

February Newsletter

Important Dates:

Wed, Feb 1 – S.A.F.E.

Fri, Feb 3 – Midterm

Sat, Feb 4 – Free Throw Competition – 10:00 am

Fri, Feb 10 – 7th Grade Fine Arts Field Trip

Sun, Feb 12 – Youth League Breakfast

Feb 10 – 16 – Book Fair

Wed, Feb 15 – Science Fair Open House 6:30 – 7:30

Wed, Feb 15 – School Board Meeting

Wed, Feb 15 – Market Day Pickup 5:00 – 6:30

Fri, Feb 17 – No School

Mon, Feb 20 – No School

Market Day: Pickup is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15th. Orders are due to the school office by Monday, February 6 and Internet orders are due by 11:00 pm on Thursday, February 9. February is the 3rd grade parents' month to help out. If you can help, please be in the cafeteria by 4:00 pm.

Health Reminder: We are entering the peak cold/flu season. Please keep in mind these guidelines when deciding if your student should stay home or come to school. This information can also be found in the 5.05 section on page 9 of the Student Handbook.

Students exhibiting the following symptoms should remain at home until they are symptom-free for 24 hours without medication.

- Has had a fever of 100 degrees or higher within 24 hours
- Has had diarrhea or has been vomiting in the past 24 hours

Scholar Bowl: Congrats to the 2012 Scholar Eagles. Team members are Emili Borkowski, Ryan Kuper, Jason Martz, Trent McPherson, Dominick Thomas, Nick Schmitz, Jordan Strubhart, Ethan Winkeler, Maeve Heumann & Mikalea Weis. We are looking forward to a great year! First match is Wednesday, January 25 @ Germantown.

Science Fair: This year's Science Fair will be Wednesday, February 15. Judging will be right after school and the Open House for parents to come view the projects will be from 6:30 – 7:30.

Book Fair: This year the Book Fair will be February 10 – 16. Times are as follows:

Fri, Feb 10 – 1:00 – 5:00

Mon, Feb 13 – 1:00 – 5:00

Tues, Feb 14 – 1:00 – 5:00

Wed, Feb 15 – open during Science Fair

Thurs, Feb 16 – 1:00 – 5:00

New Immunization for 2012: Beginning with the 2012/2013 school year, each student entering 6th – 12th grades must show proof of receiving 1 Tdap vaccine (defined as tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis/whooping cough) regardless of the interval since the last DtaP, DT, or Td dose. Tdap is the first vaccine for adolescents and adults that protect against all 3 diseases. These requirements must be fulfilled by the start of the 2012/2013 school year. Please return an updated shot record to school for confirmation. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Jane Attaway, Aviston Elementary Health Aide, at 618-228-7245 or jattaway@avistonk-8.org. This is a State requirement.

Birth –3 years & PreSchool Screenings are scheduled for Wednesday, April 11th from 9:00 – 3:00 and Thursday, April 12th from 9:00 – 12:00. You may call the school **after March 1st** to schedule an appointment. Screenings will be done here at Aviston Elementary School. Information we will need when setting up the appointment is: Child's full name (first, middle & last), Address, Resident School District, Birth Date, Parent's Names, Phone Number and Medicaid Number (if applicable).

February Student Recognition Program: In February, Aviston Elementary will recognize students that are respectful to teachers and peers. Congratulations to the January winners who were rewarded for being hard workers. In February, the Curriculum Recognition Program will honor students who excel in Science.

Kindergarten Registration: We will have the forms for Kindergarten registration for the 2012-2013 School year available on our website (www.avistonk-8.org) **after March 1st**. If you have a child who will be 5 years of age prior to September 1, 2012 or know of anyone who has a child who will be 5 years of age prior to September 1, 2012, please go to the website and fill out the forms. After you open the Aviston website, you will need to click on School Office Info, then Kindergarten forms. If you have problems opening the links, please contact the school and we will get a packet together for you to pick up or we can mail it to you. Please note that all students entering Kindergarten will need the following exams PRIOR to the start of the school year: **Dental Exam, Physical Exam** (with up-to-date immunizations) and a **Vision Exam** (from an optometrist). These forms can either be downloaded from our website or you can pick them up in the school office. Also, please remember these are just preliminary forms. During the summer, Aviston Elementary will have their Kindergarten – 8th grade registration for ALL students. You will still have to come that day (or make arrangements to get the paperwork prior to that day) and fill out the remaining forms. Please keep an eye out for that date.

