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9 November 2007

Guiding Principle of the Week

Your commitment is to make others around you successful.

Playground Progress

The Aveson Team extends its gratitude to all of the volunteers who helped resurface the K-2 blacktop area - adjacent to the Library/Flex Room - on Friday, November 9, 2007! *Thank you for your hard work.*

Colores y Frutas: A Message from Spanish Instructors Karen Aenlle & Byron Perez

*A great big thank you for the wonderful welcome and all the support given to us - Aveson's Team Espanol! We are very pleased and excited with our lovely group of children and their teachers who have been very helpful to us. The students have been working very hard, so please encourage them to share with you. Ask them about "colores" and "frutas." They'll explain further!
Adios amigos!*

Aveson's Whole Foods Scratch Kitchen & Culinary

Arts Center

In addition to supporting the Aveson Annual Fund and Painless Fundraising efforts, the Fundraising Action Team asks that you consider a donation specifically toward improving the Healthy Living and Culinary Arts Program. Be sure to stop by the fundraising table right outside the Aveson Kitchen next Thursday or Friday evening during our *Celebration of Learning* (November 15th and 16th) and learn more about how you can help our school with essential teaching tools, equipment and operating expenses to build a full service whole foods scratch kitchen and Culinary Arts Center at Aveson. Yum!

Point of View: *from Marina Guirguis, Instructional Coach*

It is an honor to be a part of the Aveson team of educators and students. Classes and programs buzz with innovation and excitement, as young learners are truly inspired to find their unique path to academic and social success. As an instructional coach having consulted in many schools, the organic and holistic approach to learning at Aveson is unlike any other educational institution I have ever served. Students attend core classes that challenge their thinking, empowering them to become self-motivated researchers and problem solvers. Project-based learning provides an opportunity for students to apply their skills to creative, multi-disciplinary projects and experiments. I am humbled by the opportunity to work with such a vibrant and professional staff in such an electric and vital learning environment.

Scholastic Book Fair

Grow your child's personal library and support Aveson at the same time! Aveson's first book fair will be held next week. Picture books, emergent readers, young readers, YA novels, Caldecott and Newbury Award Winners and literary classics will all be on sale for your reading pleasure.

The Fair will take place on the following dates in the computer lab adjacent to the Aveson Cafe. Follow the signs and balloons!

Wednesday, November 14, 2007 from 9am to 4pm

Thursday, November 15, 2007 from 9am -1pm and 4-8pm

Friday, November 16, 2007 from 9am-1pm and 4-8pm

The Circle

As part of the culture and climate we are fostering at Aveson, teachers and students gather each morning and afternoon in advisory circle to explore classroom dynamics, community issues and personal narratives. The following guidelines are observed during the morning and afternoon advisory circle:

The Circle - To promote the safe and free exchange of ideas, all advisory students and teachers sit together in a circle at the opening and close of each school day. This traditional forum fosters respect and equity among all members.

The Talking Piece - When the talking piece is held by a student or teacher, everyone else knows to listen.

Every Voice - Each member of the circle has an equal opportunity to speak. Conversely, each member of the circle may choose to pass the talking piece without speaking.

Truth & Heart - Speakers are encouraged to always speak with honesty and compassion.

Respect for All - Even in the midst of differing viewpoints, patience and respect define the circle.

Consensus Building - All ideas shared in the circle are given equal importance. Whenever possible, decisions are made by consensus.

Safety - Members of the circle should ask for permission before sharing stories outside of the circle.

Reminder

School closed on Monday, November 12, 2007, in observation of Veterans Day. School ends at 1:30pm on Thursday and Friday, November 15 &16, in anticipation of our *Celebration of Learning*.

Next Issue

In our next issue we'll touch on Cadre Reports, Personalized Learning Plans (PLPs) and the Celebration of Learning.

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