



# Lynx Link

## March 2023

### Calendar-at-a-Glance

- 1 KG Registration begins
- 6-17 Lost & Found Displayed
- 16 Half Day School Dismissed at 11:05 am
- 17 No School—Parent Teacher Conferences
- 20-24—Spring Break
- 27—School Resumes
- 28 PTA Meeting 6:30 pm—In Person and on Zoom; link via email
- April 2—Outdoor Discovery Core Clean Up



## 2023-2024

### 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 involving 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](http://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!**

## THANKS for Helping Us TACKLE HUNGER!

Lynx Service Club (LSC) has been busy this past month! The LSC community worked SO hard organizing the food drive, promoting the drive, counting items after school and eventually loading all the items into the Food Bank truck. Thank-you 4th grade service club! Also special thanks to the Lewis and Clark teachers who helped count.



There were **617 items in the Eagles cart** and **640 items in the Chiefs cart!** We collected **1697 pounds of food for the Food Bank!!!** Thank you to ALL of you who donated! This year we beat Chief Charlo elementary by 670 pounds of food.

We saved Ms. Vaneps from getting pied in the face! Together both schools collected a total of 2724 pounds of food. Wow! Congrats to Lewis and Clark for winning. LSC is already looking forward to next year!

Written by Mila, Zoey, Dakota, and Parah.

# From the Principal's Office:

Lewis & Clark Families,

One of the most important skills that help us continue to learn and show growth, is to reflect. Reflect on where we have come from, Reflect on where we are headed, and Reflect on areas that still need attention.

As we prepare for our upcoming parent-teacher conferences in a few weeks, teachers are currently reflecting on their students' progress and will be sharing your child(ren)'s growth from the beginning of the year and fall conferences. Observing a child's growth over short periods of time is not an easy task as we do not see true, long-lasting gains over a couple of weeks. Instead, looking at where a child began at the beginning of the school year provides a deeper level of their growth and understanding. As you prepare for your child(ren)'s conference and reflect on your child(ren)'s growth, what questions do you have? How would you like to collaborate with your child(ren)'s teacher to participate in strengthening their skillset? How can we better support our partnership with you in your child(ren)'s education?

I look forward to seeing you at conference time, and I wish you the best as we then head into Spring Break!

Alanna



## MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE

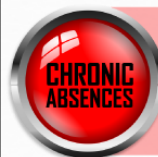
A PRODUCTION OF MCT, INC.

**Red Riding Hood** was a hit at Lewis and Clark this year!

64 students practiced all week and performed a play for the entire school on Friday, February 3rd! Thanks to the PTA for helping bring this amazing opportunity to our school community. Special thanks to Lisa Hayhurst for her many hours helping, Catie Kohler for keeping the money organized, Mr. Wyatt and Mrs. Morrison for sharing their classrooms, Tenly Snow for hosting a director, and to all the parent volunteers who helped after school. It took so many people from our amazing community to pull this off.  
~Kylie Barnes



*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.

## 51st Annual Riverbank Run— help L&C WIN the Challenge!

Attention Lewis & Clark students and families!

The 50th Annual YMCA Riverbank Run is coming up **April 29th!** Help Lewis & Clark win the Grade School Challenge by training for and running in the Riverbank Run! The school with the most runners gets a trophy and other fun prizes! All Grade School Challenge participants get a t-shirt and prizes as well!



Look for Riverbank Run information to come home after spring break. **Registration is only \$10 for grade school students and race scholarships are available (contact the FRC or front desk for info).** 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!

### Noted March 2023



**GAMELAN MONTH starts after Spring Break** in the Music room. A gamelan is a percussion orchestra from Southeast Asia consisting of gongs, metalophones, drums and bamboo flute. The Lewis and Clark gamelan is unique to Bali, Indonesia and is called "Angklung". All students at Lewis and Clark will spend a month playing the gamelan and learning about arts and culture in Bali, Indonesia. Our time will culminate in an assembly with performance by the Missoula Community Gamelan Manik Hrum, Guest Balinese artists I Made Lasmawan and Ni Ketut Marni AND the 5th grade classes at L&C.

### Family Resource Center

## Thank You!

Lewis and Clark PTA—  
Positive Postcards—Printing and  
Postage

Missoula Organization of Realtors—  
Family Resource Center Funds

### Championship Training Taekwondo—

Thank you for helping raise funds to  
pay off school lunch balances for L&C  
families in need!

**Family Resource Specialists**  
**Tracey Cravy and Lisa Hayhurst**  
**728-2400 x4355**  
**frclewis@mcpsmt.org**  
**M-F 8:15-3:15**

### Lost & Found

LOST &  
FOUND

Items for **February-March** will be displayed  
**March 6th-17th** thru conferences!

LOST &  
FOUND



## Counselor's Corner: A Note from Ms. Myers

### March is International Women's History Month

Research has shown that girls as young as 5 begin to internalize gender stereotypes, believing that girls should be "pretty" and that "smart" is a word that describes boys. Empower young girls by using different adjectives to describe them.

