



FIRST AVENUE MIDDLE SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

F I R S T A V E N U E M I D D L E S C H O O L P T S A

DEC 2010/
JAN 2011



FIRST AVENUE PTSA

- ◆ Jeff Wilson, Principal
- ◆ Vicky Stiles, President
- ◆ Maryann Stevens, Editor

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PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Giving Thanks

It is hard to believe that the holiday season is already upon us and that we have been in school for nearly 13 weeks - time flies.... As I look back on this THANKSGIVING season, it seems an appropriate time to reflect on all of the blessings in our lives and to give thoughts and consideration to those who are less fortunate.

Just before Thanksgiving, we had our annual canned food drive here at First Avenue. It was wonderful to see the enthusiasm and responsiveness of our students as they stepped outside of their comfort zone to

help those Arcadia families who are struggling during these very difficult economic times. I want to THANK each and every one of you who have purchased a little extra soup or chili to help feed those who are most in need.

I am so THANKFUL for our newly remodeled and beautiful campus. The students really enjoy their new classrooms with the amazing instructional technology that has been added to help bring learning to life, in a whole new dimension. As you drive by the campus every day, I am sure that you continue to be struck by how great everything looks. The field area is an

amazing resource for our students and for the community. Speaking of amazing, how about the incredible new music building? Just yesterday, I had a conversation with Mr. Danielson about the impact the new building has already had on our music program. The dynamics of the room allow our students to hear in detail, all of the various parts being played - including their own. The folding glass door system opens up the room to the pristine grass lawn in the front of the school, allowing for small group practice or even for the marching band to practice their steps before parades.

Continued on page 2

Principal's Message

Continued from page 1

I continue to give THANKS for an amazing teaching staff who daily demonstrates their commitment to our students and to their growth as learners and as human beings. I am THANKFUL for the support staff of First Avenue, each of whom works diligently to provide an atmosphere that is conducive to maximum learning and to helping students feel safe and secure while at school.

Finally, I am so THANKFUL for a caring community of parents, relatives, friends and community leaders who care so much for our students. Arcadia is a very special place to raise a family. THANK YOU for continuing to invest in the lives of First Avenue students.

Here is wishing the best for you and your family during the holidays.

Jeff Wilson

Invitation to all 8th Graders & Parents

Arcadia High School's Fall Preview Day is coming up— mark your calendar for Saturday, December 11. It will take place from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Look for more information via e-mail in "What's Happening Next Week at FA."



President's Message

The *Season of Giving* is upon us, at least according to advertising executives. At First Avenue Middle School, giving is a year round activity. Friends and family of our students gave generously to support our school through the PTSA's QSP magazine sales drive. We sold hundreds of subscriptions for over \$35,000 in sales! Many thanks to Ways and Means Vice President Theresia Liem for coordinating the sales drive.

If you were at First Avenue PTSA's shopping night at Fresh & Easy, Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Issa greeted you at the door, then you had your choice of teachers to bag your groceries. An incredible 17 teachers and staff volunteered their time to support our fundraising night. We had a great time and raised nearly \$400!

PTSA uses donations to fund programs such as Reflections. This year we had a record 114 entries in the Reflections contest! The winners in each division go on to compete against winners from the other middle schools and will ultimately go on to be judged against winners from other school districts. Arcadia has had several winners go on to State and one even won Nationals! Our children are so creative and the Reflections contest is a great way to demonstrate and recognize those talents. Reflections Chairperson, Judy Lee, did a fantastic job of managing the contest.

The talents of our young musicians were on display at the Fall Strings Concert and the Arcadia Festival of Bands. Our drill team and flag team also performed beautifully during parades. Zero period band and orchestra, and the rock band will perform in winter concerts as well.

The students enjoyed music of a different type at the school dance that was held on October 29. PTSA Chairperson Bernie Schmitt and her crew of parent chaperones provided tasty snacks and poured water and lemonade all night as hungry and thirsty students took breaks from dancing. Thanks Bernie!

