



St. Isidore

GO GREEN

Paper Reduction

St. Isidore was consuming an enormous amount of paper at our school last year so Mrs. Collins made a commitment to reduce the overall amount.

Do you know how long does it take to "grow" paper? It takes one 25 year old, 20-22 foot tall tree to make just two boxes of copy paper!!!!

A common denominator at school (and almost anywhere) is paper; everyone uses it. Changing a few habits will reduce the amount of paper usage in our classrooms and go a long way to help save \$\$\$, landfill space, and most importantly, the natural resource, trees! St. Isidore is making a few small changes to help make a big difference:

- We will send one note home per family unless its vital that all siblings get the forms.
- We are already using Electronic format for all "letters from the principal" and school information, along with utilizing e-mail messages to parents.
- We are trying to use both sides of paper in our classrooms; we have a "be nice & use me twice" paper box in the classrooms for paper that is clean on one side that can be reused.
- We Recycle ALL papers and cardboard in the building.



Healthy, Safe and GREEN Lunches by Lisa Testolin

Studies show that eating complete, balanced meals helps children perform better academically and many of these ideas are GREEN.

To get students off to a running start this year, select foods that they will enjoy and that will help them to reach for the stars academically.

- Yogurt
- Cheese sticks or chunks
- Individually packaged applesauce or other fruit
- Fresh with individual ranch dressing cup
- Dried cranberries or raisins
- Peanut butter crackers or sandwiches
- Trail mix (nuts, cereals, and dried fruits mixed together)
- Wraps made of chicken, tuna, or egg salad
- Hard-boiled eggs
- Leftover pasta or soup

These suggestions can help you keep lunches and snacks safe until it's time to eat them:

- Store cold items with a frozen ice pack or frozen juice bags that are recyclable at our school.
- Use insulated lunch bags
- Pack nonperishable foods, such as peanut butter and jelly, fruit, raw vegetables, crackers, nuts, and packaged pudding
- Place hot items in a thermos or other insulated container; make sure the thermos is cleaned and rinsed with very hot water before adding food



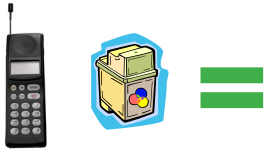
Find this great **GREEN** book to prepare for Halloween!

PUMPKIN JACK

Will Hubbell has written and illustrated a great little book about the lifecycle of a jack-o-lantern. The story follows a pumpkin through an entire year - from its glory days through backyard decomposition and eventually back again, as a new pumpkin emerges from old Jack's seeds.

Wanted:

Please send in your old cell phones and printer cartridge (ink jet or laser) with your students. For every 20 eligible pieces, a tree is planted in our name in an American forest. We also get a credit with the company for new ink cartridge purchases. We give a big "thank you" to Mrs. Newkirk for taking care of this task for us.

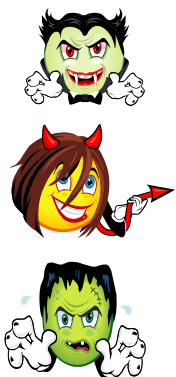


Hot Lunch

Michelle Snyder has been working hard to make GREEN changes in conjunction with Home Run Inn hot lunch program. In order to REDUCE packaging we are now combining foods into one container when possible, we have switched from yogurt cups to gogurt tubes, and we are RECYCLING all pizza boxes and on Mondays we recycle milk cartons. We had a meeting with HRI about using more Earth friendly packaging but the cost is still too high to justify a switch. We will continue to make changes where we can for the good of the kids but we are limited on kitchen functionality, parent volunteers and time.



Our school **MAGAZINE SALE** company offered to help the environment by making the offer that if we buy 3 they will plant a tree in St. Isidore's name. They are also going green by offering for us to shop online instead of filling out the forms.



Hurray for Halloween Party Recycling! This was the first year that we had recycle cans in the gym - thanks to Chris and Jan Breyne who brought their cans from home - and we were able to recycle most of the water bottles and pop cans from the event! We also recycled all of the pizza boxes and filled our Green recycle bins to the brim in the parking lot for the Monday pick up. Thanks to all who brought, sought and emptied the bins. All it takes is a little teamwork to make a big difference.

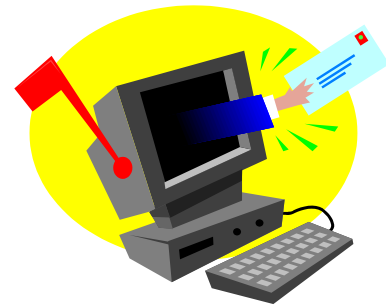
GREEN Updates

We continue to recycle milk cartons and pizza cartons on **Milk Carton Monday**. We are now looking for parent volunteers to collect the cartons and take them home on different days of the week.

Bloomington, Bartlett, Hanover Park and Glendale Heights will all take the milk cartons to recycle so if you live in one of these towns and are available to help out at lunch once a week at lunch please contact Loralee Pearson for more details. loralee@huskietools.com



Our Thursday envelopes are now filled electronically and are referred to as **E-ENVELOPE** - Be sure to check the school website for information each week.



E-GRADES: Grades 4-8 have online weekly grade updates for our continued paperless reporting.

FALL CLOTHING RESALE was a great, GREEN success! Keeping items out of the landfill is our huge GREEN initiative - one man's trash is another man's treasure - and a great way to accomplish this goal while also helping the school! Thanks to all who helped make this sale a success - we'll be doing it again in the spring so start saving your items now! Go Green and make Green \$\$\$\$\$\$