#### ALTERNATIVES TO CALLING GIRLS "pretty" or "beautiful"

Brave      Respectful      Resilient  
Curious      Determined  
Funny      Artistic  
Unique      Athletic  
Kind      Generous      Kind  
Loyal      Insightful  
Confident      Capable  
Imaginative      Spirited      Honest

### Lynx Literacy Tips

Making connections between new information and what they already know is a powerful tool for children as they learn to read. Any time that you can help your child make connections, you're helping them learn! For example, if your child is trying to read the word "claw" and they know the word "saw", help them see that the "aw" says the same sound in each word. Or if they're trying to read "sound" and they know "out", help them to recognize that the ou says the same sound in both words. It's really important that children can do this with sounds **first**, before they try it with letters. Practicing rhyming, reading rhyming books, and playing with language is a **very** important part of learning to read—all the way through third grade! Hearing the connections between words and seeing the connections within words will help them learn and remember new words as they read!

**Christy Meuer—  
L&C Intervention Specialist**

### I Love Reading -Earn Prizes!

The pink reading logs count toward two different reading contests. For 10 hours of reading students will earn a pass to Silverwood Park in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Students can also win tickets and prizes from the Missoula Paddleheads baseball team. They move up an inning for every two hours they read with a maximum of 10 hours.

**Student reading logs are due back to Mr. Nordtome by Wednesday 3/15/23.** No late reading logs will be accepted, and prizes will be delivered in early June. Have fun and keep reading.

Mr. Nordtome—[jsnordtome@mcpsmt.org](mailto:jsnordtome@mcpsmt.org)



## ***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.

Greetings from the Lewis and Clark PTA!

Our School Directories will be delivered to PTA members this week via your students' classroom. Please watch for these coming home with your student. Thank you for being a dues paying PTA member!

We will be selling Lynxwear again this year online! This is an opportunity to purchase sweatshirts and dry-wicking t-shirts with our Lynx logo in both adult and youth sizes. Watch your email for information on start of sale and pricing.

Mark your calendars for **Wednesday, March 15th!** The PTA is hosting a staff dinner for teachers and staff during the week of conferences. We would love your help in bringing in items for a taco bar!

**Sign-up is HERE:** <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45ACA92FA2F9C70-staff1>

Spring cleaning for our Outdoor Discovery Corp is scheduled for **SUNDAY, April 2nd from 1-4 pm.** Come for 30 minutes or 3 hours! Many hands make less work!



We were thrilled to see so many parents at our virtual PTA meeting last week. The cold weather and bad roads kept us home but it was great to see some new faces at our zoom meeting and have the opportunity to share what our PTA contributes to Lewis and Clark.

**Our next meeting will be in-person and via zoom on Tuesday, March 28th at 6 pm in the LC library.**

### **PTA Officers 2022-2023 School Year**

*President-* Kamra Kolendich

[lew-isandclark.pta.missoula@gmail.com](mailto:lew-isandclark.pta.missoula@gmail.com)

*Vice-President—*Keri McHugh

[lewisandclark.pta.vp@gmail.com](mailto:lewisandclark.pta.vp@gmail.com)

*Co-Treasurers—*Kyle Bocinsky & Staci Nugent

[lewisandclarkptatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:lewisandclarkptatreasurer@gmail.com)

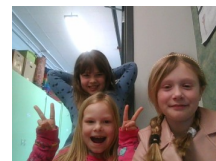
*Secretary—*Jeff Lamson

[lewisandclarksecretary@gmail.com](mailto:lewisandclarksecretary@gmail.com)

*Teacher Liaison—*Jordan Garland, 5th GD  
[jgarland@mcpsmt.org](mailto:jgarland@mcpsmt.org)

*Teacher Liaison—*Sharon Jones, 4th GD  
[sgjones@mcpsmt.org](mailto:sgjones@mcpsmt.org)

Hi Guardians! We are three Third grade girls at Lewis and Clark Elementary School. We all agreed that there's too much plastic in this world. So we are planning to change our plastic use in our school. We use about 4,000 Plastic utensils per week and compostable is not an option at this time. To reduce that number, we need your help. We would like to encourage you to bring your own metal utensils to and from school each day. We have an affordable suggestion for you: Travel [Silverware Kit](#) If you can't bring metal utensils, it's okay to use plastic. Plastic will still be available in our school, but we want to encourage you to only use plastic if you really need to for your meal and try to reuse it. Our goal is to hopefully Have reduce plastic utensils in our school by Earth Day.



Cora Guerrette, Lana Vanek and Ava Casilla



# COOPERATION

## PurposeFull Pursuits

PurposeFULL  
People

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

### Pursuit #1

This week, plan a time where everyone needs to work together to accomplish a shared goal like cleaning up the space you live in or making a meal together. Make sure everyone has a role to play with specific tasks. When the project is complete, discuss and celebrate how each person's part was important to the end result.

### Pursuit #2

Review Cooperation as a family! Search through your cupboards for some board games your family has not played in a while, or grab a deck of cards for a simple game of Go Fish. Pop some popcorn and have fun playing together! Look for moments of Cooperation that you can point out.

**For example:**

- Choosing which game to play
- Handling wins and losses
- Choosing who gets to go first
- Working together to solve a problem



### Pursuit #3

Find a time to sit in a circle together and celebrate all the ways you have seen each other practice Cooperation. Take turns sharing responses to the following prompts or make up your own! Remember to practice Cooperation as you take turns and listen to each other.

**Celebration Prompts:**



- What family member(s) do you want to celebrate for their Cooperation this month?
- What is 1 way you used Cooperation to resolve a conflict?

Character Strong

