



The Cub Chatter

May 2009

Volume: II

Number: 8



Georgia
PTA[®]

everychild.onevoice.

Website:

www.averypta.org

May 2009

- 19.....Cultural Arts Day
- 19.....PTA General Session Meeting, 4th/5th Grade Chorus Performance 7 pm
- 20.....PTA Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast
- 22....Kindergarten Awards First Grade Awards Yearbook Dedication
- 22.....Rescheduled Movie Night (Weather Permitting)
- 25.....Memorial Day School Holiday
- 26...Second Grade Awards
- 27.....Third Grade Awards
- 28...Fourth Grade Awards
- 29.....Fifth Grade Awards
- 29.....Last Day of School

August 2009

- 3.....First Day of School

Dear Parents and Students,

This month we are “winding down” the school year and “gearing up” for what lies ahead in 2009-10. As the end of the year comes to a close, the Avery administration and teachers are fast at work preparing for the last few weeks of school as well as developing class lists for the next school year. During the last two weeks of school, the following activities will take place during our last two weeks of school:

- 5/18: Volunteer Tea (2:45-4:00 in the Media Center)
- 5/22: K (8:30-9:15) and 1st Grade (10:30-11:15) Awards Assemblies
- 5/25: No School - Memorial Day Observance
- 5/26: 2nd Grade Awards - 11:00-11:45 (Gymnasium)
- 5/27: 3rd Grade Awards - 11:15-12:00 (Gymnasium)
- 5/28: 4th Grade Awards - 11:00-11:45 (Gymnasium)
- 5/29: Last Day of School; 5th Grade Breakfast - 8:00-9:00; Awards Assembly - 9:15-10:45 (Gymnasium); Fifth Grade celebration and yearbook signing (Gymnasium); 5th Grade Walk of Honor - 1:30

As we look closely at student placement for next year, much care and thought go into building each class. Therefore, it is not necessary for parents to write a placement letter. Avery ES administration **does not** honor parent requests for specific teachers as it is impossible for us to grant every parent’s wish. However, if you do choose to write a letter, please refer to our April Cub Chatter for guidelines. **Due to CCSD timelines for class rosters for 2009-10**, the deadline to submit your parent letter is May 29th - the last day of school.

As we wind down writing the last newsletter for 2008-2009, let us “begin with the end in mind”. In August of 2008, we envisioned that all our students would embrace our school theme: **“Dare to Dream”**. As we end the year, we hope you believe that your children **“Dared to Dream”**, reached for the stars, became more independent, responsible learners and achieved their full potential at Avery ES.

We thank PTA Executive Board and Committee Chairs, parents and community members for all the support you have provided to help our children become the best that they can be this year! Have a safe and fun-filled summer...students - keep reading, reading and reading!

Fondly,

Dr. Georgann Toop
Princi”pal”

Christian Kirby Stacey Krutz
Assistant Principals



Your 2009-2010 PTA Executive Board

The new Executive Board will be working hard to prepare for the 2009-2010 school year.

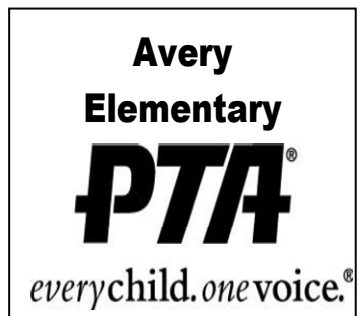
If you are interested in chairing a committee, please contact a member of the Executive Board.

Co-Presidents:
Pam Pfitzner & Monica Sarvis

Co-Vice Presidents
Liz Touchstone & Susan Brown

Treasurer
Gladys Stubbs

Secretary
Kim Gilmore



Dear Parents,

Congratulations on a **VERY** successful school year! Avery PTA worked very hard this year and accomplished much more than we had hoped!

Thanks to the generosity of Avery families, Avery PTA was able to plan over **25** activities for the children, families, and faculty of Avery Elementary School. Those activities included the PTA Reflections Program, Red Ribbon Week, Family Movie Nights I and II, Grub with the Grinch, two Cultural Arts Assemblies in December, three Family Fitness Nights, Exceptional Children's Week, Career Day, Teacher Appreciation Week, Cultural Arts Day, four Love & Logic Parent Information Nights and additional PINs on Homework Survival and Internet Safety for Children. We also participated in Community Outreach programs such as the Canned Food Drive, School Supply Drive for Hurricane ravaged schools in LA, and Gold and Silver Change Challenge for Relay for Life. In addition, Avery ES PTA recycled all sorts of "trash" to earn Box Tops, Campbell's Soup Labels, Tyson Chicken Labels, and Coke Rewards in record numbers!