Our families continued to show their generosity during the "Can You Help" canned food drive for Arcadia Welfare & Thrift. Cans of soup, chili and Vienna sausages will help provide meals to needy local residents. Many, many thanks to all of you and especially to chairperson Weiyi Ro!

First Avenue PTSA is proud to announce that we have 100% membership! Thank you all for joining and adding your voice to speak on behalf of all children. Membership Vice President Karen Acosta led the effort to meeting that awesome goal. The top classes will receive pizza parties to reward their efforts as well.

Thank you all for your continued generosity. Whether you bought a magazine subscription, frozen yogurt or groceries; or if you gave your time to help your child with their Reflections entry; or if you poured hundreds of cups of water or stood out in the rain, THANK YOU!

Wishing you and yours a wonderful holiday season,

Vicky Stiles

PTSA President 2010-2011

vickycstiles@gmail.com

From the Assistant Principal's Desk...

Hello First Avenue Families!

It's hard to believe that we celebrated Thanksgiving already and soon the holidays will be upon us. The school year has been moving along quite smoothly and we've had quite a few activities.

First Avenue School Dance

The first school dance of the school year took place on October 29th at Baldwin Stocker's multipurpose room and what a dance it was! For the first time, there were 300 kids that showed up to dance and have fun. Our DJ, John Villa, was awesome, as he played some incredible music and got all the kids on the floor and led the conga line of quite a few kids. Our teacher chaperones also joined in the fun with dancing along, and Mr. Wilson showed his dance moves to the great music. The parents provided us with some great snacks and drinks to keep us hydrated with all that dancing going on. Thanks to all that helped make the dance a success. Our next dance will take place in February 2011, and we look forward to another great event.

Intramural Football

The intramural football league sponsored by the Arcadia Parks and Recreation has been going on for two months. The kids have been practicing on Mondays and Wednesdays, and games usually take place on Fridays against Dana Middle School, Foothills Middle School, Barnhart Middle School, and other schools from the city of Duarte. As of November 17th, the 8th grade team is 3-1, the 7th grade is 0-2, and the 6th grade is 1-1. Now that the season is over, the all-star season has begun. They finished off the season by playing in a tournament on Wednesday and Friday, November 17 and 19th. The A Division All-Stars is composed of 7th and 8th graders and the tournament is scheduled for December 6th-10th in Pasadena. (See page 6 for team photos!)

Student Store

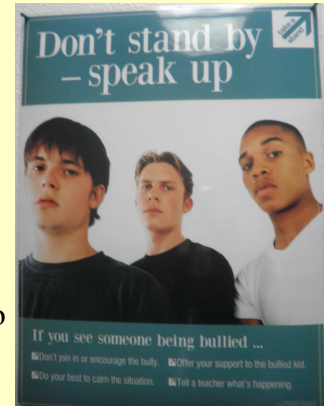
The long awaited student store finally opened on the First Avenue Spirit Day in October. In case you are wondering where the student store is located, it is not hard to find. Located in the main hallway behind the office, you will notice a roll up door with a huge Spartan painted on it and that's where our ASB members take turns tending to the student store, under the guidance of Ms. Zeuli, our student council advisor. The student store is stocked with all sorts of school supply items, as well as, the brand new FA beanies. These will be selling out soon when the cold weather arrives. Students can come by the student store on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, from 7:45-8:10 to make their purchases.



Assistant Principal's Message
Continued from page 4

Anti-Bullying Assemblies

This year, the Arcadia Unified School District has been actively educating the students on bullying and how to address it. On November 8th, members of the Arcadia School Board, the Superintendent, and District officials visited First Avenue Middle School, and were very pleasantly surprised at what a great performance the students gave to the 6th graders. Our very own drama workshop classes, directed by Mrs. Reck, performed some very convincing skits about why kids should speak out against any type of bullying. The 7th and 8th graders were also treated to the anti-bullying assembly on separate days in November. (Please see page 7 for photos and a short article about the assemblies.)



