



THE STARKE STAR

WHERE THE ADVENTURE BEGINS...

OCTOBER, 2003



IMPORTANT OCTOBER DATES

- 1-Field Trip for 2nd & 3rd Grades
9:00am-2:00pm (Peoria Civic Center)
- 2-Hearing & Vision Screenings
- 6-PTA Meeting 5:30pm (Learning Cntr.)
- 7-Field Trip -9:00am-2:00pm (Orchard)
(Mr. Grys/Mrs. Isenburg/Mrs. Legge)
- 10-Early Dismissal @ 11:40am (SIP)
- 13-No School!! Happy Columbus Day!
- 16-Hearing & Vision Re -Screening
- 23-Autumn Adventure
(Formerly known as the Fall Festival)

ABSENCE CALLS

Please make sure to call the school office at 477-4714 if your child will be out of school or late to school for any reason. You may leave your message on voice mail, however, please make sure to leave your child's name, teacher name, and reason for the absence.

OCTOBER BAKE SALE DATES

- (All on Wednesday)
- 1-Mrs. George
 - 8-Mrs. Krohn
 - 15-Mrs. Oesch
 - 22-Mrs. Smith
 - 29-Mrs. Ronna

FUNDRAISER INFORMATION

This year Starke School students will be selling Kathryn Beich candy and gift items. Money from past fundraisers has gone towards the purchase of our new playground equipment, computer cartridges for the students, and field trips as well as numerous other worthy items. Our goal this year is to sell \$22,000 worth of items. If we reach our goal, Mr. Ealey has agreed to spend some time in a dunk tank this winter, and every student who sells at least one item will have the opportunity to sink him!! We would like to thank all of the Starke School students & parents for their efforts in helping to support the school by selling fundraiser items. We would also like to thank the Starke School PTA for the time and effort that they put into this fundraiser to benefit all of the children of Starke School.

FUNDRAISER SALES PERIOD

October 6-October 20

FUNDRAISER DELIVERY

Tuesday, November 18

Check out the Starke Website - It is simple!!
The URL is:

<http://www.pekin.net/pekin108/starke/index.html>

You can see the calendar, parent handbook, happenings, kid links, principal notes, PTA, about our staff, our school, and much more. Please visit us at our website!!

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NEW LUNCH HOURS

Lunch hours have been amended to the following times:

Kindergarten-11:30-Eat in Cafeteria
1st Grades-12:15-Eat in Cafeteria
2nd Grades-11:50-Eat in Cafeteria
3rd Grades-12:40 Eat in Cafeteria

Your child also has a 20 minute recess either before or after eating. Staggering the lunchtimes allows us to better supervise the students, as they are in smaller groups.

If your child will be late to school please call in their lunch order prior to 9:00am. If your child arrives after 9:00am, and you do not call your child's order into the office by 9:00am, please send a sack lunch with your child. before 9:00am as the order needs to be placed with the kitchen.

We do ask that if you send lunch money to school daily with your child, you send the money in a labeled envelope with your child's name, his teacher's name, and LUNCH MONEY written very clearly on the outside of the envelope. This helps to ensure that the money is applied to your child's school lunches, rather than field trip money, or another account. Lunch prices are as follows:
Full Priced Student-\$1.45
Reduced Price Student-\$.40
Any Adult Lunch-\$1.90
Extra Milk-.35



Notice to Parents of Their Right to Request Their Child's Classroom Teacher's Qualifications

Dear Parents:

As a parent or guardian of a student at a school receiving funds under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teachers who instruct your child and the paraprofessionals, if any, who assist them. Federal law gives you the right to receive the following information about each of your child's classroom teachers and their paraprofessional assistants, if any:

- † Whether Illinois has licensed or qualified the teacher for the grades and subjects he or she teaches.
- † Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived.
- † The teacher's college major.
- † Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees.
- † Whether any instructional aides or similar paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if they do, their qualifications.

If you would like to receive any of this information, please contact the school office.

Sincerely,
Don White, Superintendent

PTA POPCORN/PENCIL DATES

October 24
December 19
January 23
February 27
March 26
April 23
May 21

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No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

On January 8, 2002, President Bush signed into law the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. The Act is the most sweeping reform of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) since ESEA was enacted in 1965. It redefines the federal role in K-12 education and will help close the achievement gap between disadvantaged and minority students and their peers. It is based on four basic principles: stronger accountability for results, increased flexibility and local control, expanded options for parents, and an emphasis on teaching methods that have been proven to work.

Under No Child Left Behind, each state must measure every public school student's progress in reading and math in each of grades 3 through 8 and at least once during grades 10 through 12. By school year 2007-2008, assessments (or testing) in science will be underway. These assessments must be aligned with state academic content and achievement standards. They will provide parents with objective data on where their child stands academically.

The overall purpose of the law is to ensure that each child in America is able to meet the high learning standards of the state where he or she lives. The specific goals of the law are:

- **All** students will reach high standards, at a minimum attaining proficiency or better in reading and mathematics by 2013-2014.
- By 2013-2014, **all** students will be proficient in reading by the end of the third grade.
- **All** limited English proficient students will become proficient in English.
- By 2005-2006, all students will be taught by highly qualified teachers.
- **All** students will be educated in learning environments that are safe, drug free and conducive to learning.
- **All** students will graduate from high school.

