



# Morningstar Learning Center Newsletter

August 11, 2017



## Important Dates

August 15	Quarterly Enrollment Due
August 15	MLC Scholarship should be submitted to Joe Miller
August 25	<b>NO SCHOOL</b> PIR day

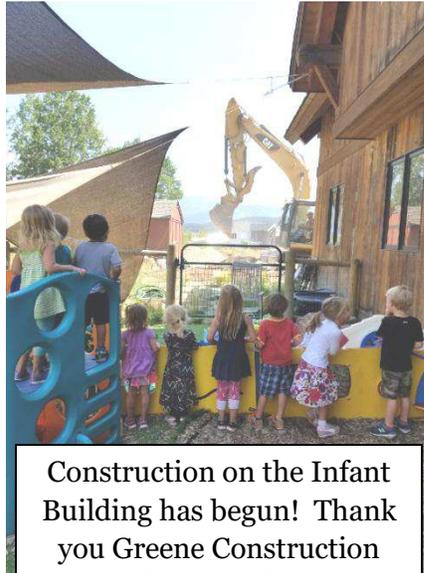


## Director's Desk

Our fiscal year concludes every July, allowing the Board to evaluate our budget and notify families of any changes before the start of the new school year, September 1<sup>st</sup>. This year, the Board has voted to increase the daily rate for each child beginning September 1<sup>st</sup>. Please read the attached letter for more information regarding this change. You may contact me with any questions or concerns, or you may bring them to our **Parent Informational Night** scheduled for **Monday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.**

**Stephanie's Office Hours:** Monday-Wednesday 8:30am-10am

**Lori's Office Hours:** Thursday and Friday 8:30am-10am



Construction on the Infant Building has begun! Thank you Greene Construction and Kevin Kusto for quickly getting this project underway!

## WATER WEDNESDAYS

With summer temperatures on the rise, MLC teachers have decided to enact **WATER WEDNESDAYS**. Each Wednesday afternoon after nap, staff will set up water activities in the play yard. **Please send a swimsuit and a towel in with your child each Wednesday.**

**We are looking for parent volunteers for hiking to Ousel Falls. Please contact us if you are interested.**

## Quarterly Enrollment

Quarterly enrollment will be due August 15 for Fall Quarter. Please send in your dates on or before August 15.

## MLC Scholarship

MLC scholarships should be submitted directly to Joe Miller at First Security Bank in Big Sky by August 15.

## August 2017 Cooking Week

The **Infant Class** will practice sharing and taking turns during Cooking Week. They will be introduced to descriptive vocabulary while experimenting with pots and pans and will make Macaroni and Cheese for lunch one day!

It's cooking week for the **Toddler Class!** They will be learning different tastes that are used in recipes. They will be decorating their own aprons to then use throughout the week while cooking some tasty treats!

In **Preschool Summer Camp** will do cooking week. We have chef Ashley coming in each day to prepare different dishes. They will have cooking lessons, they will be using their taste buds to discover new flavors, learning kitchen safety and healthy eating habits.



**Quarterly Parent Informational Meeting**  
August 14, 2017 @ 6pm

**MLC Garage Sale and Kid's Carnival!**  
8/26/2017 10am-3pm

**Fundraiser Committee is looking for parent volunteers for August 25 and 26. We will have a sign-up sheet in each room at the school when you drop off and pick up your kids.**

**Morningstar Learning Center is looking for a Part-Time Cleaner.**

**10 hours a week:** 4-6pm daily

**Duties:** Floors, laundry, dishes, and bathrooms

**Benefits:** 50% off Childcare Costs

## SUBBING OPPORTUNITY

If you are interested, or know of anyone interested in subbing at MLC, we would love to have you join the team. \$14/hr plus half off childcare while you are here.



Parents,

As we approach the 2017 fall session, we want to thank you for your support and trust in Morningstar Learning Center. With direction from our Executive Director and Assistant Executive Director, Stephanie Kissell and Lori VanEps, Morningstar has continued to make great strides in providing a safe, nurturing, and educational environment for Big Sky's youngest residents.

At the start of the 2016 fall session, the Board raised tuition to allow us to recruit more teachers (many with education degrees), a new Executive Director and grow opportunities for Morningstar's children. Unfortunately, while this increase made us more financially stable, only losing money two or three months a year while hiring additional qualified staff, we need to again invest in our teachers to allow us to retain the great team we have and recruit additional team members.

The Board has therefore made the decision to raise tuition by \$3.85 per day per child beginning with the start of Fall Quarter 2017, September 1st. This increase will allow us to offer benefits to our staff including higher wages and an employer sponsored health insurance plan. The Board has worked diligently to maintain the generous contribution of \$10 per child per day through June 2018 from the Big Sky Resort Tax Board and hopes to continue to receive future funding from this organization.

We understand this tuition increase may create challenges for some of our families. The Board plans on continuing to utilize the generous grant award made to us from the Spanish Peaks Community Foundation to provide need based financial aid. Morningstar works with First Security Bank to administer the aid to families who demonstrate a need through unique circumstances and/or a lack of financial resources. Morningstar's partnership with First Security Bank will also ensure confidentiality for all those applying for aid. *Please visit [www.morningstarlearningcenter.com](http://www.morningstarlearningcenter.com) for instructions on how to apply and more information about this wonderful opportunity.*

Even with this tuition increase, our rates continue to be competitive with those in the Gallatin Valley and remain less expensive than similar facilities in other resort towns throughout the Mountain West. We thank you for your continued support and understanding and will continue doing all we can to develop Big Sky's next generation of residents.

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Morningstar's Executive Director, Stephanie Kissell.

Sincerely,

The Morningstar Board



MORNINGSTAR LEARNING CENTER'S  
ANNUAL

# Garage Sale & Kid's Carnival

Saturday, August 26th  
Town Center Park  
10am-3pm

**GREAT DEALS AND LOTS OF  
FUN!**

**BOUNCY HOUSES  
FACE PAINTING  
50/50 RAFFLE  
POPCORN  
FOOD AND MORE!**

DONATION DROPOFF FRIDAY, AUGUST 25TH  
3:00- 7:00 PM TOWN CENTER PARK OR AT  
MORNINGSTAR LEARNING CENTER  
8/21-8/25 BUSINESS HOURS ONLY  
\*\*PLEASE NO OUTDATED TV'S, PAINT,  
BUILDING MATERIALS OR BROKEN ITEMS\*\*  
ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT PRESCHOOL  
CHILDREN