



Avona Elementary School PTA  
Editor: Cathy Smyth

[www.wilsonareasd.org/pta/avona](http://www.wilsonareasd.org/pta/avona)

## Upcoming Events

Puppet Club	Dec. 15
The Polar Express	Dec. 16
Movie Night 6:00 pm	
A Christmas Carol	Dec. 21
Assembly during school	
Puppet Club	Dec. 22
After school 3:15 pm	
Winter Festival	Dec. 23
During school	
Winter Break	Dec. 26
Winter Break Ends	Jan. 3
Art & Craft Club	Jan. 3
After school 3:15 pm	
Yearbook Begin	Jan. 3
Family Game Night	Jan. 13



## Winter Festival Needs Your Help!

Volunteers are needed for the Winter Festival being held on Friday, December 23, 2005 at 1:30pm. Parents are needed to help the students play games, work on a craft, and have a snack. If you are available to volunteer, please contact Leslie Ziemba at 610.515.0313 or Leah Wright at 610.751.3626 as soon as possible.

If you can not be there in person, we are also in need of snacks, juice and paper products. Please contact Leslie Ziemba or Leah Wright at the above numbers if you can help.



## From the Principal's Desk

The holiday season has arrived and I am sure things are hectic in your home as they are in mine. I hope and pray that you will take time each day to sit with your child and ask how their day was and what they did while away from you. It is easy to get caught up in all the rush and forget about what is really important.

Take time this holiday season to enjoy time with your family. I hope you enjoy the holiday season no matter what you celebrate. May your new year be blessed with the joy of watching your child/children grow in so many different ways. I feel honored to be a part of each and every Avona student's life. I thank you for the opportunity to know and work with your children. I wish each of you a happy holiday and a prosperous new year.



We would like to thank all of the families of Avona for their support and dedication to the efforts of this PTA.

Without you, the programs for ALL students would not be possible. We truly hope you have a GREAT holiday season and take time to enjoy each other.

### HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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[everychild.onevoice.org](http://everychild.onevoice.org)



We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[www.wilsonareasd.org/pta/avona](http://www.wilsonareasd.org/pta/avona)

## Medical Appointment Verification Form

Starting January 3, 2006 there will be a new form that will be required when picking your child up early from school for a medical appointment. The Medical Appointment Verification Form must be completed by your child's doctor, upon completion of the appointment, and returned with your child to school. Your child will be excused the amount of time for the appointment as indicated by the physician. If your child returns to school without the completed form, the absence will be considered unexcused.

You may request the form in advance for scheduled appointments, otherwise the form will be distributed when you sign your child out from school for a doctor's appointment.

## Movie Night



THE POLAR EXPRESS movie is coming to Avona on Friday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the All-Purpose room. You may bring your favorite sports chair or a blanket to make yourself comfortable. Just like being at the drive in. The movie, popcorn and water will be free. Other items will be available for purchase or you can bring your own snacks. Come on out with your family and friends to enjoy this holiday favorite.

## BMI Presentation Hand Outs

A big THANK YOU goes out to Mrs. Virgilio and Mrs. Grube for their presentation on Body Mass Index at the meeting on Thursday, December 1. The information was quite informative. Many hand outs were available. If you could not attend the meeting and would like some information, please contact the PTA at [AvonaPTA@Yahoo.com](mailto:AvonaPTA@Yahoo.com).



## Special Programs

Reminder to please send in the “Whole Grain” symbols from participating General Mills Cereals prior to the Christmas break. PTA must submit these symbols by December 31, 2005. Each symbol represents a chance to win bonus box tops.

Also, remember to keep saving Box Tops, Campbell’s Labels for Education, Redner’s Save-A-Tape receipts, and Tyson A+ labels. If you have any questions regarding any of these programs, please contact Dawn Purcell at 610-258-1660.

## Book Bingo Fun!

Book Bingo Winners! Well, let’s just say everyone won. At the end of the night, there were enough books left over that all students went home with a book in hand. YEAH! Many games of Bingo were played. Losers Bingo was a popular one. Every student stands up and numbers are called. If you have that number, you sit. Last one standing is the winner of Losers Bingo. Math Bingo was a little more challenging, but fun all the same. The students truly had a fun night. We would like to thank Mr. Wright for once again being our Bingo caller. Great Job!

### The Zoo was a hit!

Philadelphia Zoo was a huge hit. The kids truly enjoyed their experience seeing all the different animals of winter. A rabbit, a duck, a snake and a red tailed hawk were some of the animals they saw that day. Thanks to all your support, yet another educational time was had by all.



### Fall Fundraiser

Thank you to all who participated in the Fall Fundraiser. Your support enables the students of Avona to enjoy many valuable, educational experiences. Movie nights, book bingo, game night, craft night are just a few examples of things you can enjoy as a family. All of these are free for all to enjoy. THANK YOU!



### Avona Ornament

The PTA still has a few Christmas ornaments left from the “Old Avona”, as it is often referred.

The ornament is pewter and circular in shape. It has a picture of the old school on the front. The ornament is dated 1954 - 1998. If you are interested, please contact Toniann Johnson at 601.559.3897. The ornaments are \$5.00 each.



### Mitten Tree

The lobby tree is looking for mittens, scarves, gloves and hats to decorate it for those in our community who are in need of such items. Both adult and child sizes are needed. The items will be collected through Dec. 23.

Remember, warm hands, warm hearts.



## Winter Weather Advise

With winter weather approaching there is the possibility of late starts and/or early dismissals from school. In the past, there have been days where school was closed or dismissed early before a storm developed due to the threat of inclement weather. If the local forecasters are calling for severe weather conditions, please be sure to check the local radio or TV stations for information on school closings, late starts, or early dismissals.

To avoid disruptions in the classrooms should there be an early dismissal, we ask that you plan to have your

child picked up at the early dismissal time. Should you request to pick your child up before the students are dismissed, this will be considered an unexcused early release from school. Please understand teachers will be trying to prepare their students for the dismissal by completing class work, assigning homework, and in some cases returning from lunch.

Please make necessary arrangements in advance with your child so they are prepared in case of a weather related emergency.

## Membership News

Hooray! PTA has 155 members. We achieved our ten percent increase once again this year. Congratulations to the Cabonilas family for winning the movie and dinner gift cards valued at \$50. The classes who earned an ice cream party are Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Babp, Mrs. Golden and Mrs. Douglas AM-K. Winners of the refrigerator magnets are Mrs. Douglas, Fran Zaragoza (Nicholas' mom) and Pat Sroka (Jarín Kozemchak's grandparent).



Once again thank you to all those who became an Avona Stepper in 2005!