With the support of diligent chairpersons and their committees as well as a strong commitment by parents, faculty, and students, Avery PTA was able to fund many items and projects necessary to sustain the quality education offered by Avery Elementary School in this time of budget cuts. Below is a listing of the areas funded this year:

- \$10,000 Supplied books for the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade Literacy Room
- \$3170 Funded agendas and folders for 2009-2010 school year
- \$1500 Funded Front Hall Mural
- \$1041 Funded "Welcome to Avery ES" mats for front entrance of school
- \$600 Funded Teacher Grants
 1. Mr. Boggs (Music)
 2. Mrs. Hope (K-Language Arts)
 3. Mrs. Stickler (K-Science)
- \$4500 Funded Grade Level materials & supplies

The Avery PTA Executive Board and I are proud of our accomplishments and of **YOU!** Without your support, Avery PTA would not be able to provide for our school. I am anticipating another wonderful school year beginning in August. I hope that you will once again support your Avery PTA in any ways that you are able.

I also look forward to a restful summer break. I bid you safe travels and fun vacation memories with family and friends. Be safe and enjoy!

See you at Sneak Peek!

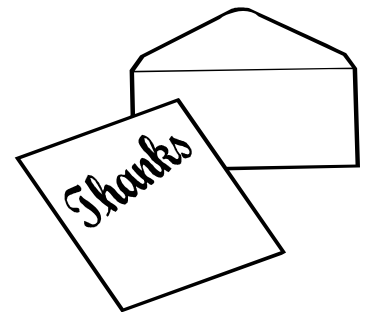
Sincerely,

Pam Pfitzner
Avery PTA President 2008-2009



Thank You for Your Parent Support This Year!

- **Hospitality Committee:** We would like to thank everyone for making "Teacher Idol Week" a huge success! We succeeded in making all of our teachers feel like the biggest "stars" we know! As the year come to an end, we would like to take a minute and thank each and every one of our committee members, members of the "Bakers" list, the PTA board and just friends that we were able to call upon when needed. We truly appreciate all you have done to make all of our hospitality ventures a success this year.
- **Room Moms:** You have done an incredible job this year working in the classrooms, handling Box Tops, coordinating the parties and special events plus supporting your teachers.
- **All of our Avery Volunteers-** whether it was a Book Fair, Bingo, reading in your classroom or any event for our students... your time and willingness to help is priceless!





Outdoor Family Movie Night- Rescheduled for May 22nd!

Third times a charm! Gates will open at 6:30 and the movie is free with your PTA card. Non-PTA members will be asked for a \$1.00 donation per person at the gate. Bolt is being featured and concessions will be available for purchase from Chilly Treats and Shane's Rib Shack.
Don't forget your blankets and lawn chairs!

Our Gratitude to Our 2008-2009 Business Partners

Our activities and programs this year couldn't have taken place without the support of our community's restaurants and businesses. Be sure to support our business partners during summer vacation!

**Papa John's, Chick Fil A (Canton), Frosty Frog, Shane's Rib Shack of Hickory Flat
Stevi B's in Canton**

All of the businesses participating in our Neighborhood Partners Program

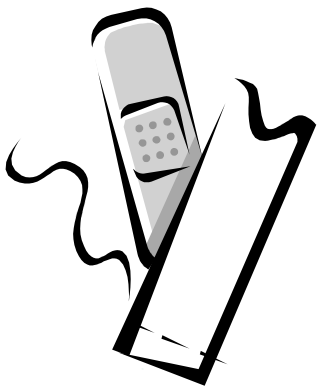
The Novel Influenza A (H1N1) Virus (Swine Flu)

Although the year is winding down, parent concerns have heightened due to the recent flu virus that has hit Georgia. Please know that Cherokee County School District and Avery ES administration and staff have been proactive in attempting to combat germs to prevent this flu from entering our schools. At Avery ES, our custodial staff has added additional cleanings to their schedules for our restrooms and at the water fountains. Additionally, we have addressed ways to reduce the spread of germs that include discussion of hand hygiene and cough etiquette.

Specifically, during morning announcements, our news crew has discussed:

- Sanitary measures to reduce the spread of germs, including covering one's nose and mouth with a tissue when coughing or sneezing (or coughing or sneezing into one's sleeve if a tissue isn't available) and
- Frequently washing hands with soap and water, or using hand sanitizer if hand washing with soap and water is not possible.

