



Lynx Link

April

Calendar-at-a-Glance

- 2 Discovery Corp Clean Up
 - 10-14 Be Buck Boot Camp
 - 13 4th Grade Poetry Night—
6:00-7:30
 - 25 PTA Meeting 6:30-8:00
Reviewing proposed
projects for funding
 - 24-28 Lost & Found Display
 - 29 River Bank Run Grade
School Challenge
 - 29 Native Youth Powwow
- Kindergarten Registration is
Underway! See pg.3 details

**2023 Native
Youth Powwow**
**"Honoring our Native
American Graduating
Seniors"**
April 29th
Sentinel High
School Grand Entry:
12pm and 6pm
Questions? Contact
Glenda Weasel:
gfwasel@mcpsmt.org



51st Annual Riverbank Run— Help L&C Defend our Grade School Challenge Trophy!

*Attention Lewis & Clark
students and families! The
51st Annual YMCA Riverbank
Run is coming up **April 29th!***



***Last year we WON the Grade School Challenge
by having the most runners. Let's do it again!***

*All Grade School Challenge participants get a
t-shirt and prizes as well!*

***Registration is only \$15 for grade school
students and race scholarships are available
(contact the FRC at 327-6949 or front desk)***

***Packets were sent home with students this
week and are due back by April 6th.***

*Race shirts and prizes will be delivered to school a
week before the big day--April 29th. Kids participate in
a real chip-timed race! See you at the start line!*
**The Riverbank Run returns to its downtown
course location.**

Race Start Times: All races start at
Higgins/Broadway and end along the Kim Williams Trail
across from Caras Park.

- **9:00 a.m.** 10K start time
- **10:30 a.m.** 5K start time
- **11:30 a.m.** 1 Mile Trifecta start time
- **11:45 a.m.** 1 Mile Fun Run start time

From the Principal: Mrs. Vaneps

Lewis & Clark Families,

Spring is finally here and excitement in the air as we continue to have a wonderful year of learning. With Spring comes busy evenings with after school sports, clubs, and activities. While it is important for our students to stay active and participate in various social activities, we want to remind you of the importance of our Lynx Leaders reading every night. This can be done independently or by a family member or friend. There is an abundance of research on the benefits of students reading independently as well as with a partner. I have included the links to a few articles that will provide wonderful insight to the importance of reading with children.

[Power of Reading Choice](#)

[Why is it Important to Read to Your Child](#)

Have a great month and enjoy the spring weather!
Alanna



Counselor's Corner: A Note from Ms. Myers

4 Things to Say to Your Child in the Morning

- ***Good morning! I love you!***
How was your sleep?

A simple check in can give you information about how their night was.

- ***Who are you looking forward to seeing today?***

We want to bridge the connection between home and other important people in their life.

- ***What are going to be the most exciting and trickiest parts of the day?***

We want to explore and prep for these parts of the day!

- ***Rehearse the plan for the day- especially important for kids with worries.***

You are taking the bus to school, then going to after care at the Y, I'll see you when I'm done at work.



SUN + BOOKS= FUN!

Are you and your kids ready for beautiful sunny days?! Why not take a book outside, too? Spring-time brings a change from winter routines, and that can include your child's at-home reading if things are feeling stuck in a rut. Your child could build a special reading space in the yard, or you could head to a park with them to play and read. Sometimes a change of setting can bring new motivation and excitement, and it can help your child expand their idea of reading for enjoyment. Helping them learn that people read in all different places for all different reasons will help them see themselves as a well-rounded reader. So don't be afraid to take the books outdoors!

-Christy Meurer,
L&C Intervention



*credit: mamapsychologists

Kindergarten Registration is Underway!

Who: Students who will turn 5 years old on or before 9/10/23.

Things you will need to gather in preparation for registration: Child's Birth Certificate, Completed Immunization Record, Two Forms of Proof of Address (utility bill, phone bill, lease agreement)

Kindergarten Registration is a lengthy process that involves quite a bit of paperwork. We know people are busy, and it is hard to spare time to fill out the paperwork here at school. In order to save you time, the forms will be available online. You are welcome to bring in your completed forms with your other documents or fill them out here at the school.

Please visit www.mcpsmt.org for updated registration dates and details.
Please Note: Kindergarten Registration is NOT complete until all of the paperwork and documents are turned in and reviewed by your school secretary!

Stay tuned for Kindergarten Round Up details in May!



Change for Good: Lynx Service Club

Each year the Lynx Service Club (LSC) raises money for a global project. This year LSC has decided to support a non-profit organization in Mozambique that helps provide education and improve livelihoods in support of conservation of a critical coastal ecosystem, Mar é vida (Ocean is Life).