Safe Student Drop off and Pick up

Thanks to all the First Avenue families for following staff instructions at the drop off and pick traffic points on California and Diamond Streets. We have been successful in keeping kids safe as they exit and enter the cars. Please be sure to drive to the farthest point forward when dropping off or picking up your students in order to avoid traffic from backing up into the intersections.

Tardies and Detentions

Students who are tardy three times to school will receive a detention, which is usually served on Wednesdays or Fridays, from 3:15-3:45. Those who are tardy six times will be given a double detention, so they will serve two detentions. If students have nine tardies they will serve a double detention as well as a lunch clean up detail and the process for Saturday school will begin for that student. It is extremely important for all students to be at school by at least 8:10 so that they may walk to their classes before the tardy bell rings at 8:15 and not miss any instructional time, which can affect their grades. Parents, please try to get your students to school on time.

Enjoy the holidays!

Your Grateful Assistant Principal,

Mrs. Issa

Do You Shop At Office Depot?

Office Depot has a 5% Back to Schools program all year long! If you are planning to shop at Office Depot (in the store or online) please be sure to include **First Avenue's School ID #: 70005681**.

Office Depot will give First Avenue a percentage of your purchase!☺

Our Football Teams...

6th Grade Team!



7th Grade Team!

8th Grade Team!



Theatre Workshop class takes on bullies!

Watch the news, read the paper, surf the internet...the subject of bullying is making headlines everywhere -even here at First Avenue.

Mrs. Reck's 8th grade Theatre Workshop has created a special assembly to address this hot topic. A blend of comedy and drama, the piece is comprised of original scenes, music and practical advice. The student actors performed the show for the 6th graders and special guests from the District and the School Board on November 8. The presentation was very well received and served to highlight our school theme of respect.

Teachers in attendance used the assembly to encourage discussions in their classrooms about bullying. The special assembly was also presented to the 7th and 8th graders on November 17th and 19th. Plans are in the making to take it on the road to Baldwin Stocker and Holly Avenue. Next step...Broadway?!?!?





Please Help Us Build Our Garden!

**The PTSA & First Avenue
Middle School Garden
E-Waste Drive**

Saturday, December 11, 2010

8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

On the Basketball Courts

Donate your old:

Computers ◇ Telephones

TV Monitors ◇ Printers

Fax Machines ◇ Scanners

Keyboards ◇ Copiers

DVD Players ◇ Telephone Equipment

Stereo Equipment ◇ Toasters

Lamps ◇ Miscellaneous Computer Parts

Batteries (any size) ◇ Anything electronic

From the Music Club...

More than a Note

For a child's development, the music program is so much more than pretty notes from an instrument. Let's take the band, for example, our subgroup with the latest gig at this writing.

The back flags spread a blanket and bring the flag and flag poles to roll them for packing on the bus.

The musicians (about 20 or so) form a human chain to move the hats from the top shelf, around the edge of the room, through the glass doors onto the porch.

Every member carried their instrument to the bus. Each student is responsible to make sure their equipment and uniform make it to the parade.

Parents, meanwhile, are loading the bellies of the bus. Some are polishing shoes. Others are gathering the contents [water bottles, sewing kits, first aid kits, spare parts, duct tape] for the wagons that follow the marching troubadours. Still more are getting the post parade snacks organized and loaded.

At the parade, uniform jackets go on. Student's warm up with their instrument. Parent's move to and fro adjusting hat straps, pant lengths, tucking hair under hats, squirting water into open mouths, just anything to help keep the show healthy and looking good.

Then the kids are broken into their various teams by instrument type and they get tuned. They practice. They get final instructions. And they are off down the street, rolling their feet as they march, watching the diagonals, and playing the best. They are here to perform.

They are here to show off all the hours of practice and preparation.

The kids and parents together are a team. The kids work together, learn to follow instructions and learn to work with each other. The students see the example of parents work-



Music Club

Continued from page 9

ing together and have the opportunity to work with the parents, as the parents are supporting the students' show.

When these kids have finished their schooling and are looking for jobs, the lessons of how to work with others, how to do your job so someone else can do theirs, are some of the most valuable attributes a person can bring to the workplace.

