

# THE SHOOTING STAR



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## Recap

After careful consideration, Lakeland Star decided to entrust the Super Seniors in writing this year's newsletter. Between the months of September and December, we have been out gaining experience and enjoying what life offers. We have had trips to the park, bowling, and horse back riding. With a fresh new layout, plenty of ideas, and hard work, We hope you enjoy this newsletter that has been long overdue.

## Activity Cart

One of our newest teachers decided it would be a fun idea to create an activity cart for the kids during free time, or enrichment Fridays. The cart contains puzzles, games, Legos and more.



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## Binders Bakery

At the beginning of the school year, staff challenged students into creating products to sell without profit to help others, and the school. That's when Binders Bakery was formed. Students bake dog treats every Monday, package them, and sell them. The proceeds go to either Lakeland Star themselves, or to other organizations within the community.



# THE SHOOTING STAR

## Student In-site

Emma



"I love STAR because you get the help you need when you need it. I chose to attend STAR because I was really struggling with my classes at my past school. My favorite class would be History. I really enjoy listening to music in my free time. I hope to be a cosmetologist when I graduate high school. Right now I work for my family at the Boulder Junction Motor Lodge, with a past experience of housekeeping. I think STAR changed me because I feel more confident in subjects I didn't feel confident in before, like math."

Dacian



"I love star because they don't give us homework. My favorite class is math and I like to play basketball. When I graduate, I want to go into the Military, but right now I am applying for Trigs. I enjoy playing on my PS4 outside of school."

## Staff In-sight

Margo



"My Job at Lakeland STAR is as a Paraprofessional. I am helping students whenever they need it throughout the day, like assignments, difficult situations, helping teachers when they need things done is just a few examples of what I do. Some of my time is spent transporting students between buildings, and to their work experiences. I feel that I fill an important role at STAR by being versatile and flexible with my daily routine. What makes STAR unique from other schools is the opportunities we offer students to learn in different ways. Being a Special Ed Para is something that called to me, rather than me seeking it out."

I began working with students on the recommendation of my sister-in-law who is a retired teacher. It became clear to me very quickly that this was something I would enjoy doing as a profession. And here I am nearly 20 years later doing exactly that. Lakeland STAR has changed my life by showing me that thinking outside the box and being flexible are the best ways to reach students with special needs. STAR does a wonderful job of taking a student's interests and forming a teaching strategy around the student."

Indigo



Indigo is a 3 year old yellow lab who loves to sleep outside of work. He was trained by Journey Together and knows a variety of commands. His favorite thing to do at STAR is surf the floor for snacks, otherwise he also loves the attention from helping students and staff.

## New Students

Alexis



Alexis came to us from AV-W and is currently attending lakeland STAR school as a 7th grader. She's 13 years old and her biggest dream is to become a famous movie star. She loves to sing, dance, and listen to music. Her favorite food is cheese pizza and loves the company of her precious chihuahua, Chloe. Alexis has two lies and truth, can you guess the truth?

1. Math is my favorite subject
2. I grew up on an island
3. I like Garfield



Cinthia is a 13 year old 8th grader who came to us from MHLT. She is extremely kind hearted and enjoys bonding with animals! Cinthia has two cats, Bodie and Marilyn, and one dog, Nellie. Her favorite things to do are cook and go shopping. Her favorite color is blue. Cinthia has 2 lies and one truth. Can you guess the truth?

1. I am a twin
2. I grew up in Milwaukee
3. I can speak three languages

Curtis



Curtis, also from MHLT, is a goofy yet kind 13 year old 8th grader. He enjoys reading and his favorite color is red. Curtis is very friendly and bubbly, always in search of new friends. Curtis has two lies and a truth. Can you guess the truth?

1. I lived in Chicago for a while
2. I have four brothers and two sisters
3. I can break dance

## New Staff

DeLynn Charon



Ms. DeLynn Charon came to us from the Milwaukee area where she was a special education teacher at South Milwaukee High School for 19 years. She has a daughter who is a freshman at UW Milwaukee, a son who is a freshman at LUHS and a Goldendoodle named Diver. She loves the outdoors and can't wait to get into the community with students as much as possible!

