



Parent Handbook

2026-2027



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WELCOME TO

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are very excited to be starting a new AWANA club here at Wellman Baptist Church. We are so thankful for you and your family's interest in joining us on this journey. Helping you train up your child in the ways of the Lord is something that we as a ministry take very seriously, and we cannot wait to see how the Lord impacts you and your child's life through this program.

This handbook is designed to help you understand all facets of our AWANA program, and help your child(ren) be successful in every way. The help that you provide at home is VITAL to your child not only being able to memorize scripture, but for them to understand God's Word and how to apply to their lives. We pray this will be a tool added to your arsenal in your child's spiritual journey.

Please feel free to contact us at any time if you have any questions or let us know how we can better serve you. We look forward to ministering to you and your family and pray that we all have an amazing year.

For the Kingdom,

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WHAT IS AWANA?

For over 60 years, Awana has been a leader in children's ministry, equipping churches and parents worldwide to raise children to know, love, and serve Jesus Christ. Awana is a program for children ages 2 through 6th grades that incorporates Bible teaching and scripture memorization with tons of fun.

The acronym Awana is derived from the first letters of

"Approved workmen are not ashamed" as taken from **2 Timothy 2:15**:

"Study to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that need not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."



The Awana program is based on the concept of children learning about God by learning God's Word in a regular and systematic manner. Each club has age-appropriate handbooks for you and your 'clubber' to work on together. Clubbers are rewarded for remembering God's Word as they recite their verses with their club leaders on a weekly basis. Think of Awana this way: it's like a combination of scripture memory from Bible drills, along with the incentives of Scouts, with the fun and excitement of VBS! Awana truly is a unique program and nothing short of experiencing it can tell what it is really like!

AWANA CLUB NAMES:

AGES 2-3



PRESCHOOL



K — 2nd GRADE



3rd-6th Grade



WHAT HAPPENS AT AN AWANA MEETING?

An Awana meeting consists of 5 main parts:

- **Meal Time:** We will serve a meal at 5:30pm
- **Opening:** Clubbers recite the pledges and we start off the evening with prayer.
- **Small Group Time:** All clubs dedicate time to Bible Scripture memorization and application using age-appropriate handbooks. Clubbers complete sections in their handbook during handbook time and upon completing the handbook, they receive a new handbook to work on.
- **Large Group Time:** Gathering children together to hear about God's Word. Teaching the Bible in creative ways helps kids develop a love for God's Word, compels them to trust Christ, and grow spiritually. This time typically consists of: Bible teaching, a gospel presentation, worship.
- **Game Time:** Cubbies, Sparks & T&T practice teamwork and good sportsmanship by competing in fun, organized games.
- Please have your children wear clothing appropriate for Game Time (*no flip-flops, etc.*)

IS THERE A COST?

We are asking for a donation of \$15 per student to help with the purchase of curriculum. This is not required but would be greatly appreciated. You can give on our website at wellmanbaptist.org/give. We encourage a weekly offering of \$1 per child attending Cubbies, Sparks or T&T (or \$1/family if there is more than one child attending Awana). Awana offerings help support the Awana Ministry.

WHAT DOES MY CHILD NEED TO BRING EACH WEEK?

- BIBLE
- CLUB HANDBOOK (*or Entrance Brochure*)
- UNIFORM: Shirt
- TENNIS SHOES! It is very important for your child to wear tennis shoes due to the nature of Game Time. An injury may result if your child trips while participating.
- WEEKLY Offering of \$1

AWANA AWARDS

The Awana curriculum is fun, but it is also a lot of work! As such, we like to award our Clubbers for their achievements:

Uniform Awards: After reaching specific milestones in their handbook, Clubbers are presented with awards which will be displayed on their uniforms.

Book Awards: At our End-of-Year Awards Ceremony, book awards are presented to all Clubbers who have completed their handbook for the year.

