree

~At the suggestion of many parents, this year we are offering an opportunity for parents to fulfill a staff member's wish for materials that will support their work with students. The Morning Star Wishing Tree will be located on the library windows in the front foyer.

~Consider fulfilling one of these wishes in lieu of personal gifts. Individuals and staff teams may post a wish with individual staff member requests not to exceed \$30 and team requests not to exceed \$100. Feel free to join with other parents to fulfill one of these wishes. This approach is in alignment with our school board policy [#5223](#) and Montana Code that states:

2-2-104. Rules of conduct for public officers, legislators, and public employees. (1) Proof of commission of any act enumerated in this section is proof that the actor has breached the actor's public duty. A public officer, legislator, or public employee may not:

(a) disclose or use confidential information acquired in the course of official duties in order to further substantially the individual's personal economic interests; or

(b) accept a gift of substantial value or a substantial economic benefit tantamount to a gift:

(i) that would tend improperly to influence a reasonable person in the person's position to depart from the faithful and impartial discharge of the person's public duties; or

(ii) that the person knows or that a reasonable person in that position should know under the circumstances is primarily for the purpose of rewarding the person for official action taken.

Pick Up/Drop Off Safety

- ❖ If you are dropping off/picking up on the **south side of the school** please be considerate of our neighbors, drive safely and watch for the many walkers and wheelers on the roads and sidewalks.
- ❖ Student leaders report they like the new pick up/drop off system along the front curb as there is more room for cars at the curb and less time waiting. Please help us by remembering the following safe practices:
 - Pull to the curb and as far forward as possible before allowing your child to exit the passenger side of your vehicle.
 - Pull into the parking lot using the western-most entrance and park your vehicle if you are entering the building, even for a minute. This ensures traffic flow may continue.
 - Use the crosswalks whenever possible and be cognizant of the drivers around you – we have had some close calls in the parking lot and need your help keeping everyone out of harm's way.
 - Avoid parking in the bus loop as our buses need the clearance to turn around and exit.
 - If it is icy or snowy, please allow extra time to get to Morning Star and drop off/pick up.
 - Pay attention to the crossing guards and traffic supervisors as their job is difficult and they work diligently to keep our children out of harm's way.

THANK YOU to everyone who is exercising patience and care!!!!

Fall Family Night – Games & Read Dogs



Spark Grant award
from Bozeman
Schools Foundation
Foundation

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