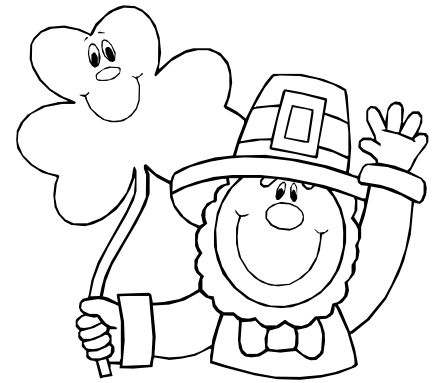


# The Starkey Scorpion

February – March 2012



Volume 21. No. 3

Starkey Elementary School

(830) 257-2210

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 14 P. T. O. Meeting (9:15 a.m.)  
Valentine's Day parties
- Feb. 15 All Sausage Supper ticket  
money due (9:00 a.m.)
- Feb. 17 END OF SIX WEEKS
- Feb. 20 Student Holiday/Bad  
Weather Make-up Day
- Feb. 22 Sausage Supper Awards  
Assembly
- Feb. 23 2<sup>nd</sup> grade Musical Program  
(6:30 p.m.)  
Report Cards issued
- Feb. 24 Academic Awards Assembly  
(Grades 3-5) 2:15 p.m.
- Feb. 28 Orchestra Concert at B.T. Wilson

### MARCH

- March 1 **SAUSAGE SUPPER**  
(4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.)
- March 9 Grandparents' Day
- March 12-16 **SPRING BREAK**
- March 20 P.T.O. Meeting (9:30 a.m.)
- March 21 Spring Individual Pictures
- March 27 **STAAR (4<sup>th</sup> grade Writing &  
5<sup>th</sup> grade Math)**
- March 28 **STAAR (4<sup>th</sup> grade Writing &  
5<sup>th</sup> grade Reading)**

### ***A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL***

What a busy time of the year here at Starkey Elementary School! The Sausage Supper is right around the corner, on Thursday, March 1<sup>st</sup>. Second, third, fourth, and fifth grade students will begin selling tickets on January 27<sup>th</sup>. In order to be eligible for the wonderful prizes from the PTO, ALL money will need to be turned in by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, February 15<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to help with Sausage Supper, please contact Jayne Zirkel at 377-8779.

This is a very important time of the year for our students. The new STAAR test (State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness) will be administered at the end of March and at the end of April (see Calendar of Events for dates and grade levels). Parents often ask how they can help their children be successful on the state-mandated tests. First of all, regular attendance is vital. Excessive tardies and/or absences have a negative effect on student performance. Homework assignments should be completed and returned when due, and strong study habits should be encouraged. Communicate regularly with your child's teacher about his/her academic progress. Be your child's cheerleader, supporter, and encourager. By working together, parents and teachers can give our students the best possible opportunity for success.

As always, please call me if you have any questions or concerns.

Diane Stern, Principal

## KINDERGARTEN

Hearts, cupids, and arrows help us to start off the month of February in a caring and festive way as we prepare for Valentine's Day. On February 14th, the children will exchange valentines with their friends at our class party. We will be learning about dental health: how to care for our teeth and what foods help our teeth to be strong and healthy. Kindergartners will learn about our cultural heritage during our study of famous presidents. We will also be learning about Texas symbols, facts, and cowboys.

March will hold two special days for Kindergarten students. Each class will welcome all grandparents on March 9th to visit our campus on Grandparent's Day.



We also learn more about March winds when students bring

their own kites to fly on Kite Day. It is a spectacular display of colors and shapes.

Our study of letter names and sounds continues as we work on decoding words. In Math we increase our concept of numbers to 20. Our study of money will include nickels, dimes, and quarters. We have also been learning how to write the numbers correctly, and we are learning to write our last names. We look forward to spring. "Kindergarden" is already blooming!

## TRANSITIONAL

We just celebrated the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school with all kinds of activities centered around the number 100. We have about eighty days left in the school year! We are growing and learning. We are reading and hope you share this joy with us by letting us practice nightly.