Making a nice noise is a good thing. Working with 120 others to make a nice noise is even better!

Thank you to the students who strive for excellence in all that they do, even beyond playing notes. Thanks to the parents who take the time to care and set an example for our kids. Thanks to Mr. Danielson, who is called a music teacher, but in reality provides our children the venue to mature and grow and become self-sufficient young adults.

Jeff Leonard

2010-2011 Music Club President

Jeff@mpdisplay.com



Music expresses feeling and thought, without language; it was below and before speech, and it is above and beyond all words. ~Robert G. Ingersoll

First Avenue's Drill & Flag Team

The First Avenue Drill & Flag Team enjoyed performing in their first parade of the year with the marching band on Saturday, November 6th in Baldwin Park. The Drill Team placed 2nd, while the Flag Team came in 5th place – very successful rankings for our first parade of the season!



On November 20th we proudly represented the Spartans as a host school in the Arcadia Festival of Bands. Thank you to everyone who came out to support us!

We look forward to the next parade on Saturday, December 4th in Antelope Valley. The team, consisting of 34 members, is looking forward to seeing all of their hard work pay off at this prestigious and fun, holiday-themed parade.

Tiffany Crosby and Kristen Mora
Co-Advisors



FA Election Day Student Council Representatives:

8th Grade

Pres. Ishaan Dev
VP - Joshua Liao
Aina Ali
David Cordeiro
Yamir Gomez
Esther Jung
Akira Macfarlane
Noah Munoz
Melody Wan
Andy Wu



7th Grade

Melissa Guo
William Kyi
Eric Lee
Annie Ro
Tammi Tang
Cass Tao
Andy Tzeng
Rachaelle Villa
Michelle Wan
Shawn Xing



6th Grade

Lauren Awaya
Brian Kim
Rinik Kumar
Emily Liang
Victoria Medina
Ally Qi
Lauren Shen
Max Tedford
Samuel Wiggins
Ethan Zhu



Fresh & Easy Fundraiser



**PLEASE SAVE
YOUR RECEIPTS!**

First Avenue Middle School is currently participating in the

"Fresh & Easy \$hop for Schools" fundraiser.

What do you need to do? It's EASY! Just shop at any

fresh & easy store from now through December 31st, and turn your receipts into the box in the main office. It's that easy! Receipts must be \$20.00 or more; for every \$20.00, our school will receive \$1.00. (For example, a \$40 receipt is worth \$2 and a \$39.99 receipt is worth only \$1.) Let's all work together to raise as much money as we can over the next several months!

School Zone Violations Information

Do you know it is unlawful to disobey the traffic directions of a Crossing Guard? Do you know the difference between a curb painted, white, yellow or red? Do you know it is unlawful to smoke in a vehicle in which there is a minor?

For information on these laws as well as School Zone Violations please visit First Avenue's website at www.fa.ausd.net. At the top navigation menu go to School Information, highlight Traffic & Safety, then click on School Zone Violations.

Or follow this link:

<http://fa.ausd.net/modules/groups/homepagefiles/cms/1414165/File/School%20Zone%20Violations.pdf>

FA Classroom Websites

The new First Avenue website (www.fa.ausd.net) has links to each teacher's website – once at the website click on the link to the left titled, "Classroom Websites." You will then have a list of teachers – find your student's teacher and click the + sign to the left of their name. A pull-down menu will allow you to select the specific class your child is in. Once you see it just click on the class (i.e. 6th grade science) and you'll be taken to the website.

The website is new so not all teachers have their individual websites active but keep checking back and you'll find more and more activity on these websites.

Just looking at the website today I learned I can find:

- A recipe for Cinnamon French Toast (Mrs. Keyston's 6th Grade Elective Wheel)
- Lab reports and projects (Mr. Gould's 7th Grade Science)
- Information on Civilizations (Mr. Greep's 6th Grade History)
- Grammar & Mechanics files (Mr. Klotzle's 8th Grade English)
- An Assignment Tracking Sheet (Ms. Mimura's 7th Grade History)
- Upcoming Tests (Mrs. Reid's 6th Grade Math class)

Some teachers are still using their websites from last year and the new website provides you a link.