HOW CHILDREN CAN EARN AWANA POINTS:

Bucks are earned by

2 Bucks- Coming To Club

2 Bucks- Bringing a \$1 offering (No Pennies)

5 Bucks–Bringing a Bible

5 Bucks- Bringing Your Handbook

5 Bucks- Wearing your club uniforms

10 Bucks–Participate in Theme Nights

AWANA STORE

At the end of the fall and spring semesters Puggles, Cubbies, Sparks, and T&T children will get to use their earned Awana Dollars at the Awana Store. There are a variety of items for purchase and donations are greatly accepted. Real cash cannot be used however, as the children must earn Awana Dollars by bringing their Bible to club, bringing their handbooks to club, theme nights, etc. Your child's Awana Dollars will be kept digitally and we will tell the children on store night how much they have to spend.

END-OF-YEAR AWARD CEREMONY

Our end-of-year ceremony is held Wednesday Night May 19. The ceremony allows all Clubbers to be recognized for completing handbooks and for being a part of Awana. It is our goal that all Clubbers complete one handbook during the Awana year. They'll earn various awards for completion of books, from ribbons to medallions.

Yearly Club Calendar

Each clubs handbook calendar will be published on our website at wellmanbaptist.org/awana.

HANDBOOK REQUIREMENTS – General Info for all clubs

Handbooks are an essential part of the Awana program. Every club has its own set of handbooks, and every Clubber should be working to complete their handbook before the end of the year.

Any time a child enters a new club, the first thing they must do is complete an entrance booklet. Once completed, usually in 1 to 3 weeks, the Clubber gets their uniform and handbook during the Closing part of Club Night.

All handbooks (*even the entrance booklets*) are divided into sections. **Clubbers should study their sections at home during the week**, and at their next Awana meeting a leader will sit with them one-on-one and review their sections. The leader will sign off when a Clubber completes a section signifying they can begin the next section.

Most sections involve memorizing Bible verses. Clubbers should be memorizing these verses (*including the verse reference*) AT HOME, and must recite these verses from memory when reviewing sections with a leader.

Please don't stress if your child gets behind, just keep working with them. After all, it is not all about scripture memorization, but how to apply it, and only you can teach them this at home. Although memorizing God's Word is very important, it can be a struggle for some. Therefore, we recommend that parents assist and encourage their child in learning their weekly verse, but not to the point of stress. Learning God's Word should be an enjoyable and positive childhood memory, not drudgery or conflict.

***For more info and handbook schedules on each club go to
wellmanbaptist.org/awana***



“NEED TO KNOW”

The teaching for **Awana Puggles** is built around four precepts:

- ◆ **God made everything**
- ◆ **God saw that it was good**
- ◆ **God is love**
- ◆ **Give thanks**

Teaching cards: The four precepts are spread across 32 teaching cards for lesson times. These large, colorful cards illustrate a simple lesson for toddlers to understand. Each week features a theme around one of the precepts and related core verses: **Genesis 1:1, John 1:3, Isaiah 42:5, Genesis 1:10, 1 John 4:15 and Psalm 105:1**. Puggles will need to be 2 years by September 1st.

Since the Puggles Club is designed to introduce toddlers to Awana, the Puggles club looks very different from other clubs. These children do have their own uniform but they do not have handbooks. The Puggles environment on Wednesday nights is not a nursery environment. It is more of a preschool environment where teachers are trying to reinforce learning along with Biblical principles. Children will engage in many age-appropriate activities and a typical night at Puggles will reinforce this routine.

Check in for Puggles is 5:20 P.M. Please do not drop your child off any earlier.



“NEED TO KNOW”

Cubbies, 3 to 5 years old, is a two-year weekly club program for preschoolers in the two years prior to kindergarten. Our purpose is to help your child take their first little step on a lifelong spiritual journey. Cubbies encourages parental involvement. Your child's handbooks feature parent/child activities for home. You will lead your child through handbook sections called **Bear Hugs**, to prepare for the next club gathering. Each **Bear Hug** includes optional activities, called "**Under the Apple Tree**," for reviewing Bible verses & lessons learned earlier. <https://clubs.awana.org/awana-clubs-parents/> has review material that you can listen to together. During club time, your Cubbie will review the verse you helped teach at home. Working through the handbook with your child develops your spiritual leadership & helps you instill your child with a lifelong biblical worldview.