This organization is a part of the Mozambican Nature Association and it supports activities such as training students about their local ecosystems and helping them to establish eco clubs in their communities. Mozambique is one of the most impoverished countries in the world, but is home to a wealth of beautiful and critically important ecosystems. Lewis & Clark students will collect change to support the important work of this non-profit in educating youth and helping to protect plants and animals in Inhambane, Mozambique. The funds that we raise will be used to extend the reach of their youth education programs. We have a strong connection to this organization and are excited to see pictures of the direct impact that our funds will have on this organization!

Lynx Service Club leaders will be organizing a change drive! **The change drive will run April 11th-21st!**

Be on the lookout for specifics on the drive!

Kylie Barnes, Brandy Gillespie, and Sasha Vermel

Lynx Service Club Parents



The PTA Page

The Parent-Teacher Association of Lewis & Clark Elementary School strives to build an enriching school culture and a welcoming environment for all children, parents, and staff.

THANK YOU's:

The PTA wants to thank LC parents Jen Nelson, Catie Kohler and Samantha Zauher for their time and help for class pictures in March.

Lewis and Clark PTA also wants to extend a BIG THANK YOU to the following parents for their contributions to the Teacher/Staff Taco Bar dinner during conferences:

Alena Furlong, Kathleen Hanson, Rona Chenoweth, Alison Brown, Mandy Snook, Ilana McCloud, Erin Noonan, Catie Kohler, Evie Taylor, Jenny Thies, Anne Swentik, Mary French, Andy Kemmis, Katie Rosen, Connie Brueckner, Heidi Houck, Mike & Staci Nugent, Sara Grimm, Trisah Drobeck, Cynthia Ross, Aderly Murphy, Emily Johnsons, Michelle Cavuoto, Kasey Wright, Jenny Martinez, Matt Barrett, Ashley Flanagan, Julie Keis, Ryan Swentik. We are so lucky to have amazing parents who make our teachers feel valued and supported!



Don't forget about our **spring Outdoor Discovery Corp Clean-up scheduled for Sunday, April 2nd from 1-4 pm**. Please join us for 30 minutes or 3 hours and bring your own rake, gloves and shovels if possible!

The next Lewis and Clark PTA meeting is **Tuesday, April 25th at 6:30pm**.

Spending proposals will be reviewed and voted on at this meeting.

Come see how the funds raised will be used!

PTA Officers 2022-2023 School Year

President- Kamra Kolendich

lewisandclark.pta.missoula@gmail.com

Vice-President—Keri McHugh

lewisandclark.pta.vp@gmail.com

Co-Treasurers—Kyle Bocinsky & Staci Nugent

lewisandclarkptatreasurer@gmail.com

Secretary—Jeff Lamson

lewisandclarksecretary@gmail.com

Teacher Liaison—Jordan Garland, 5th GD

jgarland@mcpsmt.org

Teacher Liaison—Sharon Jones, 4th GD

sgjones@mcpsmt.org

Missoula Art Show – Coming Soon!

Lewis & Clark students will join artists from Missoula County Public Schools and schools from the surrounding areas in a K-8 art show at **Southgate Mall** this spring. Paintings, prints, sculptures and more will be displayed at the mall for public viewing from **April 17- May 7th**.

Please come check out the creations by our amazing student artists!



The 3 B's!

At Lewis and Clark, our behavior expectations are
Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be Safe.

We teach and reinforce these behaviors in a number of ways:

Classroom teaching around what the 3 Be's look like, sound like, and feel like in all areas of school

Be Bucks are used to recognize students for following the 3 Be's. Be Bucks will be entered into monthly drawings, with 2 students per grade level chosen to earn a prize. Students may also forgo the drawing and donate his/her Be Bucks to AniMeals or the Food Bank. Every 5 Be Bucks donated equals one dollar!

Monthly Be Awards are teachers' opportunity to recognize 2-3 students in the classroom who are really demonstrating the 3 Be's.

Three times a year we have **Be Buck Boot Camp**: one week dedicated to focusing on a classroom behavior that needs a little practice. We pair this week with fun dress up days.
Our next dress up week of the year is April 10-14:

Monday, April 10th —Favorite Sweatshirt Day!

Tuesday, April 11th—Rainbow Colors Day!

Wednesday April 12th —Lynx Day!

Thursday, April 13th—Hat Day!