This is a great way to see what's happening in your child's class or to find assignments if you're child misses a class. It's another way to stay connected to the school and the classrooms.

Maryann Stevens

Newsletter Editor

Dear First Avenue Families,

It's time to stock up on your supply of gift cards. Please support our school by buying Scrip. This year, Arcadia Education Foundation has added some new stores such as Amazon, Chevron, iTunes, Sam's club/Walmart and Shell for your convenience. Orders can be e-mailed to me at j.j.tom@sbcglobal.net. Remember to register for the e-scrip program.

We can arrange for pick up and drop off the scrip. I will also be attending the PTSA Meeting at 7:00 p.m. and the Music Club meeting at 8:15 p.m., at which time orders placed in advance may be picked up at these meetings.

Best Regards,

Jennifer Tom

Scrip Chair



Scrip Order Form on page 15

Arcadia Educational Foundation SCRIP Order Form

Specialty Scrip	Donation	Denominations	Order Amount
AMC Theater	7%	\$25	Total _____
ARCO	2%	\$100, \$50	Total _____
Baja Fresh	7%	\$25	Total _____
Bath and Body Works	13%	\$25, \$10	Total _____
Bed, Bath & Beyond	7%	\$25	Total _____
Best Buy	3%	\$250, \$100, \$25	Total _____
Borders Book Store	9%	\$25, \$10	Total _____
California Pizza Kitchen	4%	\$10	Total _____
Cheesecake Factory	5%	\$25	Total _____
Chili's, Macaroni Grill...	11%	\$25	Total _____
Gap/Banana/Old Navy/Piperlime	9%	\$25	Total _____
Home Depot	4%	\$500**, \$100, \$25	Total _____
Honey Baked Ham	12%	\$10	Total _____
Jamba Juice	7%	\$10	Total _____
KFC	9%	\$5	Total _____
Macys	10%	\$100, \$25	Total _____
Marshall's/T.J. Maxx/HomeGood	7%	\$100, \$25	Total _____
Office Depot	4%	\$25	Total _____
Outback/Roy's	5%	\$25	Total _____
See's Candy	23%	\$15.60	Total _____
Smart & Final	3%	\$100, \$50, \$25	Total _____
Starbucks	7%	\$25, \$10	Total _____
Toys R Us/Babies R Us	1.5%	\$20	Total _____
Williams Sonoma/Pottery Barn	8%	\$25, \$100	Total _____
**Home Depot \$500 cards will only be ordered by special request. Please allow approximately 3 weeks for delivery.			

Grocery Store Scrip

99 Ranch	5%	\$100, \$50, \$25	Total _____
Albertson's	4%	\$100, \$25	Total _____
Arcadia Super Market	5%	\$100, \$50, \$25	Total _____
Henry's Market	3%	\$50, \$25	Total _____
Hong Kong	6%	\$20	Total _____
Howies San Gabriel	5%	\$20, \$10	Total _____
Safeway/Vons/Pavilions	4%	\$100, \$25	Total _____
Whole Foods	5%	\$100, \$50	Total _____

Parent Name _____ Date _____

Student Name _____ ID# _____ Phone _____

School/Group you are supporting _____

Total Order \$ _____

Please make check payable to AEF

By signing below, I authorize the School Office to have the SCRIP sent home with my child. I realize the school is not responsible for the loss of scrip once it is delivered to my child. \$30 fee for returned checks.

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

Dear First Avenue Teachers and Parents,

The First Ave PTSA thanks all of you for shopping at Fresh and Easy shopping night last month. Thanks for your support and participation, we raised total of \$396.55 that we are going to use to paint the school logo. I appreciate Mrs. Randa Weir who is working hard to help me to make this fundraiser successful. In addition, I would like to give thanks to our teachers and staffs for their time and efforts to help in the store and to greet shoppers and parents during this fundraising drive.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Mr. Jeff Wilson | Ms. Debbie Beilstein |
| Ms. Semeen Issa | Ms. Catherine Keyston |
| Ms. Susi Reck | Ms. Pam Reifer |
| Mr. Mark Gould | Ms. Nancy Adams |
| Ms. Jaydene Davis | Ms. Marianne Martin |
| Mr. Alan Hidalgo | Ms. Linda Davis |
| Mr. Michael Graves | Mrs. Randa Weir |
| Ms. Amy Graves | Ms. Carol Rengers |
| Mr. David Paszkiewicz | |



Special thanks to Alyse Reifer who also helped out at our fundraiser!