Inclement Weather: We are in the middle of the winter season, which means snow days may be expected. Our SchoolReach system will be used to notify parents of any school closings or early dismissals. If the weather looks bad and we are in school, please do NOT call the school requesting information about closings on a particular day. Because the district shares buses with other districts, the decision to cancel school is not ours. The SchoolReach phone system will call designated numbers to alert everyone within 30 minutes of a decision to cancel school. You can also check the following radio stations for school closings: WCXO-FM 96, KMOX-AM 1120, WILY-AM 1210 and FM 95.3. News channels that also carry the school closings are KMOV Channel 4 and KSDK Channel 5. Aviston Elementary is listed under 'Clinton County Schools' NOT Aviston Elementary. If the weather looks like we will have a possible early closing, please make sure your child (and teacher) know ahead of time where the student should go in the event the school will close early. If you do not receive a SchoolReach call or see 'Clinton County Schools' listed on the news, we will have school that day.

Girls/Boys Basketball Teams: The varsity girls basketball team will be playing for Championship in the State Tournament at Rend Lake College on Friday, January 27th. Game time is 7:30 pm vs. Breese District 12. This is the girls' 5th trip to the State Tournament in the past 6 years. Good Luck Lady Eagles! You can check out the records link on the school's sports page for more details about their past success. The varsity boys' basketball team will be playing for Regional Championship on Saturday, January 28th at 1:00 pm at Smithton. Good Luck Eagles!

Volleyball: Our 6th – 8th grade girls' volleyball season will begin soon. If your student is planning on playing, please be sure they have a current Sports Physical on file in the office. Sports Physicals are good for 1 year. If we do not have a current Physical, your student will not be allowed to participate until we receive one in the office.

8th Grade Memory Notes for Yearbook: This is just a friendly reminder about the 8th grade memory note for the yearbook. If interested, please send in a picture, any age, of your child with his/her name on the back and a typed or handwritten note that you would like to appear next to the picture. Due to limited space, we need to keep the message to 50 words or less. The picture will be sent back to you. All information must be submitted by Friday, February 3rd. The full color printed note will be about the size of a business card. The cost is \$10, checks payable to Aviston Elementary School. You may send the information with your child, drop it off at the school office or email Mrs. Zurliene at szurliene@avistonk-8.org. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mrs. Zurliene at her email or by calling the school office at 228-7245 x138.

Blood Drive: Thanks so much!! Aviston Elementary students did an excellent job in getting the word out about our blood drive. There were 102 people who showed up to donate and 79 pints of blood were collected for

the American Red Cross. Donations in the winter are always very slow, so this terrific outpouring was greatly appreciated. Blood donation is one of those things we can do for others that is truly a gift that keeps on giving. You never know who you may help when you donate. It could be a person in a car accident, a newborn baby or someone like my dad – a dedicated lifelong blood donor who required two transfusions in the past month. The donations collected at Aviston Elementary on the same day my dad was receiving a pint were very special. Please accept my family's personal thanks for your gift of life.

The Red Cross offers appointments for blood donations at our location and at many others. If you make an appointment, they will make sure that they increase their staff numbers to accommodate the number of donors anticipated. Whenever and wherever you want to donate, please make an appointment and you can definitely decrease your wait time. It also helps the Red Cross know how to plan.

We know our students can be very persistent when there is prize involved. Many parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles came out because of a child's request. The kids enjoy the prizes and the acknowledgement. But, let's also reinforce to our children that the point of having blood drives at school is to raise children who see giving blood as a perfectly natural thing to do to help others. When you gave blood this month, you didn't just help a child win a prize – you set an example of service to others that "pays it forward." Who knows, maybe someday one of our students will be the perfect donor when you have a need! Thanks so much for your unselfish gift. You can count on us to have our students encouraging your donations in the future. – *Dr. Kampwerth*

