



# Morningstar Learning Center Newsletter

August 18, 2017



## Important Dates

August 18	September Enrollment Billing Statements e-mailed to families
August 18	Scholastic Book Orders go home
August 24	Scholastic Book Orders DUE
August 25	<b>NO SCHOOL, PIR day</b>



## Director's Desk

Welcome **Gretchen Goodman!** Gretchen has her teaching degree in Secondary English Education. She taught 4th grade for one year and has been a nanny for families of all different ages. She will be a Teacher's Aide, primarily in the Preschool classroom.

Welcome **Mindy Rebholz!** Mindy has her Bachelor's degree in Early Childhood Education. She was a High school and Middle school Resource Room Aide for ten years and also worked at the YWCA as a floater for infants through school age for two years. She will be a Teacher's Aide in all rooms at MLC.

Thank you to the families, board members and staff who attended our Parent Informational Night. If you have any questions regarding the information presented, please contact Stephanie Kissell.

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

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

Or by appointment



## 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.**

## Scholastic Book Orders

We are starting Scholastic Book Orders back up! They will go home with the oldest child in the family and are **due August 24th**. If you would like to order online, go to <http://www.scholastic.com>, click on the tab marked PARENTS and create an account. MLC's online ordering class code is: GTWBL.

## THANK YOU!

Each time your family orders books, MLC earns bonus points and coupons. From February-June, *our school received over 60 free books!* These books are used to supplement classroom teaching units and used to replace classroom books in disrepair.

## 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.**



Big Thank you to Chef Ashley for all your help with cooking week!

## August 2017

## CONSTRUCTION

The **Infant Class** will practice fixing things with toy tools. They will continue to practice sharing and taking turns with the tools. The book for the week is *Good Night, Good Night, Construction Site* and the song for the week is Five Big Dump Trucks.

The **Toddler Class** is excited to learn about construction! With all the construction going on with the new infant building the toddlers have been fascinated with the excavators and dozers. They will learn about all the equipment and safety in the construction world.

This week in **Preschool Summer Camp** it is construction week! We will be talking about the job of a construction worker, the tools and machines they use. They will discuss what is being built in our backyard at MLC and in the Big Sky Community at large.

**If you or anyone you know would like to be a guest speaker for MLC and talk about being a construction worker, we would love it! Please email or call if you are interested.**



## 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.

## 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



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**