In February, we will be talking about sharing, being kind, and being friendly. We will share through making valentines for our family and our friends. We will read about Abraham Lincoln and

George Washington. We will also be reading about the magic and make believe in the world of knights, princesses, princes, kings, queens, dragons, and giants. Also in March we will learn about the wind and weather and talk about families, particularly our grandparents as we prepare for Grandparent's Day. We hope that each child can have a grandparent or an older friend as a visitor on that special day. In math, we are adding and subtracting numbers to ten. We are writing and recognizing numbers to one hundred. We are patterning, graphing, working with measurements, and telling time. Keep reading and practicing those 100 most used words. We appreciate all of the love and support our parents and guardians give each of our wonderful students. The year is moving swiftly!!

### Did you know that...

Mrs. Blocker spent the first 16 years of her life in South and Central America? Her father worked as a foreign officer, and when Mrs. Blocker was in ninth grade, her family was evacuated to Montevideo, Uruguay, during the Falkland/Malvinas War.

## FIRST GRADE

First grade will be using special holidays like Groundhog Day, Lincoln's birthday, Valentine's Day, and George



Washington's birthday to work on reading and writing skills. We will be working on several

vowel sounds including digraphs. These special days will also allow us to practice with singular possessives. By combining skills learned in phonics and writing we will write complete sentences with elaboration. As a group we will identify fiction and non-fiction and write narrative paragraphs. Fluency is key to comprehension! Please help us practice rereading favorite selections to read more smoothly, correctly, and quickly.

Will you be our Valentine? We are still working on addition and subtraction facts. We need help learning them at home too! First graders need help counting money as well. Please let us count your loose dimes and pennies for you. Practice! Practice! Practice! Thanks for being our Valentine! In March we will take a closer look at our great state - Texas! We will also study the changes that Spring brings to Kerrville. The following are great books to read in February and March:

Will You Be My Valentine? –

Steven Kroll

It's Valentine's Day – Jack Prelutsky

Four Valentines in a Rainstorm – Felicia Bond

Love You Forever – Robert Munsch

Just Like Abraham Lincoln – Bernard Waber

T is for Texas – Ann Bustard

Jamie O'Rourke and the Big Potato – Tommie de Paola

**Mrs. Brantley, Mrs. Fry, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Fine, and Mrs. Moreno**

## SECOND GRADE

It's hard to believe that January is almost gone and we are into our new year of 2012. We started the year with a variety of fun topics. These included a study of our earth, Martin Luther King, and observing and measuring matter. We also enjoyed our walking field



trip to Super S. It was so fun to use our money that

we earned from chores to buy food for C.A.M. Thanks to Super S for all their help in making this a success. In February, we will focus on doing activities in celebration of President's Day and Chinese New Year.

Math concepts to be developed during the next two months will prove to be more demanding than those we covered during the first semester. Students are now being asked to add double-digit numbers with regrouping. This task proves to be a lot easier if the student has

mastered his/her addition facts. Identifying and writing mixed numbers has been introduced which does require a firm understanding of fractions. We are also having a lot of discussions about estimating and rounding numbers. Soon we will be learning to multiply. Please continue to encourage your child to practice both addition and subtraction facts at home. Another good skill to work on is counting money using quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies.

Over the next months we will continue to focus on developing our cursive writing skills. We will also continue to work on writing that includes a personal narrative, friendly letter, and poetry. We will be working hard on creating and taking these through the full writing process.

Valentine's Day will soon be here!



The children will enjoy addressing and delivering a card for each child in his/her class.

We are also excited about our first chance to sell Sausage Supper tickets to raise money for Starkey. This is a wonderful opportunity to teach responsibility and the counting of money.

Many thanks go out to all our wonderful parents that go out of their way to stay involved. We couldn't do it without you!

#### Did you know that...

Mr. Kryzer owns a house and property in the United States and in the Philippines? He also has CDL (Commercial Driver's License)!

