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29 February 2008

Guiding Principle of the Week

How you say it is as important as what you say.

100 Days Old

February 20th marked the first 100 days of the Aveson school year and the first 100 days of our school history. To mark this milestone, K-2 students were asked to collaborate with their families to create an artwork using 100 items. From mountains made of piled cars to volcanoes designed from seed pods, the K-2 creations reflected the diversity and imagination of our rich community! These innovative works of art will be on display at our next Celebration of Learning on April 3rd and 4th in the K-2 cadre.

K-2 students also penned poems about the number 100 and made "100th Day Hash" by taking 10 pieces of 10 different food items (marshmallows, chocolate chips, dried cranberries, almonds, popcorn, mints, pretzels, cheerios, chex, and grapes). Students also spent their time counting in various ways to make 100, and building with 100 blocks. Thank you to everyone for an amazing 100th day!

Here's what some of our K-2 students had to say about Aveson's 100th day:

"I felt good about my project, it was really hard. I loved the 100th day it was

the best day of my life."

"I felt really good about my 100 day project. I didn't just like the 100th day, I loved it!"

" I was really happy because I made the beach and I love the beach."

"It was great, I got to do my project with my Mom and my Dad."

Save the Date

Your Aveson Parent Liasons invite you to our first Family Potluck Mixer. Come and meet the families in your school, share good food and learn about upcoming school events!

K-2 Potluck March 28th 6-8pm

3-5 Potluck March 21st 6-8pm

6-9 Potluck March 13th 6-8pm

If your last name begins with:

A-H please bring a main dish

I-P please bring a dessert

Q-Z please bring a side dish or salad

Bring the whole family! Your Parent Liasons will provide beverages, paper goods and everything else. See you there!

Bienvenida

Please join us in warmly welcoming our newest K-5 Spanish teacher Mey-Ling Molina.

Culture & Climate Action Team Meeting

The Culture and Climate Action Team will meet at 7:00pm on Thursday, March 6th in the Spot/lounge.

Planting the Future

On Tuesday, March 3rd, the non-profit Common Vision will roll onto the Aveson campus in a caravan of veggie powered buses for a day of tree planting and tree dedication complete with traditional West African drumming. This long anticipated gardening event will mark the birthdate of our school orchard. For more information about Common Vision please visit www.commonvision.org or check out this [inspiring video](#).

Building Community Through Music

This week a trio of eighth grade students visited the K-2 advisories and played their acoustic guitars. Live renditions included "Stairway to Heaven." Thank you Alex, Caitlin and Dominick for sharing your music.

The Power of Choice

On Wednesday and Thursday the Aveson secondary students participated in a program called CHOICES - an interactive, decision-making workshop that empowers teens to achieve academic success in pursuit of their career and life aspirations.

In two 50-minute sessions, community volunteers Jennifer Jirkovsky and David Miller, from Bank of America, took students through real-world exercises on academic self-discipline, time and money management, and goal setting. In the CHOICES Challenge exercise, the presenter asked students to consider a series of real-life alternatives, such as whether to attend a basketball game or stay home to study. The students discovered that not only might they pass or fail a test depending on their decision, but that the consequences from one simple choice, or a series of choices, could affect them for the rest of their lives. More importantly, they learned they can anticipate the possible result of their decisions before they make them.

CHOICES also made a compelling case for the way education—or the lack of it—affects a person's options. During another exercise, three students played the roles of a high school dropout, a high school graduate, and a person with education beyond high school. The rest of the class pretended to be an employment agency, trying to match the students with available jobs. All the

students quickly realized how broader job options are available to those with a higher level of education.

We thank Dave and Jennifer for the generous gift of their time and experience!

Get Seussy

On March 3rd, K-2 students are invited to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday by dressing like a Dr. Seuss character or in the spirit of Dr. Seuss' whimsical illustrations. Puppets and mystery readers will also be on hand!

Yearbooks on Sale

Aveson Yearbook Staff '07-'08 announces Presale of Yearbooks Set for **March 3rd through March 7th!**

Presale price will be \$20.00 per yearbook.

Yearbooks will be \$25.00 each after March 7th.

A yearbook representative will visit each advisory class (K-9) every morning for the week of March 3-7 to collect payments that can be made in cash or by check (made out to Aveson). Students who purchase a yearbook will receive a receipt.

Advertising and dedication space is still available.

Any questions?

Contact janusstechel@aveson.org

Yearbook Advisor

One-of-a-Kind Stationary Sale

Your child has designed his or her very own note card! As a fundraiser for our organization, all of our children's note cards are being professionally printed — in classic black-on-ivory — and offered to parents at an extremely attractive price.

The 4-¼ x 5-½" note cards will be packaged 50 to a set, wrapped in sparkling, star-studded cellophane, and topped off with a glittering golden ribbon to create a beautiful package ready for gift giving. You may purchase as many sets as you wish for \$20.00 each. A substantial portion of the profit from every sale will benefit our organization.

These heartwarming note cards are an exceptional value! Whether you purchase them for personal use, holiday greetings, or priceless gifts, your child will gain pride and self-confidence — and discover the joy of giving of oneself!

To purchase, please complete an order form - available from your child's Advisory - and return with payment to your child's teacher by **March 7, 2008**.

Kids' Night at Vernon Lee Gymnastics

Vernon Lee Gymnastics will host its next Aveson Kids' Night on March 22 from 6-11pm. Aveson students are welcome to walk in and pay at the door. \$25 for the 1st child and \$20 for siblings. Checks or cash are accepted.

To date, attending Aveson students have raised over \$1000 towards Aveson school field trips! For more information please call 626-796-6011.

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