If parents have any questions, please feel free to contact our school nurse, Sandra McFarland, for additional information at 770-479-6200.



From the Healthy Cub Clinic

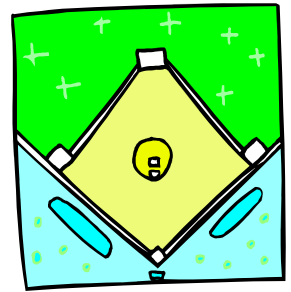
Thank you for a fabulous year! Please remember to pick up any medication from the clinic by the end of the school year. Any medication left must be destroyed. Have a great summer!

News from the Cubs' Den, Physical Education

Greetings from the Cubs' Den! We have completed another successful year of Physical Education at Avery, culminating with 3 fantastic days of Field Days. A good time was had by all.

We had 113 students who won the National Physical Fitness Award.
Way to go Cubs!

The Coaches would like to wish everyone a safe and fun-filled summer. Get out there and be active (Don't forget the sunscreen!) See you in the Fall.



Musical Moments from the Music Department

All grades have been enjoying singing the school song, **Avery Rocks!**, in preparation for the yearbook dedication ceremony.

In addition to singing our school song, all grade levels have been introduced to a fun game called music baseball, a tonal memory game in which the "pitcher" plays two notes on a xylophone for the "batter," and the "batter" must match the pitches on another xylophone. Also, each grade level is learning an age appropriate dance from cultures around the world.

The fifth grade has begun work on their song for graduation; it will be very special for parents and teachers.

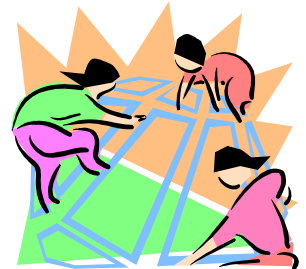
In other news, the Chorus is learning a new set of songs for our May performance. We've been averaging about 40 students and they sound AWESOME!

Thank you for all your support.
Mr. Boggs and Mrs. Medley

Avery Visual Arts

Thanks for a great year! We have enjoyed working with your children.
Here are some ideas for summer art fun...

- Sidewalk chalk is a great way to get kids outside and be creative. Google sidewalk chalk art or sidewalk chalk artist to find some amazing work!
- You can even make your own sidewalk chalk. Go to <http://familycrafts.about.com/cs/craftsupplies/ht/SidewalkChalk.htm> for the recipe.
- Lay natural objects on construction paper and leave them in the sun to make a print
- Add food coloring to your bubbles and blow the bubbles onto a white piece of paper
- Visit an art museum



Have a great Summer!

Ms. Arnett and Ms. Martin



Cultural Arts Day 2009

Well, it's that time of year again when Avery Elementary becomes a hub of art activity. We will be hosting a multitude of artists ranging from the award winning Creekview High School Chorus, student cloggers from all over the county, quilters, potters, painters, glass bead makers...you name it and they will be at Avery! Not only will we have the visiting artists but each and every one of our student artists will have art work on display all over the school. May 19th is the big day and we are so excited for our budding Cub artists to see and experience the greater art community! Go Avery Art Cubs!

Book Nook— Media Center News from Jennifer Blakey



Have you checked out the media center recently? We have added hundreds of new books in the last two months. New acquisitions include picture books, mythology, fiction, and a variety of nonfiction books. We now have over 18,800 library materials! We have also purchased additional AR quizzes based on teacher and student requests and media center needs.

Come take a break and enjoy our comfy reading center! We have used a portion of our book fair funds to create a comfortable reading area in our media center. It is located near the doors facing the office and is complete with a couch, end chairs, and ottoman. We appreciate Dr. Toop's assistance in putting together this wonderful ensemble!

As the end of the year approaches, we wish to thank all of our media volunteers who have committed much time and energy to this year's media projects. We appreciate our book fair volunteers who helped to make our fairs successful and our media volunteers who assist with the processing and shelving of books on a weekly and daily basis. We also greatly appreciate the book donations made to the media center. Together we have worked to achieve an inviting library environment where students are engaged in reading and information literacy.

Thank You to Our 2008-2009 PTA Committees and Volunteers

The PTA would like to thank the following Committee Chairs and their committees for their outstanding work and dedication to the enhancement of our Avery students' education throughout the 2008-2009 School Year.

