



Lynx Link

December Calendar-at-a-Glance

8—Giving Tree Gifts Due.
Please wrap, label gifts and
return to the front office

14— 6:30pm PTA Meeting

16_Winter Sharing Program
videotaping;
Kids dress festive!

Dec 18—Jan 2
Winter Break!



Great job selling so
much coffee, toffee
and tea for L&C!
The PTA awarded
over \$16,000 &
was able to fund
ALL staff requests.
Thank you to the
parents who
helped with
counting, sorting,
filling and
delivering the

products (pictured above in the cafeteria). Find out more
about the school projects, needs, people who have
volunteered and how YOU can help on **page 3**.

GIVING TREE— ALL TAGS CLAIMED!



Thank you for your
amazing support. Please
remember, wrapped gifts
for the Giving Tree are
due at the front office
**Wednesday, December
8th. Be sure to attach
family number and let-
ter (if applicable) and
gift descriptions
(eg.4A— board game).**
Questions? please contact
one of the Family
Resource Specialists—
Tracey Cravy or Lisa
Hayhurst. They can be
reached at x4355 or
frclewis@mcpsmt.org
Thank you!

HOLIDAY LYNX LITERACY TIPS

The holidays provide SO many ways to include literacy in your
child's day. Here are a few ideas that might be a fun addition to
regular reading practice at home:

1. Have your child help you make grocery lists and read
recipes for special meals or treats.
2. Read, reread, and talk about favorite holiday stories. If a
book is too difficult for your child to read, have them join in on
repeating phrases or read the words for one character.
3. Writing cards, invitations, and thank you notes makes
excellent writing practice! Have your child try their best and
help them spell key words if getting every single word right is
too challenging.
4. Have your child help you read the
directions for a new game or the instruc-
tions for putting together a new toy.

Remember to keep it fun and light so that
your child is excited to do what they can and
learn even more! -**Provided by
Christy Meurer, Intervention Specialist**



From the Principal's Office

Happy Holidays Lynx Families,

We are fortunate to be in a community and school that blends many traditions and cultures into student learning throughout the year. While the events, words, and decorations may be different, we can all find a common thread in our traditions among family, honored celebrations, and a devotion to giving our children rich and meaningful experiences.



May December be a season of joy, happiness, love, and peace for you, your family and friends. Wishing you the best as we wind down the 2021 year and look forward to the hope and experiences of a new year to come.

Best, Principal Vaneps

From the Lynx Service Club (LSC)

Dear Lewis and Clark families,

We are thankful for you donating to our school. We collected a bunch of items for the toiletry drive such as 244 rolls of toilet paper, 133 tubes of toothpaste, and 223 toothbrushes!

Thank you for donating to our school this year, we are able to give 22 families bags of toiletries.

On behalf of LSC (Lynx Service Club),
Ian Borchert, Elise Hood, Ani Nuttal



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.

Happy Holidays Lewis and Clark Families! If you haven't heard, the PTA was happily able to approve **ALL TEACHER FUNDING REQUESTS** this semester for a total of \$16,523! These funds are for so many great things, including: so many needed reading books for teacher classrooms, technology for chrome books for each child, new ipads for a kinder class, Bee Buck incentives, programming for classrooms, comfortable reading area for classes, curriculum, art supplies, special classroom projects and more! We are thrilled we were able to do this and hope you are too! The biggest reason we were able to fund all of the requests/needs of teachers was because of the resounding success of our Coffee, Toffee, Tea & more Fundraiser and the generosity of our Lewis and Clark community!! **THANK YOU!**

A HUGE THANK YOU to the parents who helped with counting, sorting, filling and delivering our CTT products for our CTT Fundraiser prior to Thanksgiving. We are so appreciative to:

Kyle Bocinsky, Staci Nugent, Kamra Kolendich, Keri McHugh, Lisa Hayhurst, Alanna Vaneps, Emily Mackenroth, Sarah Moore, Lindsay Watkins, Hollin Buck, Torrie Tschaun, Amanda Braun, Rachel Nordhagen and Jessica Stevenson.

