



# May 2019 News

## News to Know....



### Dates to Know

- ⇒ May 4—Sleepless in America Workshop 9am-12pm
- ⇒ May 3rd—5th Kinder Prep Parent Teacher Conf.
- ⇒ May 4th-5th STARS Prek Parent Teacher Conf.
- ⇒ May 12th - Mother's Day
- ⇒ May 13th—17th—Staff Appreciation Week
- ⇒ May 22nd—Kinder Prep Graduation Ceremony at 6:30 pm at UMC Sanctuary
- ⇒ May 27th—CLOSED for Memorial Day
- ⇒ May 30th—STARS Prek Graduation Ceremony at 1:30 pm at UMC Sanctuary
- ⇒ May 31st—Kids Club End of School Year Bowling Party and Ice Cream

It's hard to believe, but May is here and the end of the school year is just around the corner! Be sure you've turned in your summer/fall enrollment sheet to reserve your child care spot for this summer and next school year!

Each May, we take time to appreciate all of the teachers here at Small Wonder with our Staff Appreciation Week. Each and every one of them are truly dedicated and passionate about caring for children. Our Staff Appreciation Week will be May 13-17, 2019. This is a great way to celebrate the end of a wonderful school year and remind those that have cared for your littles how much they mean to your family! Look for more information to follow on how you can support Staff Appreciation Week!

Lastly, we want to wish all of our fabulous moms out there a very Happy Mother's Day! Thank you for all you do for your kids and families each day! We appreciate you!

## Fun in the Sun



It's time for sunscreen!

Small Wonder provides a great, safe, sunscreen option for your child- Rocky Mountain Kids Sunscreen SPF 30.

We apply sunscreen once each morning and once each afternoon prior to any sun exposure on children who have "sunscreen" marked on their Over the Counter (OTC) enrollment form.

Please feel free to bring in your own personal sunscreen for your child if you choose.

**THANK YOU**

**A BIG Thank You  
to....**

All of the families and community members who donated to or participated in our FAM JAM event! What a blast!

We were able to raise a total of \$17,354 at the event.

We appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity to our program!

# Preschool Graduation!



May is graduation season; it's time for our smart and growing preschool students to graduate!

Kinder Prep with Miss Mary will have their graduation ceremony on Wednesday May 22, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of the UM Church.

STARS Preschool with Miss Kylie and Miss Bobbie will have their graduation ceremony on Thursday May 30th, 2019 at 1:30 p.m. in the sanctuary of the UM Church.

Each and everyone child is wonderful and deserves to be celebrated! We can't wait to see you there!



## A Tribute to Mother's

Moms...do you ever feel like the weight of the world is resting firmly on your shoulders? Do you ever feel like it's your job to make sure that kids always do the right thing and turn out well. Do you ever worry that the entire neighborhood is judging you when your kids sneak out of the house with mismatched socks, messy hair, and less than polite attitudes? (I'm sure your nodding you're heads right now!) Oftentimes, the most loving and effective mothers take the most heat from others and themselves. The best moms often feel a little unsure of themselves. It's easy to feel guilty or insecure, but know that your children are learning valuable life skills when mothers forget a lunch, misplace an occasional homework paper or have to pay for a lost coat.

On this Mother's Day holiday, I hope to encourage all the wonderful mothers who let things fall apart from time to time...who understand the wisdom of providing a rather imperfect world for their kids. When you are feeling insecure or guilty, remember that it is far better for our kids to submit a sloppy science fair project rather than them seeing us hunched over the kitchen table frantically doing it for them. And, remember you are the best at what you do and your children love you no matter what mistakes you make or whether they hear the word NO twelve times in one day! Happy Mother's Day.

Adapted from: "Dr. Charles Fey, Love and Logic"



Friends,

First, I want to thank you for all of your efforts to support preschool for Montana this year. You shared personal stories with legislators through calls and emails, many of you have made long drives to Helena to testify, and many of you have been in classrooms helping kiddos prepare for school and life. I get overwhelmed when I think of the impact STARS Preschool was able to make on children, families and on this state. I have met with and heard from dozens of parents who know that their kiddo's lives were changed because of these programs. It is truly incredible what you have accomplished.

Now for the bad news: the Legislature adjourned without providing any state funding for preschool. Frankly, that is not what I anticipated in January when they began their work Helena and I am incredibly disappointed in the outcome.

There is so much momentum and a lot of really important work happening in Montana to support children throughout their early years, and I know that will continue. I encourage you to engage in your local early childhood coalition, talk to your friends and neighbors about what makes a high-quality preschool a worthwhile investment, and engage with local legislators, interim committees and public forums. Hopefully preschool will be revived next session and have a different outcome!

Progress takes time, and while it certainly can be frustrating when another two years' of preschoolers miss out, just remember how far we have come: in 2015 and even 2017, there wasn't a majority of legislators who agreed that we should invest in early childhood. Today, I think that majority is there, but there is disagreement over HOW to make that investment. We have made progress and will continue to push forward.

Again, thank you for everything you have done this session and leading up to it. Keep up the fight!



Small Wonder Child Care, Inc. and the Fergus Coalition for Family and Child Health  
Invite you to attend a workshop by bestselling author and internationally recognized speaker and parent educator

**Mary Sheedy Kurcinka, EdD**

[kurcinka@parentchildhelp.com](mailto:kurcinka@parentchildhelp.com) [www.parentchildhelp.com](http://www.parentchildhelp.com)

**Sleepless in America:  
Helping Infants, Children, and their  
Caregivers get the Sleep they Need  
and Deserve**



**When:** Saturday May 4th, 2019

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Location:** Small Wonder Preschool Center  
512 W. Broadway St.—Lewistown, MT

**Details:** Cost is Free to Attend  
Child Care will be provided for the event  
A pancake breakfast will be served  
Free infant sleep sacks and information on Safe Sleep  
Door Prizes!

**Register to Attend:** By Phone: 406-538-8936  
By Email: [swkids1st@gmail.com](mailto:swkids1st@gmail.com)