### THIRD GRADE

Are you thinking about remodeling the house or building a new fence? If so, ask your third grader to help. Our math lessons will involve us in estimating and measuring distance using feet and yards. Every child would benefit from the opportunity to do some measuring at home. Some likely places for measuring length would be sidewalks, the

driveway, or the perimeter of your house. Measuring these lengths in both feet and yards will help clarify the size relationship of the two and be a good reinforcement for our class work. Some other math skills to be practiced include counting money, telling time, and solving everyday problems involving math.

It's so exciting to hear the names of so many of our third grade students on the morning announcements who have reached 25, 50, 75, or 100, (some even higher!) points in the Accelerated Reader program. That says there's a whole lot of reading going on at Starkey. As more and more students become eager to earn points, watch our reading levels soar! The child who reads twenty



to thirty minutes a day will increase his/her reading level tremendously.

Encourage your child to participate in this wonderful opportunity. Do not forget to also log reading times on the Six Flags Reading to Succeed Program. The program ends February 24, 2012. Your child must have read 360 minutes or 6 hours to receive a free Six Flags ticket.

Valentine's Day parties will be on Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.

We will be busy selling tickets and collecting money as students work to raise money by selling Starkey Sausage Supper tickets. The money raised helps purchase things to make our school even better. Please support Starkey and your child by participating in this annual fund-raising event.

### FOURTH GRADE

What a fantastic semester it is turning out to be! It is hard to believe that we are already more than halfway through the school year. Before we know it, the end of the year will be at hand, so we continue to tell the students that it is very important to turn in all assignments and have good attendance. Please help us by reinforcing these things at home. In language, the fourth graders are definitely cooking up some good

writing! Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Foley are working with the students to sharpen their revising and editing skills. These skills include correct punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure, as well as enhancing the vocabulary within a composition. It is important for the students to bring their writing to life by adding vivid details and descriptions, rather than simply listing objects or activities. We are also working on the difference between a personal narrative (a story about themselves) and expository writing (writing that gives facts and information). Should your child bring home compositions in his Thursday folder, please ask him to read them to you so that you can give him feedback. Please encourage your child in his/her efforts because he/she is working very hard to create good personal narratives and expository writing. The students are truly turning into fabulous authors as they prepare to take the STAAR test on Tuesday, March 27 and Wednesday, March 28. Reading classes are going extremely well. Students are focusing on reading skills that will strengthen their comprehension and fluency. Some of these skills include the use of inference, context clues, and summarization, theme, as well as differentiating between main idea and details. Please make sure that your child is reading at least 20 minutes each evening. They have a log that they are to fill out nightly in response to that evening's reading. These reading logs are taken up each Friday. If they are not practicing on their own by reading independently, their fluency and comprehension will not increase at an acceptable rate and could possibly even decrease over time. It's also a good idea to have your child read aloud to you a few times during the week.

In math class, the students have finished covering probability and have started measuring, including capacity, length, and weight.



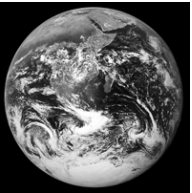
They are using multiplication to solve two-digit equations, and they are using division to solve problems as well. Please make sure that your child is practicing his/her math facts at home.

Consistent, independent practice is the key to mastering this area of math and is essential to your child's future success.

Regarding science, students have been studying the physical science unit which includes the flow of electricity, sound, and forms of electricity. Your child will soon study Earth science beginning with landforms, weathering, and erosion, followed by characteristics of the Earth and moon.

## FIFTH GRADE

Fifth graders have hit the ground running this New Year. They have realized that they are closer to being new 6<sup>th</sup> graders, than when they began 5<sup>th</sup> grade! It is an exciting time! Each 5<sup>th</sup> grader came up with a New Year's resolution for home and one for school. Then they designed a poster using Microsoft Word in the computer lab. Hopefully you've seen these hanging in their room. We are all trying to achieve these goals for this last semester!



Science classes are very down to earth at this point in the school year, so much so that we are in the Earth Sciences.