Another thank you to Maile Macaluso and all of the awesome parents who helped out with our outdoor discovery core cleanup in November! With lots of helping hands, over 3 hours of work and 30 bags of yard waste, we put a huge dent in making the ODC look great! Be on the lookout for more cleanups and opportunities to volunteer in the spring!

Mr. Wyatt, our PE teacher is asking for community help with building an addition to our rock-climbing wall. The PTA approved funds for the supplies for this project but Mr. Wyatt would love someone with construction expertise to help get this new addition built so that all ages, sizes and abilities of children will be able to enjoy the rock-climbing wall. **PLEASE** reach out to Mr. Wyatt if you can help. jwyatt@mcpsmt.org.

In addition to Mrs. Jones' 4th grade class winning a pizza party for selling the most amount of CTT products (\$ 3,893), Mrs. Griffin's 1st grade class also won a pizza party for selling the most CTT products (\$2,325) for grades K-2. Congrats to those classes and teachers!

Also, we do have additional Coffee \$13 (both ground and whole bean,) \$5 Coffee gift cards, Toffee \$13, Tea \$7, and caramels \$13, if you are interested in purchasing more for stocking stuffers, holiday gifts or for yourself! Please email lew-isandclark.pta.missoula to inquire! We can take payment with check, cash or PayPal. Venmo is not available.

Finally, for those families who ordered Lewis and Clark Lynxwear, it should be arriving at school the last week before the Holiday Break, sometime the week of December 15th. More info coming soon!

Thank you,

The Lewis and Clark PTA



Inquiry Corner with Kari Henderson



At Lewis and Clark we use the PYP transdisciplinary themes, which are used by teachers worldwide, to create a Program of Inquiry or POI. Students at Lewis and Clark will participate in at least 36 units of inquiry as they move from Kindergarten through Grade Five. This POI is made up of six "Units of Inquiry"

per grade level:

- **Who we are**
- **Where we are in place and time**
- **How we express ourselves**
- **How the world works**
- **How we organize ourselves**

Sharing the planet

Each unit of inquiry is developed by grade-level and specialist teams using our state standards to address a central idea.

Ask your child what unit of inquiry they are working on!

Counselor's Corner: A Note from Ms. Myers

Growth Mindset is the belief that intelligence and skills are developed and changing over time. Fixed Mindset is the belief that we are born with a certain amount of intelligence and skills and that can't change. Part of developing GROWTH mindset is how we (teacher and parents) react to children as they work through challenging situations (academic or social). Giving kids specific feedback is a key piece of growing their growth mindset.

Instead of saying "GOOD JOB" or "YOU ARE SO SMART" try saying:

You didn't give up, even when it was tricky.

You worked well with your classmates, nice teamwork!

You have really improved on _____!

It was brave of you to _____!

I can tell you tried your best because _____.

You remembered to (specific skill) _____! Great job remembering that!

I admire that way you _____.

I noticed how you _____ when you got stuck. Nice problem solving!

As the weather gets colder, don't forget to visit our amazing **Missoula Public Library** to check out books and explore the kids' activities and opportunities.

The month of December holds some extra holiday fun!

FIND THE ELF ON THE SHELF

Each day come to the library and find the Elf on the Shelf in her new hiding place. Tell a librarian where you found her and receive a sweet treat! The library elf will be hiding on Level Two from December 1-23.



**missoula
public
library**

"From the MUSIC ROOM"

The four 1st grade classes performed their **Learner Profile** song and chant for the older students on Google Meet right before conferences. **Shout out** to Ms. Jones 4th grade class, Ms. Garland's 5th grade class; Ms. Master's 5th grade class and Ms.

Vanek's 5th grade class for being appreciative and respectful audiences. And a bigger **Shout Out** to all the 1st grade students for a job well done.

If you would like to see a video recording of a performance contact Ms. Morrison at domorrison@mcspsmt.org.