A word from the Sudholt/McPherson Family: Dear fellow classmates, friends, PSR & faculty: Words cannot express the gratitude and appreciation we feel for all of the cards, sympathy, prayers, and support after the death of Trent's father, Gary McPherson. The community support is overwhelming. Although Gary was not a member of Aviston, he came to know and befriend many. He understood and appreciated why I moved Trent to this wonderful community. Thank you and God Bless...*Cheryl.*
Craig Justin Sudholt & Trent McPherson

Youth League Registration & Breakfast: Sunday, February 12th will be the annual Youth League Breakfast and Registration from 7:30 am – 11:30 am at Aviston Legion for any children PreK – 8th grades who wish to play t-ball, baseball, or softball over the summer. You can turn in your registration form(s) at this time (forms were sent home mid-January) along with your payment in the bar area of Aviston Legion. After you register, you can go upstairs and get your uniforms. Your child must be present to receive a uniform. Please contact Robert Auer for any information.

Big Brothers/ Big Sister Awareness Months: During the months of February and March, Big Brothers/Big Sisters is planning a community wide awareness campaign in Clinton County called "Brighten a Child's Life". The campaign will recognize all the schools that participate in Clinton County as well as raise awareness and funds for the program. There are 13 schools in Clinton County including Aviston Elementary that will display strands of purple lights, each light bulb representing a child in the Clinton County program. The lights will be displayed at the school and will remain lit during the campaign that starts on February 18th and continues through March 16th. In conjunction with the school light displays, several local businesses including CC Food Marts, Dairy King, Hardees and Super Valu will be offering customers a chance to show their support for Big Brothers/Big Sisters by donating \$1.00 or \$5.00. The donors name will be printed on a Brighten a Child's Life star cutout and displayed at the store during the campaign period.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southwestern Illinois has served hundreds of children in Clinton County over the past 11 years. They work with high school students from Carlyle, Central, Mater Dei and Wesclin who serve as mentors and friends to younger students in the Jr. High and Elementary schools. The High School students provide a positive outlook while they share time doing their favorite activities.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters knows that children who participate in the program attend school more regularly and perform better while they are there because they feel more competent about doing their schoolwork. Having a Big Brother or Big Sister helps them to aspire to achieve and want to learn more about their world around them. The cost to recruit, screen, train, match and support the match of a volunteer and a Little for 1 year is \$900.

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship: The Aviston Knights of Columbus will be hosting their annual Free Throw competition for students ages 10-14 on February 4, 2012 in the Aviston Elementary gym.

Start time is 10:00 am. If you have any questions, please contact Scott Markus at 228-7078.

Visitors Entering School: We would like to remind parents, grandparents, etc. that when you are dropping off items, picking up or dropping off students, etc, you must come into the office after the security door has been unlocked. If you are dropping off items, you need to bring it to the office and we will get it to the students. If you are picking up a student, you need to stop in the office and sign them out. We will call the student down to meet you here. If you are dropping off a student and it is after 8:25 am, you need to come to the office and sign in. The student will need a Tardy Slip to bring to the classroom with them. These rules are enforced for security purposes to ensure the safety of our students. Please do NOT just head to a student's classroom. This disrupts the class. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact the school office. Also, if you are coming in to help out in a classroom, you must also stop in the office and sign in on the 'Guest Sign In' sheet and then sign out when you leave.

Also, when you are picking up your student at the end of the day, please remember to pick your student up in the cafeteria. The halls get very congested with kids going all different directions, so it is easier for us to keep track of kids by sending them to the cafeteria to get picked up.

Gateway Grizzlies Honor Roll Night: Aviston Elementary will once again participate in the Gateway Grizzlies Honor Roll Night. We are on the list but they have not yet assigned games to the schools. As soon as we have a date, we will let you know. Any students Kindergarten through 8th grade who make Honor Roll in the 3rd Quarter will receive a form to receive 2 free tickets plus the option to purchase additional tickets at a discounted rate to a Grizzlies game this summer. They will be greeted on the field by Izzy the Grizzly after their name is announced. More information will follow as soon as we get it in.

LOOKING AHEAD:

March 1 – Kdg Registration is Open

March 1 – Appointments for PreK Screenings will be available

March 5 – No School (Casimir Pulaski Day)

March 6 – 16 – ISAT Testing (3rd – 8th grades)

March 9 – End of 3rd Quarter

March 9 – Spring Pictures + Sports pictures

March 16 – Early Out 11:45

March 16 – Report Cards