Holli Kimsey and Brittany Hayes and the Family Bingo Night Committee; Antoinette Ross and the Family Movie Night Committee; Amanda Hugo and Heather Thomas and the Health and Nutrition Committee; Heather Similie and the Box Tops Committee; Kristi Ledford and the Mini-Grants Committee; Kristi Ledford and the Career Day Committee; Greer Thompson and Tiffany Johnson and the Community Outreach Committee; Jennifer O'Connell and Dawn Hagle and the Auction Committee; Angela Stahr and Monica Sarvis and the Cultural Arts Committee; Coleman Rudolph and the Dads' Initiative Committee; Monica Sarvis and the Environmental and Recycling Committee; Amanda Copeland and the Exceptional Children's Week Committee; Tracie Steiner, Emily Jobe, and Stacy Fouts and the Hospitality Committee; Dara Yokley and Lori Johnson and the Membership Committee; Traci Rogers and the Newsletter Committee; Liz Touchstone and Susan Brown and the Reflections Committee; Amber Lyn Horwitz and the Room Parent Coordinators Committee; Kelley Humphries and Robin Holley and the Grub with the Grinch Committee; Tracy Love and the Talent Show Committee; John Benson and the Website Committee; Scott McElroy and the Red Ribbon Week Committee; Stephanie Patterson and the Media Center Committee; Pam Pfitzner and Liz Touchstone and the Frosty Frog Committee

Thank you everyone! Shannon Rudolph, 2008-2009 PTA Secretary

Counselors' Corner- End of our 2008-2009 School Year!

The close of a school year can be filled with as many emotional ups and downs for children as its beginning, as they reflect and sort through their memories of challenges as well as accomplishments experienced throughout these often fast-paced nine months. Many children deal with mixed feelings about their learning progress in academic, as well as social skill areas. Avery parents, grandparents and educators have combined their efforts in serving an important function as role models in dealing with such mixed emotions with a positive, "I can do it" attitude. As an anonymous wise person said, "The only thing that remains the same is that change will happen." Some of life's most insightful moments of self-awareness can come from reflections about "mistakes" relating to "lesser strengths"---as well as from "successes" due to "strengths". As we build our own resources of resilience to cope with such constant changes, we role model lifelong character growth for our children.

Your Avery counselors would like to express our sincere appreciation for Avery students' adult role models at home, at school and in the community setting. Our mutual efforts to role model and to encourage applications of "character in action" can better assist Avery students in their own efforts to achieve excellence in learning progress supported by a diverse range of interpersonal and intrapersonal skills. We wish for you a safe, fun summer break with your family and friends, until we gather together next fall for the new school year's signal to begin, again, the cycle of sharing enriched learning experiences at Avery Elementary.



Give Us Your Input!

Please answer the following questions to help us with planning 2009-2010 PTA programs/events. On a scale of 1-5 (5=Great), rate the following PTA Programs:

Program	1	2	3	4	5	Comments
1. The Non Fundraiser	1	2	3	4	5	
2. Family Movie Nights	1	2	3	4	5	
3. Grub with the Grinch	1	2	3	4	5	
4. Family Bingo Night	1	2	3	4	5	
5. Parent Information Nights	1	2	3	4	5	
6. What would you like to see Avery PTA add/change/delete from its programs/events? Explain.						
7. How would you like to see Avery PTA funds used?						
8. What can Avery PTA do to encourage more participation within Avery PTA?						
9. How informed of PTA events/programs did you feel? Explain.						
10. How would you feel about an electronic version of the monthly newsletter, the Cub Chatter, sent to you via email? Explain.						

Please cut out and respond. Just send into your teacher to Attention: PTA.

"I Speak Spanish" Summer Spanish Classes Woodmont Golf and Country Club Clubhouse

June 16 – July 29 (7 classes)

Beginners

4 – 9 year olds:

Tuesdays

3:00 pm – 3:55 pm

10 – 14 year olds:

Tuesdays

4:00 pm – 4:55 pm

Registration and Fees:

The fee for the summer session is \$70.

Registration deadline:

Friday, **June 12, 2009.**

To register, call Carolina Stakem at

770-597-8980 or

E-mail: stakemfamily@comcast.net

Intermediate

4 – 9 year olds:

Wednesday

3:00 pm – 3:55 pm

10 – 14 year olds:

Wednesdays

4:00 pm – 4:55 pm

all levels

Cottonwoods Pool

Certified Staff

Lifeguard Training

Pool Parties

943 Evans Cook Rd.
Carters, GA 30115

77-479-5608

Betty Frady

cottonwoodspool@comcast.net
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