The Illinois State Board of Education has established the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) for all schools in Illinois. AYP represents the minimum percent of students that must “Meet” or “Exceed” the requirements of the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) in the areas of reading and mathematics.

In summary, the NCLB Act guarantees that “all” students will pass a yearly-standardized achievement test by the year 2014 regardless of gender, ethnicity, or special needs. I strongly believe that all students and teachers at Starke Primary School will rise to the challenge and meet these requirements.

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No Child Left Behind (Continued)

The chart below provides the targets for AYP.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)</u>
2003	40% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2004	40% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2005	47.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2006	47.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2007	55% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2008	62.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2009	70% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2010	77.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2011	85% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2012	92.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2013	92.5% of the students “meet” or “exceed”
2014	100% of the students “meet” or “exceed”

School Improvement Goals

Based on assessment data from the Illinois Standards Achievement Test (ISAT) and the School District’s SAI assessments from 1999-2003, the Starke School Improvement Team created the 2003-2004 school goals. The two areas of focus this year, reading and writing, will be part of our school’s Plan-Do-Study-Act improvement process. The data and findings from the improvement process will be used to inform our planning and staff development.

School Goal 1: Improve overall students' writing performance to 83% of our students “meeting” or “exceeding” on the Illinois Standards Assessment Test.

School Goal 2: Improve students' reading comprehension and vocabulary performance to 75% of our students “meeting” or “exceeding” on the Illinois Standards Assessment Test.

In August, we received this year’s ISAT results. According to the No Child Left Behind Act, 40 % of all students groups must “meet” or “exceed” state standards. Our overall test scores for 2003 are:

Reading	70% of our students “meet” or “exceed”
Writing	78% of our students “meet” or “exceed”
Math	80% of our students “meet” or “exceed”

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WELCOMES FAMILY COORDINATOR, WENDI WATSON!

Hello, my name is Wendi Watson and I'm serving as your family coordinator this year. You can reach me at home at 347-0071 or my cell phone at 241-5812; by email my address is wenipooh4@grics.net. If there is any way I can make your year here at L.E. Starke easier, please feel free to let me know. I'm here as a liaison between you, the parents, and the school.

Reading aloud is one of the most valuable gifts you can give your child. Reading aloud allows your child hear and play with language. It builds skills like comprehension, memory, and critical thinking.

Get Close. Let your child sit on your lap or cuddle next to you. When children are comfortable, and feel safe they are more receptive to learning.

Sound It Out. Using silly voices for different characters, sound effects, or varying loud and soft speaking make the story interesting. Exposing children early on to the many different sounds of language is an important part of learning to read.

Make A Point. As you read aloud, run your finger under the words. This helps children see that reading moves left to right and also shows them that speech is made up of individual sounds and words.

the same story over and over, actually helps your child recognize and remember **woWhat Would You Do?** Keep your child involved in the story. Ask them what do you think is going to happen next. Then talk about the story the next day, to reinforce comprehension and memory skills.

One More Time! It also helps build sequential thinking and supports memory skills development.

Listen Up. As your child develops their reading skills, encourage him to read to you every day. If they struggles with a word, help them sound it out and talk about what the word means. When they get a tough word right, be sure to congratulate him!

To find more about reading aloud tips go to www.verizonreads.net

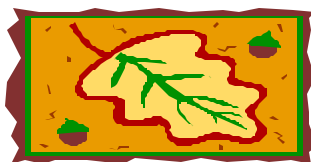


AUTUMN ADVENTURE

Thursday, October 23 6:00pm-7:30pm

This year Starke School and the Starke School PTA will be hosting its third annual fall festival, now known as our "Autumn Adventure". With your support, last year's event was a great success. This year's event will feature several class sponsored activities with lots to see and do.

The festival will take place in the gym or on the porch and tickets to this event will be sold at the door for 25 cents each. All activities require only one 25 cent ticket. Proceeds from this event will benefit your child's classroom, so plan to come for an evening of fall fun!!



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HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES

Starke school will be celebrating Halloween on Friday, October 31. We are asking the children to come to school in the morning in their regular school attire and bring their costumes with them in backpacks or bags labeled with their names. Costumes are not to be worn to school.

Children should dress in a non-violent costume, with no blood, no weapons, and no frightening costumes (no scream masks, no blood, no weapons, etc.). Please keep in mind that we have five year olds in our school who may be easily frightened by these types of items. If a student wears a costume that depicts violence, they will not be allowed to wear the costume. We also ask that the children not wear make-up or color their hair as part of their costume.

Children should base their costumes on a non-violent or patriotic character in any book. By doing this, we are making the day a learning experience as well as enjoyable for your child. Your child may be asked to tell the class about the book, character and story, or your child may be asked to draw a picture relating to the book, or complete a writing assignment about the book.

Starke school will be providing treats for the children, so unless your teacher specifically requests that your child bring an item, please do not send any candy or treats.

This is a very special day for our students and our goal is to keep them safe and provide them with a positive, fun experience. Thanks for your cooperation!

