

Spirit Day - Sports Theme is tomorrow, January 29.

Wear your favorite local, college, or professional sports team jersey, t-shirt, etc.

NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK

National School Counseling Week will be celebrated February 1-5. This year's theme is "Celebrate School Counseling." The purpose of the celebration is to focus public awareness on the unique contributions of the professional school counselors within the United States, the state of Pennsylvania, and in our school district.

Avon Grove Intermediate has four Master's-level certified school counselors: Ms. Kristen Brown in Purple, Ms. Deborah Burns in Orange, Ms. Lori Travers in Red, and Ms. Susan Gill in the Blue house. These four professionals work every day to help create a climate in the school that is conducive to learning by offering guidance lessons in the classrooms, and teacher training to help classroom teachers understand the nature of children and bullying. They also provide individual and group counseling to students with particular needs and consulting services with parents and agencies on behalf of the children. Coordinating Career Days for all fifth and sixth graders and sponsoring the Ambassadors Program and Spirit Committees in each house are also ways our counselors contribute to the school environment.

Please take a minute to talk with your child about the various roles of the School Counselor.

BUS PASS UPDATE

We have been notified by our transportation department that bus 50 is no longer on the flagged bus list and that we may now issue bus passes for it. The following buses remain flagged: 2, 16, & 63.

PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

On Thursday, February 4 at 7:00 pm there will be a PTA General Membership meeting in the AGIS audion. One of the things to be discussed is a proposed change to the Artist in Residence budget. We hope to see you there.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT – FEBRUARY 19

Our PTA is planning a Mardi Gras themed Family Fun Night with bingo and carnival games. Please mark your calendars for Friday evening, February 19, from 7:00 to 9:00 pm for this fun family event to be held in our cafetorium. More information will be coming home from the PTA early next month.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Kindergarten registration will be held the week of March 22. Please call the office at Penn London (610-869-9803) after February 1 to request a registration packet which will include registration requirements as well as specific dates and times.

Eligibility as per Avon Grove School District Board Policy 201, Title 22, Section 11.14 states "A child is eligible for admission to kindergarten if s/he has attained the age of five (5) years on or before September 8 of each school term.

Title 22, Section 11.15 states "A beginner (Grade 1) is eligible for admission to the lowest grade of the primary school above the kindergarten level if s/he has attained the age of six (6) years on or before September 8 of each school term."

2009-2010 YEARBOOK

Lifetouch AGIS yearbooks will be going on sale in the next few weeks. Please watch for your child's order envelope to be coming home soon.

CALENDAR – JANUARY

- 28 Math Assemblies: Mike McCarthy, Grades 3 & 5
- 28 School Board Meeting, 7:30pm, Audion
- 29 Spirit Day – Favorite Sports Team Apparel
- 29 Blue House Donuts for Dad, 7:30am
- 29 Orange & Purple 6th Grade to Arden Theatre
- 30 Robotics Club at Champions' Tournament, UD
- 30 Dental Hygiene Sealant Program, Coatesville

FEBRUARY – Black History & I Love To Read Month

- 1-5 National School Counselors' Week
- 1 Loose Change Collection for Haiti Begins
- 2 Groundhog Day
- 2 Reading Assemblies: Joe Romano, Grades 4 & 6
- 4 PTA Meeting, 7pm, Audion
- 4 Market Day Pick Up, 4:30-5:30pm, Café
- 5 Our 100th Day of School
- 5 Nat'l Wear Red Day-Women's Heart Health Awareness
- 5 School Store Open
- 6 Dental Hygiene Sealant Program, W.Cheser
- 15 School Closed – Presidents' Day
- 19 Cycle IV Begins
- 19 Family Fun Night, 7-9:00pm
- 19 Students vs Faculty Basketball, 6-9:00pm, AGHS
- 22 Spring Picture Day
- 25 School Board Meeting, 7:30pm, Audion

PRINCIPALLY SPEAKING

Student Recognition:

One of our **Robotics Club** teams qualified in the area of Creative Presentation for an added competition this Saturday at the University of Delaware. Best of luck to Brendan Marani, Kyle Twesten, Walter Jones, Brennan Ingalls, Benjamin Schunke, Nicholas Waters, Will Stevens, and David Ruta. We look forward to hearing how well you do. We are proud of all five of our teams this year!

Our school's **fifth grade Academically Talented (AT)** students recently participated in the 42nd Knowledge Master Open academic competition. They competed here at school on computers answering one hundred challenging questions from all curriculum areas. Fifth graders from across Pennsylvania competed against them (14 teams) as well as 223 other teams nationally. Our team came in **first place** in Pennsylvania and placed **10th out of the 223 teams nationally!!** This is quite an accomplishment and a tribute to the enthusiasm these students have for learning. We are very proud of Ms. Fenza and our team which consisted of Patrick Ahern, Zach DeStefano, Jack Fiala, Caroline Gerwig, Kieran Hannon, William Kephart, Imani Klein, Owen Lucas, Evan Miller, Kai Myran, Isabella Pfaff, Jake Reynolds, Michael Rhodes, Sadie Slavin, and Kyle Stover. Way to go fifth grade AT classes!!!

Parental Support and Friends of AGIS:

This week's PTA Donuts for Dads event has been wonderful to see. Each morning we have had a huge turnout of dads and other family members. Just taking the time to come in before a busy day sends a tremendous message of care to your child. Thanks to the PTA volunteers for the great help including parking signs, outside greeters, and more. We hope to post some great images on our website over the next week on this event, so check it out!

Haiti and Red Cross Relief Effort at AGIS:

We have all been moved by the images on the nightly news, particularly those of children, related to the situation in Haiti. Beginning Monday, February 1, we will be starting a loose change collection campaign entitled "Your pennies make CENTS for the Red Cross and Haiti." Our plan is to simply collect loose change, no matter how small, in containers placed in the lobby. Those funds will be sent to the Red Cross to replenish their disaster relief funds or to channel directly to this cause. Please look for the containers in our lobby and give as you are able. Students and adults may participate. Parents, please be clear with your children as to what amount, if any, they are permitted to donate.

Please Help:

As you know we have many parents dropping off students in the morning. As we monitor that process we have noticed the need to seek parental help in keeping that system as safe as possible for children as well as for the vehicles moving in and out of the area. Please review and help us with the following:

- Pull as far forward as you can prior to your child exiting the car.
- Please drop children as close to the flag pole area as possible and avoid dropping children too far from that area.
- Please stay in a single file line and wait for the car in front of you to depart. Avoid pulling out of line and passing others to leave or passing others to move up into an open spot.
- Do not allow children to exit your car unless you are along the curb.
- Most importantly, please demonstrate patience, even if it requires you to wait to pull forward.

You know our interest here is the safety of the children. Your help in modeling these expectations will benefit the children as well as prevent any fender-benders for vehicles. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you at the school.

Sincerely,

Mr. Harvey, Mrs. Bove, Mrs. Schrum