Watch for video links coming home of this year's **WINTER SHARING!**

Multiple classes will perform for each other in the gym on Thursday December 16.

We will record the performances so families can watch over the Holiday break.

Students are encouraged to "dress up" for the big day.

Here's a list of who's performing with who:

Program 1

5th Garland

3rd Jensco

1st Griffin

K Winter

Program 2

5th Vanek

3rd Hougard

2nd Bergstrom

K Cooper



Program 3

5th Masters

3rd Mosbacher

1st Aldrich

K Kemmis

Program 4

4th Harper

2nd Henderson/Orr

1st Langella

Program 5

4th Jones

2nd Bond

1st Sharkey

Program 6

4th O'Connor

2nd Hottowe

K Vasquez



THANK YOU FROM THE FRC !

The Family Resource Center (FRC) wishes to express appreciation for the following clothing, and supply donations:

Kadence Keller—Girl's Shoes
Thies Family—Boots and Giving Tree decorations
Bloom Family—Girl's clothing and toys
Vanek Family—Shoes, boots, gloves and books
Kemmis Family—Girl's underwear
Jessica Walters—Masks
Mrs. Jones—Snow Pants
Ursula Larkin—Hats
Wing Family—Warm hats and gloves
Gillespie Family—sweatshirts
Taber Family—underwear
Palmer/Weinhandl Family—boys' clothes
McCracken family & Mary's Mountain Cookies for adopting and featuring a L&C family on their store's tree for the Parade of Trees

Giving Tree set up and decoration—
Amanda Braun, Jenny Thies, Nichole Bird,
Connie Brueckner



shutterstock.com - 753658891

Family Resource Center

December Wish List

Girls Coats—12/14, 14/16

Snow pants: sizes 10/12, 14/16

Used items very welcome! Thank you for your generous donations

Your donations are very much appreciated

Family Resource Specialists

Tracey Cravy and Lisa Hayhurst

728-2400 x4355

frclewis@mcpsmt.org

M/ W/F 8:15-3:15 W 8:15-4

Lost and Found!

Lost and Found Items will be displayed **December 13-17** before holiday break. Remind your child to check for lost items.

PLEASE MARK YOUR CHILDREN'S ITEMS WITH FIRST AND LAST NAMES TO ENSURE THEY ARE RETURNED, IF LOST!



L&C Lynx Leaders have been focused on **BATH-ROOMS** for the month of November and showing the proper behavior in them.

In December the focus will be on proper **BUS** behavior.

Ask your kiddo/s about the **Golden Plunger Awards** and how they are doing their part to keep our bathrooms gleaming!

PTA Officers 2021-2022 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 Gr
teacher jgarland@mcpsmt.org

Teacher Liaison—Sharon Jones, 4th Gr teach-
er sgjones@mcpsmt.org

Hey Families! Please help remind kids to bring their gym shoes or leave a pair here at school!

Also, please put an empty plastic bag in your kids' backpacks and ask them to put wet clothes (mittens/hats, etc) in the bag to protect the library books they also may have in their bags. Thanks!



SUPPORT Lewis & Clark By Buying Your Groceries!



There are many ways to help our school by donating and volunteering, but you can also help just by shopping at your favorite grocery store!

Here's how to give back to Lewis and Clark:

Missoula Fresh Market gives 1% to schools from its patron's receipts. When checking out, write the name of your school or ask the cashier to do it for you on the top of the receipt. They will donate 1% of your receipt amount to our school. The more you spend, the more our school benefits!

Good Food Store provides 3% back to schools AND it's easier than ever! When checking out, just tell the Good Food Store cashier you want to donate to Lewis & Clark or give them our school "prefix" code of 334. They will send 3% of your purchase to L&C.

TRY THE BOX TOP APP: please consider installing the Box Top app on your smartphone. After you install the app and enter the school info, it is a simple process. Scan your receipt within 14 days and Box Top money is sent to the school!

