



Parent Manual

2023-2024

Byron Center Bible Church

8855 Byron Center Ave SW

Byron Center, MI 49315

(616) 878-9658

awana@byronbible.org

www.byronbible.org

Dear Parents,




We cannot wait to get to know you and your child during this coming year. Awana is an amazing program designed to focus our children on God, and we feel so privileged to serve you in this capacity. Our goal is to give your child an exciting program that will strengthen their desire to learn more about God and grow in their relationship with Him. This booklet is designed to answer your questions about our Awana program and give you some important information about the year ahead. If however, you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Andrew Kusneske
Awana Commander
(616) 437-7225
awana@byronbible.org

Awana Leadership Team

Commander	- Andrew Kusneske	(616) 437-7225
Cubbies Director	- Leah Kusneske	(616) 916-5893
Sparks Directors	- Elissa Lee	(616) 690-1112
	Kim Luce	(616) 318-5989
T&T Director	- Pastor Ron Tuinstra	(616) 318-9314

Welcome

Club	Age
Cubbies	3 – 5 (Must be 3 years old by September 1, 2023) 
Sparks	K – 2nd grade 
T&T	3 rd – 6 th grade 

Welcome to Awana Clubs! You will make new friends, play exciting games, enjoy challenging contests, earn awards, and learn a lot! If you have older siblings, please invite them to come along: Youth Group (7th – 12th grade) is also on Wednesday nights.

What is Awana?

Awana is a global, nonprofit ministry with fully integrated evangelism and long-term discipleship programs for ages 2 to 18 that actively involves parents and church leaders. Each week, more than 3.7 million children and youth, 470,000 volunteers and 260 field staff take part in Awana in over 47,000 churches around the world. Offered through local churches, Awana reaches kids where they're at and walks alongside them in their faith journey. The name Awana stands for 'Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed' from 2 Timothy 2:15.

Pricing

Cubbies Vest <i>(same uniform for 2 years)</i>	\$10	
Cubbies Handbook w/CD	\$10	
Cubbies Book Bag <i>(Optional)</i>	\$5	
Sparks Vest <i>(same uniform for 3 years)</i>	\$10	
Sparks Handbook w/CD	\$10	
Sparks Book Bag <i>(Optional)</i>	\$5	
T&T Shirt <i>(same shirt for 4 years)</i>	\$10	
T&T Handbook	\$10	
T&T Sling Bag <i>(Optional)</i>	\$5	

Dues

\$10 per year per child, \$30 Family Max

Dues help supplement the cost of Awana materials.

They also help pay for all book awards, prizes,
game supplies, and much more.

If any of these costs would prevent your child(ren) from participating, please reach out to any of the staff or the Church office and we will get you set up.

Awana Calendar 2023-2024

September

- 6 **Awana begins!**
- 13 Regular Club Night
- 20 **Crazy Hair Night**
- 27 Regular Club Night

October

- 4 **Bring a Friend**
- 11 Regular Club Night
- 18 **Michigan/Michigan State Night**
- 25 Regular Club Night

November

- 1 **Stuffed Animal Night**
- 8 Regular Club Night
- 15 **Camo Night**
- 22 **No Awana (Thanksgiving Break)**
- 29 Regular Club Night

December

- 6 **Hat Night**
- 13 Regular Club Night
- 20 **Red/Green Night**
- 27 **No Awana (Christmas Break)**

Participate in Monthly Theme Nights to earn points for your team!

January 3 **No Awana – Christmas Break**
10 **Pajama Night**
17 Regular Club Night
24 **Winter** Olympics **Night**
31 Regular Club Night

February 7 **SOUPer Bowl Drive**
14 **Valentine Night**
21 Regular Club Night
28 Regular Club Night

March 6 **Summer Night**
13 Regular Club Night
20 **Bring a Friend/Photo Booth**
27 Regular Club Night

April 3 **No Awana (Spring Break)**
10 **Neon/Glow Night**
17 **Last night to say sections**
24 **Fairmont Fair**

Snow Days

- **Please Note:** “The weather policy is that even if schools are closed, the leadership will determine whether to cancel or not. This is determined between 3:00-5:00 PM. An e-mail will be sent out to let you know if there is a cancellation. Cancellation information will be on TV Channels 8 & 13 as well.”
- The email notification will be sent to the email address you provided on the registration form. Please be sure to check your spam folder.
- If you’re unsure, please call someone on the Awana Leadership Team as the church secretary may not be in the office.
- In the event of a snow day, clubbers can record their section(s) and text it to the director or secretary of their club. This should only be used for snow days unless otherwise approved.