We have been learning about the land forms of earth and the processes which break them down and change them. After these general themes, we will shift our perspectives to compare how we are like and unlike our moon. A natural extension of these studies will include our place in our solar system and the general characteristics of the other planets. By mid February, we should be back to the planet Earth again, this time studying our natural resources and how they impact our lives. Please try making some time to visit with your 5<sup>th</sup> grader

about these topics. It would be worth it.

The DARE program, with Officer James, is just about finished. Our last topics included Bullying, Cyber-bullying, and Internet safety. We will soon begin to work on our DARE essays. Each student is required to write an essay about what he/she learned in DARE and how they plan to stay drug, alcohol, and tobacco free as they grow up. One winning essay per class will be presented at the DARE graduation. Look for more information regarding this in the coming months. Our DARE program is a great springboard into conversations about choices your child will be making in the future. It's never too soon to make the choice to **Say No!** to all types of drugs!

Math classes will dive into more depth with problem solving. The students will be working on many different strategies that will be helpful in solving word problems. Did you know that you could get the exact same answer to a word problem in two or three totally different ways? The fifth grade goal is for the students to learn as many problem-solving strategies as possible. These different strategies will be used as we begin a review of all the topics we have studied so far in math this year in preparation for our March 27 Math STAAR test. Students are becoming more confident in their math skills. Thank you for your continued support in making sure that your child remembers his/her multiplication/division facts. Flash cards and practice websites are always handy tools!

Reading classes are practicing comprehension skills, such as context clues, inference, theme, plot, cause and effect, summary, paraphrase, main idea, foreshadow, characterization, draw conclusions, and author's purpose. Students are exposed to a variety of text including poetry, drama, myth, expository, persuasive, realistic fiction, fantasy, and historical fiction.

When your child is reading at home, these are some questions

you can ask to help with comprehension:

- ✓ What is happening in your book?
- ✓ What do you think is going to happen next in the story?
- ✓ Why do you think this is going to happen?
- ✓ Prove it by going back into the story.
- ✓ Why does the character feel that way?
- ✓ What parts of the story do you like or dislike? Why (Prove it)?

Your child should be reading every



night 20-30 minutes and recording it in his/her Reading Log. Keep encouraging

him/her to complete the Reading Log every night! Also, 5 AR points are required each 6 weeks.

It is hard to believe that these fifth graders are in their last semester of elementary school. They are an outstanding bunch of students, and the fifth grade teachers really enjoy working with each of them.

### Did you know that...

Mrs. Shannon took ballet lessons from age 4 to age 17? She also played the saxophone all the way through high school and was the only girl in her high school jazz band!

## DESTINATION: IMAGINATION

### Library News

I love the fresh start that comes with the New Year. The hope it brings is priceless.

Dr. Charlotte Reznick's book, *The Power of Your Child's Imagination*, suggests eight Start Simple steps to help us all be happier in creative ways!

1. **Keep a Success Log:** Each day write down one way you feel successful or proud of yourself.
2. **Make a Gratitude List:** This helps turn the tide when you're feeling low.
3. **Breathe Slowly for 2 minutes:** Doesn't matter, through the nose, through the mouth, just pay attention to the fact you are breathing. It will calm you.

4. **Offer Kindness Each Day:** Do one kind act a day – for yourself - or for another.

5. **Write No Matter What:** Start with three sentences. That's doable. If you write more, great! Write from your heart.

6. **Draw Whatever:** Express yourself. Scribble or sketch – whatever's on your mind or in your heart. Use color. Your colors will change with your attitude.

7. **Accept a Compliment:** Accept love graciously. Take in the good that others want to bestow upon you. Say "THANK YOU" without hesitation.

8. **Look for the Good:** In yourself- in your family – in any situation.

5<sup>th</sup> grade is planning a disappearance of Gus in the near future. According to tradition, the



school must search for him and bring him home. Gus has had a busy year,

traveling in France with Audrey Jellett, visiting Maine with Sam D'Amico and spending Christmas with Jayme Agüero. We are planning a Battle of the Books with 5<sup>th</sup> grade with a grand trophy to be awarded to the team that best knows the content of the selected books. This reading will begin sometime in February. Encourage your 5<sup>th</sup> grader to participate! 5<sup>th</sup> grade will soon be harvesting the fall crop of beets, spinach, turnips and snowpeas. The rain just before Christmas coaxed an abundant crop!