Allison Keller



Originally growing up in Erin, WI Mrs. Allison Keller has come to us from Watertown WI where she taught children with significant disabilities for the last 10 years. She moved to the Minocqua area with her husband Dustin, her two boys Lincoln and Jackson, four cats, 2 dogs, a bearded dragon, and a tortoise. Introduced to STAR by a friend, she instantly fell in love with the school. She's excited to be a part of the staff team where she is greatly appreciated.

Marry Thorton



I grew up in the Milwaukee area. I have been involved in starting new schools and I enjoy that environment. I love working with students with diverse learning styles. I like to travel, hike, ride horses, garden, read, cook, knit, and paint. I have a husband and three boys, so I am outnumbered by the guys! My interest in special education comes partly from my own children, who have some learning differences: one is dyslexic, one has Tourette's and is on the autism spectrum, and one has ADHD, so they all struggled in traditional school settings. I am very grateful to the dedicated educators who accepted my children for who they are and helped them grow and thrive.

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## Nicklaus Farms

Students from the 18 to 21 year old program spent a morning at the Nicklaus Farms! Nicklaus Farms is a non profit farm that donates their vegetables to food banks all around the state of Wisconsin. Students got to watch potatoes being harvested fresh from the soil! Students learned how vegetables grow and that every veggie at the farm is hand picked!



## Trunk or Treat And Bowling



The Friday before Halloween, Lakeland Star took it into their own hands to celebrate the holiday. The kids got to participate in bowling, eating pizza and drinking soda early in the afternoon. Later in the day, after board games and streaming holiday themed movies, everyone dressed up and went trunk to trunk in the staff parking lot collecting candy.

## Stoney Creek Nursery.

Our juniors and seniors took a Career Exploration tour of Stoney Creek nursery where they learned about the different jobs needed to run a nursery. The students had a great time feeding the Koi fish, cutting fresh flowers and making arrangements to give to family. They also took home bulbs to plant for spring.



## Northwoods Animal Hospital

Juniors, Seniors, and Super Seniors volunteered at the hospital. Taking wheelbarrows full of gravel, and transporting it into habitats that later will house injured birds. After the hard work, students got to participate in a free tour of the hospital, seeing the animals and learning how the hospital helps them recover.



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## Hillestead Factory

Lakeland Star Juniors, Seniors and Super Seniors toured Hillestead Factory. During the tour, students got to see everything it takes to produce a product safely, and many compared the Factory to the famous movie, Willy Wonka's Chocolate Factory. At the end of the tour, students took home free samples and left with smiles on their faces.



## Walmart Tour



One of the many trips Super Seniors have taken during job exploration was touring Walmart. Students learned all the jobs available, how most of the jobs work, and the benefits of working at Walmart. In the end, many students were excited about the experience, and even got to bring home their own water bottle from Walmart, for free.

## Community Garden

Lakeland Star volunteered at the local Community Garden, removing weeds from plots and within an hour later, plots were ready for use, as those pesky weeds were pulled from the earth's surface. STAR got to take home a few veggies of their own, and explore the different tastes they had to offer.



## Minoqua PD

Juniors, seniors, and super seniors toured the local police department. From exploring two sided mirrors inside the investigation rooms, to learning about 911 calls, the students enjoyed their time as they discovered the jobs offered. Students even got to explore police vehicles, and enjoyed learning about all the tools officers use from time to time.



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## Powwow

During the first few weeks of September, a Powwow was in the works to celebrate being back at school. Many schools visited the event, and enjoyed listening to the music. Throughout the event, students got to participate in the dances, enjoy a refreshing bottle of water, and listen as the Powwow unfolded.



## Milkyway Coffee Shop

Learning to communicate with others out in the community, two classes stopped at the local coffee shop in Minoqua and ordered their preferred drinks. Everyone patiently waited for their drinks, resting in the lawn chairs and enjoying the nature that surrounded the area. This of course was before snow was a problem.



## Oneida County Sheriff Department

Super seniors visited the sheriff department in Rhinelander, learning about the many different jobs the department had to offer. From taking a peek into the 911 dispatch center, touring the jail, and exploring the many machines the department uses to their advantages. In the end, students got to bring home some cool merchandise.



## Jack Frost Project

At The Waters in Minocqua, a few selected students got to help prepare for the Jack Frost event at the popular hotel. Students prepared tables, set up decorations, and hauled a hefty load of decorations from the storage closet to the room being used for the event.

