



Morningstar Learning Center Newsletter

January 13, 2017



Important Dates

Jan. 15	February Enrollment Due
Jan. 18	Community Library Story Time
Jan. 30	February Billing Processed
Feb. 2	MLC Open House
Feb. 3	MLC Open House

Scholastic Magazines

Scholastic Magazines will be sent home this Friday, Jan. 13th with the oldest child in your family. If you would like to order books, please return the book order on or before Jan. 27th. Our online class code is: GTWBL.



Treasure Box Items

Our toddler and preschool classrooms are in need of new treasure box toys. I have created an Amazon Treasure Box Toy wish list if you would like to quickly order toys for our students.

https://www.amazon.com/gp/registry/wishlist/2QQA4VCVF7C9E5/ref=bnnav_topnav_lists_3

Role Play

The preschool room is in need of boy's dress-up clothes for role playing. Ideas include:
-wallet
-briefcase
-suit & tie



Director's Desk

MLC Open House Nights

Please mark your calendars for **one** of MLC's Open House Nights scheduled for Feb. 2nd and 3rd. This is an opportunity to visit classrooms, talk with staff, and have a Q & A time with the Board.

Policy Changes

The Morningstar Board of Directors approved new policy changes at their board meeting on January 12, 2017. The following policies were revised: Sick Days, Enrollment, Refundable Enrollment Deposit, Student Materials Fee, Student Assessment, and Student Waiting List.

Please see the additional information regarding these policies on the next page.

The Board is also in the process of revising MLC's **Parent Handbook** to reflect these changes and any additional information pertinent to families. The revised Handbook will be available at the Open House Nights and on MLC's website.

Finally, the Board has approved a new **2017 MLC School Calendar**. It is one of the attachments in your e-mail. The purpose of creating a new school calendar is to accommodate the daycare needs of our families and staff; particularly during our town's busy seasons and other school closures.



Ms. Karla teaching Spanish to the Preschool class this last week.

January Theme: Winter

This next month all the classrooms surrounding this theme.

The **Infant Class** will compare animals that love the snow, such as penguins, with animals that don't, such as hibernating bears. They will be investigating new sensory experiences through the use of shaving cream snowmen, ice cube painting, and painting with their feet!

The **Toddler Class** will celebrate Martin Luther King day and learn about togetherness and friendship. **Please send in a picture of your child's face as well as items for Show and Tell on Friday Jan. 20th.**

This week the **Preschool Class** will be learning about birds! They will take a look at the wide variety of birds both on this earth and specific to our region. They will explore the various dwellings of birds (not all have a traditional nest!) as well as individual characteristics. Activities will include nest building, bird calls, making bird feeders, and learning to fly....(just kidding!)





MLC Policy Changes

Policy: Enrollment

Current: Enrollment is due the 15th of the month prior.

Proposal: Families enroll the 15th of the month prior to a new **quarter**. There will be four quarters in each year: Spring Quarter (March-May), Summer Quarter (June-August), Fall Quarter (September-November), and Winter Quarter (December-February). Families will enroll their child for the entire quarter. This will help MLC predict longer-term staffing and financial needs while still allowing families some flexibility with scheduling.

Conclusion: Change monthly enrollment to quarterly enrollment.

Policy: Sick Days

Current: No sick days allotted

Proposal: Reimburse families half of their daily tuition cost for a total of two sick days each quarter. While most daycares in the state and in other ski resort towns do not allot sick days, we would like to help with the financial burden associated with sick days and encourage families to keep their sick children home.

Conclusion: 2 sick days per quarter reimbursed at 1/2 the daily enrollment rate.

Policy: Refundable Enrollment Deposit

Current: Families are entitled to a \$100 refundable enrollment deposit, granted after withdrawal from MLC.

Proposal: Change to a one-time enrollment non-refundable deposit. This deposit will cover expenses associated with processing new student paperwork, adding new student information into the ProCare database, additional school-provided supplies, and student assessment materials.

Conclusion: All new students enrolled will be charged a one-time \$100 non-refundable enrollment fee.

Policy: Student Assessment

Current: Checklists

Proposal: Adopt Developmental Assessment Program *Teaching Strategies Gold*. Each student will have their own Developmental Assessment Booklet that will stay with them the duration of their time at MLC. Teachers will use these assessments to inform families of their child's progress as well as to inform their own instructional goals.

Conclusion: New standardized developmental assessment used at Morningstar Learning Center.

Policy: Student Materials Fee

Current: \$100 Student Materials fee twice a year.

Proposal: Change to \$50 fee at the beginning of each quarter. This change does not add any more cost to the families and keeps fees consistent each quarter.

Conclusion: Materials Fee charged 4x per year versus 2x per year, does not increase cost to families.

Policy: Student Waiting List

Current: First come, first served

Proposal: Waiting list priorities are the following:

1. Children of staff
2. Children of current MLC families
3. First come first served

These priorities are standard at most daycares in the state. They serve the needs of daycare staff and current families first which is our priority as well.

Conclusion: Waiting List priorities placed on children of staff, children of MLC families, then first come, first served.