Here's to all the possibilities of a new year!

**Mrs. Hopkins**  
Librarian

### PAINT SPOTS FROM THE ART ROOM

We are back to work after the holidays!

First graders are busy mixing colors and painting.

Second graders have jumped ahead in time to study the art of the Middle Ages.

Third graders are creating tessellations



in the style of M.C. Escher. Check his work out ...it is fascinating.

Fourth graders will soon be starting their clay fish.

Fifth graders are creating space in their drawings using 1-point perspective. Let them show you how it is done. From what I have seen so far, we may have a few budding architects! Did you know that the real Gus Starkey is an architect and he started drawing in art class at Starkey?

I will begin to select work soon for the spring art shows - Gallery Night here at Starkey and The Hill Country Youth Art Show. I may ask some students to bring back clay projects from home, so please wrap them carefully. I will also need some help matting and labeling the art to prepare it for the shows beginning March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks again for all your support.

**Mrs. Kneese**  
Art Teacher

#### Did you know that...

Mrs. Uecker has two ancestors who signed the United States Constitution? Their names were Charles Cotesworth Pinckney and Charles Pinckney, both from south Carolina.

#### NOTABLE NOTES

**Second graders** have been diligently preparing for our upcoming Music Program, Thursday, February 23, at 6:30 p.m. Please mark your calendars and come to the Starkey Cafeteria to enjoy an evening of songs, games, and instruments. There may even be a surprise visit from George Washington!

**Third, Fourth, and Fifth graders** started the New Year with songs from the Civil Rights Movement, freedom songs, and spirituals.

**Fourth grade** will be sharing these songs at the **Awards Assembly on February 24 at 2:15.**

**Fourth and Fifth graders** are anxiously awaiting the arrival of **RECORDER KARATE.** We will begin our recorder unit as soon as the instruments arrive. We will be learning songs in class and students should practice at home if

they want to advance through the different levels. I will be challenging them to try for black belt! Or maybe even a *golden recorder!* It is a great way to begin actual note reading on the music staff.

**Grandparents' Day** is coming too! Mark your calendars for March 9. There will be plenty of music and fun on that day.

**Carey Thompson**  
Music Teacher

#### Did you know that...

Mrs. Guthrie was runner-up in a community beauty pageant when she was 7 years old called "Little Miss Peanut"?

#### FITNOTES

Do you know what is at or near the top of the lists of tips, suggestions, or steps to prevent things like heart disease, diabetes, weight gain, stress, emotional instability, sleep problems, and even poor grades? **REGULAR EXERCISE!!!** Yes, that is right! Instilling in children the need for daily physical activity will benefit them in more ways than they can comprehend right now. Research indicates that children who exercise more tend to have higher grades and do better on standardized tests. The best way



to help your child understand this, is to model and participate in exercise and physical activity with them.

In class, we have just about completed the testing for the FITNESSGRAM; the state-mandated test that measures a child's fitness level. All scores for third, fourth, and fifth grade students must be reported to the state. The younger children are becoming acquainted with the elements of the test so they'll be ready in the coming years. On cold/rainy days when we have to be inside, jump roping, wall climbing, ball handling skills, and exercising to music are some of the ways we have kept physically

active at school. For your information, our guide for determining whether we go outside for some part of PE class is a



temperature of 35 degrees. (We do take the wind chill into account.) Please send your child to school prepared with a jacket and/or sweatshirt.

Layers are the best! They can shed them as the day warms up. It is such a joy to see all those smiling faces in the gym each day as they are "getting fit!"

FIT IS FUN!

**Coach Hinton**

### Did you know that...

Gus, the Starkey Scorpion, is a world traveler? In the United States, he has traveled to Maine, Colorado, New Mexico, Florida, Utah, Alabama, Mississippi, North Carolina, Louisiana, and several locations in Texas. He has visited Italy, France, and even spent time in Iraq. While in Iraq, he visited a school and gave the children school supplies. Gus has also been to the Moon!