The Entrance Booklet for Cubbies is called the **Apple Acres Entrance Booklet**. It includes Bear Hug A & B sections, Cubbies key verse and motto, fun activity pages, basic Cubbies info and a Gospel presentation. At the beginning of each year, all new & returning Cubbies will complete this brochure.

After brochure completion, all Cubbies will complete 2 Cubbie handbooks: **AppleSeed** & **HoneyComb**. Both are written in a fun, storybook style with read-aloud stories & lovable characters that appeal to preschoolers. The **AppleSeed** & **HoneyComb** handbooks combine basic Scripture memory with parent-child activities to help Cubbies grasp simple biblical truths. One handbook is completed in a club year. Each handbook contains 26 Bear Hug sections along with four special-day sections.

This Awana year is a AppleSeed year.

Teaching begins at home. Each week, the parents help their Cubbie complete the scheduled Bear Hug at home in preparation for the teaching at club the following week. Cubbies recite their memory verse to their leader at club. The goal is for all Cubbies to progress at the same rate, one Bear Hug per week. Each week parents need to read the Bear Hug material to their children, help them memorize the verse at the end of the section, & sign off the section when they've learned it. At Club, we will center everything we do on the same truth you have already worked on at home. Our story, games, craft & even our snack will reinforce the teaching your child has received from you. By creating this partnership, we hope to really "cement" that week's truth into our Cubbies' minds & hearts.

Completing all 26 Bear Hugs in the book is a requirement for earning a Cubbie Book Award at the end of the year.

Each Bear Hug also contains an Under the Apple Tree supplemental section. Under the Apple Tree fun activities are optional, & not required for book completion. All Cubbies work on the same Bear Hug at the same time. If your child has missed a week of club, be sure to check the Cubbie calendar for the current week's Bear Hug. After completing the current Bear Hug, work on making up any missed Bear Hugs. Do not work ahead on future Bear Hugs. The same shirt is used for both Cubbie years. Patches will be awarded for successful completion of handbook sections. Please refer to the back of the Cubbie Handbook for proper placement of patches on the Cubbie Uniform.



“NEED TO KNOW”

Before working in a handbook, all newcomers to **Sparks** will complete an entrance booklet – **Flight 3:16** – that centers on the Gospel message of **John 3:16**. Flight 3:16 teaches basic Bible truths and the salvation message. After completing the entrance booklet, your child is an official member of the Sparks Club, and moves onto the **HangGlider** handbook. From there, Clubbers work in three handbooks: (According to grade) **HangGlider, WingRunner, & SkyStormer**. Each handbook builds a foundation of biblical wisdom through memory verse drills, crafts, activities and review of key doctrine and Bible facts. These handbooks will take Sparkies on a chronological journey through Scripture – **Genesis through Revelation** – with regular layovers to meet important Bible characters along the way. Each book includes verse memory sections, Bible biographies, and activities. With a helpful audio included in each handbook, kids and their parents can listen to the biographies come alive through exciting dramatic readings, complete with music and sound effects!

Clubbers returning to Sparks continue in any unfinished Sparks handbook then proceeds on to the next appropriate handbook: **WingRunner** or **SkyStormer**

A Clubber cannot start the **WingRunner** book unless they are in 1st grade and cannot start the **SkyStormer** book unless they are in 2nd grade. Extra credit work is available for Clubbers who are eager to finish work early.

Clubbers progress at their own pace in Sparks. Sections in each Sparks handbooks are grouped into a Rank Path, four Red Jewels and four Green Jewels. All sections in the book must be completed in order, section by section, with the exception of the Bring-A-Friend section. Clubbers can continue working through their books even if this section is not completed.

<https://clubs.awana.org/awana-clubs-parents/> has review material that you can listen to together.



“NEED TO KNOW”

T&T engages 3rd – 6th graders by answering their questions about God and the Bible, guiding them through this pivotal life stage to grow in Christ's grace. Handbooks and large-group lessons deepen a child's knowledge about God and His Word and teach how to put that knowledge into action in everyday life. T&T is different from other Awana programs.