My child must stay home if..

MY CHILD SHOULD STAY HOME IF:



They have a fever of 100.4 or higher.



They have vomited in the past 24 hours.



They have had diarrhea in the past 24 hours.



They have an unidentified rash.



They have head lice.



They have an eye infection.

MY CHILD CAN RETURN WHEN:

They are free of fever 24 hours without fever reducing medication.

They are free of vomiting for 24 hours.

They are free of diarrhea for 24 hours.

Rash is cleared or a doctor has confirmed its not contagious.

They have been effectively treated and are free of lice and nits.

They have been treated at least 24 hours prior.

Club Rules

In order to have a safe, enjoyable, and orderly environment for all the children, our Awana Club has established some rules. Our leaders will enforce these rules, and it would be very helpful to us if you would remind your clubber that we expect them to be followed.

- Respect and obey your leaders and other staff members.
- Take part in the entire night unless you've brought a note from your parents or are excused by your club director.
- Remain with your leaders at all times during club.
- Remain in the church building at all times.
- Gym shoes are a must for safety reasons.
- No use of foul language or gestures.
- No kicking, hitting, tripping, rough housing, fighting, etc.
- Please do not bring balls/toys with you from home.

Security

The security of your children is very important to us. All of our workers have passed background checks and should always be wearing a shirt or name tag identifying them as Awana workers.

We welcome you to visit the club at any time; however, please do your best to not disturb the clubbers so the night can run with as few distractions as possible.

Check-In policy:

- All clubbers must be checked in by an approved adult each night of AWANA.
- This is required so we know who is in the building.

Dismissal policy:

- Cubbies must be checked out by an approved adult, and picked up in the Cubbies Room.
- Sparks must be checked out by an approved adult and picked up from their classroom.
- T&T clubbers must be checked out by an approved adult and picked up in the Gym.

How You Can Help

Moms and Dads – You are important in helping your child enjoy the Awana program. Here are a few of our suggestions:

- Help your child attend Awana every week. Faithful attendance helps to build friendships, and enables the clubber to achieve awards.
- Be sure to arrive on time. Awana starts promptly at 6:45 (6:30 for T&T verse recitation). Please do not drop your child off before 6:30.
- Encourage your child to learn the Bible verses during the week at home. If they study consistently each week, they should be able to finish their book by the end of the year to earn their book award.
- Make sure your child wears their Awana uniform and brings their book and Bible each week. This instills a pride in their club and helps earn points for their teams.
- To ensure the safety of all children, please follow dismissal procedures for all clubs.
- Please pick your clubber up no later than 8:20.
- Make sure to have a permission form filled out for your child. This form must be filled out by the parent/guardian in order for the child to play games after his/her first week.

Nightly Schedule

All clubs meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:45 – 8:15pm with the exception of T&T verse recitation at 6:30. Please **do not drop your clubber off before 6:30**. This allows our directors and leaders to prepare and set up their rooms for the evening. If you do arrive early, it may be beneficial to take the time outside to review your child's verses with them.

Cubbies

6:45	Drop-Off in Sanctuary - Opening
7:00	Game Time
7:25	Song and Story Time
7:45	Book, Snack, and Play Time
8:15	Pickup in Cubbie Room

Sparks

6:45	Drop-Off in Sanctuary - Opening
7:00	Lesson, Songs and Awards
7:25	Game Time
7:50	Book Time
8:15	Pickup In Classroom

T&T

6:30	Verse Recitation
6:45	Drop-Off in Sanctuary - Opening
7:00	Large Group Time
7:25	Small Group Time
7:50	Game Time and Awards
8:15	Dismissal from Gym

This handbook has information for this current Awana year, 2023-2024. Please keep it in a place where you can reference it often.