## CLINIC NEWS

**Dental lessons** will be scheduled for students in Kinder, First and Second grades in February or March. The lessons include Mr. Gross mouth, a model of poor dental hygiene, and Mr. Clean Mouth, a model of good dental hygiene. Please continue to encourage your child(ren) to brush at least twice a day. Early education regarding flossing is also recommended. The dental lessons include demonstrations of proper brushing and flossing. The lessons include the discussion of good food choices as they relate to dental health as well.



Nation-wide many children are developing health problems, not only due to lack of good nutrition, but also from being overweight. The selection of foods that will help the body develop

normally is important to good health. Because children need plenty of these foods, they should not be put on "diets" as a rule. Special dietary restrictions should always be monitored by a doctor or nutrition specialist. Please consider the following recommendations when encouraging good nutrition and healthy body weight for children and adults:

- Encourage physical activities rather than television watching, video games, etc.
  - Read package labels to be aware of the nutritional content of foods.
  - Limit foods that are high in fat and sugar at meals and snack times.
  - Encourage milk (low fat milk for children over the age of two), water and 100% juices rather than sodas, Kool-aid and fruit punches.
  - If seconds are desired, offer low fat foods such as fruit and vegetables.
  - Offer colorful foods with varying textures as often as possible.
  - Invite children to help with food selection and preparation to increase interest in good nutrition.
  - When discussing nutrition, you can refer to sweets as "sometimes food". This will let children know that we save these very delicious foods for special occasions rather than eating them daily. Healthy foods that promote proper growth and development can be referred to as "anytime" foods.
- ✓ **Please be aware that good nutrition and regular physical activity are a large part of our physical education program here at Starkey. There are times when children cannot participate in P.E due to serious injuries or illnesses and even surgeries. Appropriate recovery periods are fully supported by Starkey staff. If a serious problem occurs, please**

**make sure that you provide a doctor's letter explaining the child's limitations and the expected recovery period. In the interest of good health practice, please limit requests for "no P.E." unless there is a serious or significant problem. Once again please make sure that your child wears appropriate footwear for P.E. (tennis shoes rather than sandals or flip-flops). If you have questions, please contact Nurse Land or Coach Hinton.**

**Allergies, cold symptoms, and other illnesses are usually abundant at this time of year. Children certainly cannot stay home every time they experience a minor illness. However, please do not send your child to school if any of these symptoms are present:**



**fever, vomiting, diarrhea, severe respiratory difficulty, severe or persistent cough (not controlled by medication), reddened eyes with drainage or rash of unknown origin. Occasionally other health issues arise that might require a brief exclusion from school. Children should be free of the above symptoms for at least 24 hours before returning to school. In addition, children should actually feel well enough to participate in classroom activities when they return to school.**

Please call me if you need additional information about Starkey Elementary health services. Phone: 257-1471, ext. 235 or E-mail: jamie.land@kerrvilleisd.net.  
**Jamie Land, R.N., School Nurse**

## THE ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL'S PRINCIPLES

**BULLYING: PART 3 of 4**  
**How do you know if you are a bully?**

There are 4 types of bullies: Physical, Verbal, Relationship, and

Reactive.

Physical bullies are the easiest to identify. They act out their anger by hitting, shoving, or kicking their chosen target - or by damaging their victim's property. Verbal bullies use words to hurt and



humiliate their target, through either name calling, insults, or persistent harsh teasing. Relationship bullies spread

nasty rumors about their target.

This behavior is predominantly adopted by female bullies.

Reactive bullies are victims of bullying who turn into bullies themselves.