The entrance booklet for T&T is called the **Start Zone**. Before working in a handbook, kids new to T&T complete this entrance booklet that explains God's plan of salvation. Once a Clubber completes the appropriate Start Zone, he or she will receive the current **T&T handbook**.

T&T Clubs are on the all-together method which means each week, the child is responsible for completing the same section of their handbook and memorizing the same memory verse as the other clubbers. Clubbers who join T&T late, will join the group after completing their entrance booklet and begin in the same section of the group. That child has the option of completing other previous sections of the handbook to receive credit for book completion.

<https://clubs.awana.org/awana-clubs-parents/> has review material that you can listen to together.

Check In and Check Out Policy

Check In will be under the breezeway beginning at 5:20. This is when we will mark how many Awana bucks your kids earned that night by bringing a bible, handbooks, uniforms, etc. **Parents please accompany your children to check in. Do not drop off kids before 5:20 pm**

Check out

If your child will be in parent pick up we will start pick up at 7:35. Pick up location will be under the breezeway. See picture below. If you are a volunteer you can check your child out with there teacher once your class has been picked up.



Awana Rules

- No Cellphones during Awana Clubs
- Respect Adult Authority at all times
- Keep your hands to yourself (No pushing, shoving, fighting etc.)
- No Foul or Inappropriate language
- Remain Seated during mealtimes
- Tennis Shoes must be worn at all times
- No running inside
- Entrance Booklet must be completed to earn handbook and/or uniform

THE ABC'S OF BEING AN AWANA PARENT

After Awana, talk to your children to discuss what they learned in Awana.

Be sure to say "I love you" to your child each day.

Consider the possibility of serving in the Awana Club Ministry.

Deuteronomy 6:7 "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home & when
you walk along the road, when you lie down & when you get up."

Encourage your children to invite their friends to Awana.

Find time each day to help your children memorize their Scripture verses.

Guide your children in applying Biblical truths to everyday situations.

Help your children remember to bring their Bibles, handbooks, and uniforms to Awana.

If you have the gift of teaching, offer to present the message during Large Group Time.

Jump in and donate items or a monetary donation for our Awana store.

Keept the Awana calendar on your fridge to be prepared for the weekly theme nights.

Look for special events that require volunteers and consider offering to help.

Mark your calendar for the Awards Ceremony that is held in May - bring the whole family!

Notify Awana leadership about your child's learning styles or special needs.

Offer to memorize the same verse your child is doing.

Pray each day for your children.

Quiz your children to help them reinforce their memorized verses.

Reserve time each day for family devotions.

Seek out times each week to pray for your child's Awana leader.

Tell your Clubber they must wear Tennis shoes to club!

Use the Bible and have your Clubber look up their verses!

Verify you have initialed your children's handbooks after they recite sections to you.

Work together as a family to minister to those in your community.

Xerox copies of verses and put them in various places to help with memorization.

Yes, as parents, you have the most influence on your child's spiritual development!

Zoom in on your children's accomplishments and look for ways to affirm them.

Awana Calendar

Club Year: 2026-2027

Time: 5:30pm-7:30pm

September

2nd- Club
9th-Club
16th-Club
23rd-Club
30th-No Club- *Revival

October

7th-Club
14th-Western Night
21st-Club
28th-Club

November

4th-Club
11th-Patriotic Night
18th-Club
25th-No Club
*Thanksgiving Break

December

2nd- Club
9th- Club
16th- Christmas Party
(Awana Store)
23-30- No Club
*Christmas Break

January

6th-Club
13th-Club
20th-Pajama Night
27th-Club

February

3rd-Dress Like A Mess
10th-Club
17th-Club
24th-Club

April

7th- Club
14th-Club
21st-Club
28th-Club

May

5th-Club
12th-Last Club Night
(Awana Store)
19th- Awards Night

March

3rd-Club
10th-No Club
*Spring Break
17th-Club
24th-Club
31st-Club

