



Dear Parent,

Thank you for your interest in our AWANA program. AWANA is a part of our Children's Ministry (FBC KIDS) here at FBC Martin. FBC Martin Children's Ministry exists to help preschoolers and elementary age children live the Great Commandment and fulfill the Great Commission.

- To equip children with Scripture: helping them to see how the entire Bible points to Jesus Christ and the gospel, and to live in obedience to Jesus Christ in service through His church (Bible)
- To make disciples who are disciple makers (Discipleship)
- To train children to live on mission for God and practice evangelism as a part of their everyday life (Evangelism).
- To teach children about missions and provide opportunities for children to serve on the mission field within their community, nation, and world (Missions).
- To foster fellowship and love among our children that reflects Jesus Christ (Fellowship).

What is AWANA?

The word AWANA comes from the first letters of Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed (2 Tim. 2:15). AWANA strongly emphasizes memorizing and understanding Scripture. Psalm 119:11 says, Thy (God's) Word (the Bible) have I hid in mine heart, that I might not sin against Thee. The Bible teaches that studying (2Tim 2:15) and memorizing God's Word are keys to winning the battle against sin. The Word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (Heb 4:12). Our children discover that the verses they learn in AWANA help them live Christ-honoring lives.

A Typical AWANA Night

Cubbies:

Cubbies is a two-year weekly club for preschoolers during the two years (sometimes three years) prior to Kindergarten. Our purpose is to help your child take their first little step on a lifelong journey. Scripture instructs Parents to teach their children about God's Word, little by little, day by day. The Cubbies program is designed to help parents and leaders in this critical role.

Club time is broken down into many areas. All of the areas tie into each other based on the Teaching Aim for the lesson. The areas are: pledges, announcements, prayer, puppets, songs, motto, key verse, story time, book time (verse recital and activity), play time, and snack time.

Each week the parent will help the child learn a verse, and then at club we will reinforce that verse with many activities. As we partner together, we hope to really "cement" that week's truth into our Cubbies' minds and hearts.

Sparks & T&T:

Opening ceremonies in the Tree House.

Handbook Time: Handbook time consists of individual clubbers reciting the verse(s) they learned at home with their leaders as well as other handbook assignments. When the leader is satisfied with the clubber's grasp of the material memorized (or the task completed) he or she will sign the handbook, recording the clubber's progress.

Large Group Time: Council time includes singing, announcements, and a story or lesson that shows how the Bible's teachings apply to everyday life.

Game Time: Game time is where clubbers learn new games and get to know each other in friendly competition. Please be sure your child has a good pair of well-fitted tennis shoes so he or she will be ready to go.

Schedule, Drop Off, & Pick Up:

Our night begins at 6:00 and ends at 7:45. Please have your child here on time so they don't miss out on anything and picked up promptly at 7:45.

Cubbie parents must check their children in at the nursery.

Sparks & T&T parents must check their children in upstairs outside the Tree House.

Pick Up: We have a car line to make it easier for you to pick up your child.

Classroom Locations: Cubbies will meet in the nursery area. Sparks & T&T will meet upstairs in and around the children's department (C hallway), starting in the Tree House.

Nightly schedule

Sparks: Kindergarten- 2nd Grades

6:00 - 6:05 Opening

6:05 - 6:35 Handbook Time

6:35 - 7:05 Game Time

7:05 - 7:40 Large Group Time

T & T Girls: 3rd-5th Grades

6:00 - 6:05 Opening

6:05 - 6:35 Game Time

6:35 - 7:05 Handbook Time

7:05 - 7:40 Large Group Time

T & T Boys: 3rd-5th Grades

6:00 - 6:05 Opening

6:05 - 6:35 Handbook Time

6:35 - 7:10 Large Group Time

7:10 - 7:40 Game Time

Handbook Hints & Procedures:

AWANA handbooks are designed to be completed over the course of a year with parental involvement at home. Reading through your clubber's handbook will help you become more familiar with AWANA, its goals, and how your child can achieve awards for reaching milestones throughout the club year. A clubber who averages 2 or 3 sections a week will remain on track for the completion of his or her handbook. Try taking a few minutes each day to encourage your clubber to work in his or her handbook. Some parents use a few minutes after dinnertime or just before bedtime to review a handbook section together, talk about the meaning of the verses read, and then close the day with prayer with their child.

Cubbies will learn one verse per week. If your child misses a night or we miss due to weather or other church activities it might be that they will learn more than one verse per week as the year comes to an end.

AWANA STORE:

Your child will receive points for bringing their Bible, handbook, mission money, or other items as listed on the calendar of events. They can also receive points for wearing their uniform, participating in game time, and for participating in theme nights. They will have a designated time to go to the store to spend their points.

What We Expect from Clubbers:

Clubbers - This ministry is mostly for you and helping you learn more about Christ through the written Word of God. It is up to you what you make of it. Your parents and leaders have all made a commitment to help you do your best. Your requirements are also commitments. Please read them, and the better you practice them, the better the club year will be.

- Respect God and His Word.
- Be prepared. Each week you will need to memorize and recite two or three sections to complete your handbook.
- Be respectful of those around you. This means adults and fellow clubbers. Watch your surroundings and see where you can help others.
- Wear your uniform and bring your Bible, Handbook, and mission money each night.
- Participate in your club each week during game time, handbook time, and council time. Also be willing to participate in the special events throughout the year.

Cost:

We will supply your child's book. However, if it is lost, you will have to buy the replacement. You will need to purchase your child's uniform. Cubbies and Sparks wear a vest, and their awards will be placed on the vest. T&Ts wear a T-shirt that their awards will be placed on. The cost for the Cubbies' and Sparks' vests are \$14. The cost for the T & T&T-shirts is \$19.

Ways you can help:

We are always in need of extra volunteers to help with our Cubbies as they say their verses or work on an art project. If you can help at least one night a month that would be greatly appreciated. We can also use volunteers in our Sparks and T&T's to listen to our children say their verses. You will be blessed as you listen to God's Children learn His Word.

Stay Connected:

Children's Resource Page: Under the Resources & Media Page at www.fbcmartin.org

Remind Texting Groups:

K – 2nd Parents: text @fbkk-2 to 81010

3rd – 5th Parents: text @fbk3-5 to 81010

Parent Facebook Page: Search "FBC Martin Children's Parents" on Facebook

God Bless You,
Sue Brewer, Commander
Matt Brewer, Associate Pastor of Children