The following is a list of things that will help determine if you are a bully:

- You call people names
- You spread rumors
- You make up stories to get them in trouble
- You tell other people not to be friends with them
- You hit them, trip them, or push them around
- You make remarks about their culture, religion, or origin
- You make remarks about their looks or weight
- You make remarks about their disability or medical condition
- You leave them out when choosing teams
- You take away their possessions
- You damage their property
- You hide their property
- You make jokes about them
- You play rough with them
- You make threats to them
- You are going along with the crowd who are doing any of these things

Sometimes it is difficult to know what is or is not bullying. If you are not sure whether something has become bullying, stop and think and ask yourself these questions:

1. Are my actions or words hurting someone else's feelings?
2. Have my actions or words made someone afraid of me?

3. Would I want someone else to do this to me?

4. Am I unfairly taking my anger out on someone?

5. Am I trying to control someone? Here are a few ways to stop being a bully:

-Apologize to people you have bullied, and follow it up by being friendly to them. They may not trust you right away, but eventually they will see that you are for real.



-If you are having a hard time feeling good about yourself, explore ways to boost your self-esteem. Pick up a new hobby, do volunteer work, or get involved with a new sport.

-If you feel like you are having trouble controlling your feelings, especially anger, talk to a school counselor or your parents about it. If bullies don't learn how to change their behavior, the pattern of bullying behavior often becomes a habit as the bully gets older. Also, the chances of the bully having a criminal record are greater than those who are not bullies.

**Cliff Boren**  
**Assistant Principal**

### COUNSELOR CONNECTION

This is a very busy time for students and staff at Starkey Elementary, as third through fifth graders are getting ready for the new STAAR tests. State of Texas Assessments of Academic



Readiness (STAAR) tests are given in reading, mathematics, writing, and science at different grade levels. Our first days of testing, March 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, are just around the corner when 4<sup>th</sup> graders will take the STAAR Writing Test and 5<sup>th</sup> graders will take STAAR Math and Reading. Starkey students have been studying hard and we all know they will do a super job! Several small counseling groups

will be started this spring. Groups give children an opportunity to share thoughts and feelings, and learn along with peers who have the same problems. Remember: your counselor cares and the door is open to all students and parents.

**Kate Allen, M.Ed., LPC**  
**Counselor**

### PTO NEWS

A long-standing annual event in Kerrville, the Starkey Elementary Sausage Supper is Thursday, March 1. This year, we are especially excited to celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Starkey Suppers! Please make plans to buy your tickets to be sure you don't miss out on this landmark event for our school. To ensure success, we need the help of **all** of our Starkey parents! We need volunteers to serve food and drinks, help in the kitchen, and provide childcare for the other volunteers. During the course of the event, we will serve approximately 4000 meals – so please volunteer! It's a lot of work, but it's a lot of fun, too. Working alongside other parents and teachers is your chance to be part of a team effort that benefits **all** our Starkey students! If you haven't already completed one, watch for the volunteer sign-up sheet coming home in Thursday folders and be sure to return it to your child's teacher.

**Drive-thru:** Drive-thru service will be available at the Harper Road entrance again this year.



**Tickets:** Thank you to all parents who are helping their children sell tickets. All money and/or unsold tickets are due by 9:00 am Wednesday, February 15. Money turned in after this deadline will not be counted towards prize eligibility.

**Sponsors:** If you are interested in being a Sausage Supper sponsor, please contact Jayne Zirkel at 377- 8779. Your sponsorships help us pay for prizes and other expenses. All sponsors will be

recognized in an article on the Starkey website, Channel 2, and the local newspapers.

**See you March 1!**

**Lisa Thompson  
PTO President**

**STARKEY ELEMENTARY  
PUBLISHING LAB**



Wiley Is A Star

Pablo Is A Star

Demetri Is A Star

Genesis Is A Star

Kearra Is A Star

Jasmin Is A Star

Ms. McKinley's  
Kindergarten Class

Scarecrows

If I Were A Scarecrow...

Our Fall Tree

A Monkey Christmas

The Elephant Has Energy

If I Were A Monkey

Christmas is Coming!

Christmas Traditions

Winter Comes and Goes

Mrs. Brantley's First  
Grade Class

Dear Santa

Mrs. Fines' First  
Grade Class

Be Fair!

Mrs. Fry's First  
Grade Class

A Christmas Tradition

Mrs. Guthrie's Second  
Grade Class