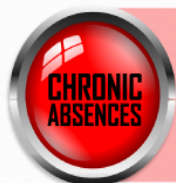
Friday, April 14th—Fancy Friday!



pixlstock.com - 22736903



If your child will be absent due to illness or travel, please call the L&C Attendance Line to excuse them.
406-728-2400 ext. 4362



18 OR MORE DAYS

- Excused and unexcused absences represent lost time in the classroom and lost opportunities to learn.
- Missing just one day every two weeks can add up to 18 days in a year. Absences add up before you even know it.



10 TO 17 DAYS

- Students who are absent an average of 15 days a year miss a year's worth of school before their senior year.
- When students miss a day of school it actually puts them two days behind their classmates.



9 OR FEWER ABSENCES

- Students with good attendance generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- Children benefit and make the most of their educational opportunities if they attend school regularly and on time.

Big Sky Science Circus

Saturday, April 8th, 2023
10:00am – 3:00pm at Big Sky
(\$3 per person ages 6+,
5 and under get in free!)

This is a unique educational opportunity for families and kids of all ages. View displays and engage in science demonstrations and hands-on activities. The primary focus of this event is to generate excitement about science.

Examples include: walking on water, exploding ball of fire, a life-sized tour of the digestive system and a petting zoo among other demos people have come to love.

For questions, please contact Virginia Tobiason at vtobiason@mcpsmt.org.



2nd Annual **STAND & Raise**
PARENT
EMPOWERMENT
SPEAKER SERIES

Be empowered to raise kids
in a digital world!



Every Tuesday in April
register @ www.MediaSafety.org

The Parent Empowerment Speaker Series IS BACK! Four amazing presentations each with incredible [presenters](#). They will be tackling the following topics, which you can learn more about at MediaSafety.org:

- ***Social Media Side Effects: Addressing Rising Rates of Mental Illness in Our Youth***
- ***What a Child Crimes Detective, ER Doctor, Therapist, and Middle School Principal Wish Parents Knew About Technology***
- ***How Predators Target Our Children Online and What We Can Do***
- ***How to Connect With Your Children in An Age of Disconnection***

Each **FREE** webinar will take place on Tuesdays in April at 12pm MDT. If you can't watch live, [register](#) anyway and you will be notified when recordings are available.

The FRC says,

Thank You!

Sharon Jones—Girl's Snow Boots

Chase Family—Girl's Coat

Family Resource Specialists

Tracey Cravy and Lisa Hayhurst

728-2400 x4355 frclewis@mcpsmt.org

Family Resource Center Hours:

M-F 8:15-3:15

Lost & Found
Items will be displayed
April 24th-28th.

Please label your child's things with a Sharpie. This allows us to return lost items to their rightful owner!



From the Music Room:

As a culmination to our unit on the music and arts of Bali, Indonesia, the 5th grade classes will learn a unique style of vocal performance called Kecak. They will be taught by visiting Balinese musician, teacher and composer I Made Lasmawan.

5th grade parents are invited to attend the Kecak performance by all three 5th grade classes in the Gym on Friday April 21, 2023 at 2:20pm.

The Lewis and Clark performers will share their performance with the Missoula Community Gamelan, Manik Harum, and guest artists I Made Lasmawan and Ni Ketut Marni.





COURAGE

PurposeFull Pursuits



PurposeFULL
People

Have some fun connecting as a family this month while practicing Courage. Here are 3 "PurposeFull Pursuits" for you to complete together. How many can you do this month?

Pursuit #1

Reflect, think, and discuss with your student things you both would like to do, but find intimidating or scary. Maybe it's a new hobby, trying a new game, sharing your art or invention with others, or going on an adventure somewhere. Give 1 of these things a try together and take a selfie to capture the memory!

Pursuit #2

Review Courage as a family! Remember that Courage is choosing what is helpful, right, and kind - even when it's hard or scary. What's something that you've been afraid to discuss with your student? Something that might be difficult to explain about our community or the world. Chances are they will hear about it eventually and it may come from someone who is less informed or less supportive than you. Have a courageous conversation with your student. It could be about bullying, the environment, uncertainty, etc. Remind them that love and support are 2 tools that we can use to practice Courage. Discuss as a family ways they can practice Courage around the issue you discuss.



Pursuit #3

We have all demonstrated Courage in our lives. Many of us have seen people practice Courage in ways that have inspired us. Stories are powerful tools for connecting as a family. Protect time this week to share stories about Courage with each other (you can use the story prompts to get started). At the end of the conversation, think of 1 way you can practice Courage this week.



Story Prompts:

- A time I (or someone else) showed Courage was ____.
- An act of Courage that changed/challenged me was ____.

Character Strong