Finally, I thank our dedicated parent volunteers Vicky Stiles, Maryann Stevens, David Chen, and Yoko Kikuta for their help.

Remember, we have until December 31 to collect the receipts. (For every \$20.00 receipt, our school gets a \$1.00 donation from Fresh and Easy).

Please mark your calendar for the up coming fundraisers:

1. **California Pizza Kitchen on Thursday December 2 from 11:00 am - 9 pm all day (school minimum day) - see page 17 for flyer.**
2. **Souplantation on Thursday January 13 from 5:00 - 8:00 pm – see page 18 for flyer.**

(For both fundraisers please bring the flyer in order for First Avenue to get credit.)

Thank you again for your generous support.
We could not have done it without you

Sincerely

Theresia Liem

Theresia Liem
First Ave 2nd VP
Ways and Means



JOIN US *for an* EVENT WHERE
**GIVING WON'T JUST FEEL GOOD,
IT'LL TASTE GOOD.**

First Avenue Middle School

December 2, 2010

Fundraiser runs all day (11AM-9PM) and includes takeout

We're having a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen. Just bring in this flyer on the date listed below, present it to your server when ordering, and 20% of your check will be donated to our organization.



December 2, 2010

California Pizza Kitchen

Santa Anita - 400 S. Baldwin Ave., Arcadia

626-445-2610

Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c3 charitable organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out and curbside service. Not valid on delivery. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.

JOIN US FOR A FUN-RAISER AT SOUPLANTATION AND RAISE MONEY FOR

PTSA FUNDRAISER
PLEASE HELP OUR SCHOOL



Souplantation will donate 20% of sales generated by your organization. Purchase a meal and a beverage* and enjoy a great meal and help a great organization!

DATE:

Thursday, January 13, 2011

AT THIS SOUPLANTATION LOCATION:

Arcadia
301 E. Huntington Dr.
Arcadia, CA 91006-3747

TIME:

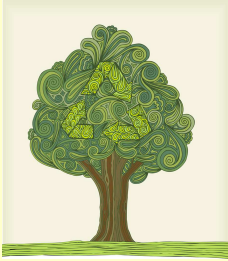
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

For directions visit Souplantation.com

*1. All participants must purchase a beverage with their meal in order to receive credit towards the organization. 2. Under no circumstances are flyers to be handed out in the restaurant, parking lot or vicinity. Failure to comply will result in a voided contract. 3. Coupons or discounts will not be honored in conjunction with any approved Fun-Raisers. 4. Must present this flyer at time of purchase. 5. Your receipt will be kept and stapled to this form in order to add up the event's sales.

HOUSEHOLD GUIDELINES: 1. For the safety of our guests, no horseplay, running or climbing at any time, please. 2. Please accompany small children when visiting food bars. 3. It is very much appreciated when a supervisory person is present at a table of children.

Souplantation & Sweet Tomatoes
salads • soups • bakery 



Outdoor Science School

This past October, our First Avenue seventh graders had a great opportunity to attend Outdoor Science School (OSS). Arrowhead Ranch’s five-day program is filled with enriching outdoor activities. First Avenue teachers rotate and join groups of students during their lessons. A Naturalist is a trained teacher, who leads students out on the trails and delivers lessons throughout the week. The Cabin Leaders work collaboratively with the Naturalist to help supervise and have fun with our students. Throughout the week, students learned about botany, geology, astronomy, habitats and adaptations, energy and conservation, and ecology.



A Lesson after Every Meal



Aside from hiking, another favorite activity everyone enjoyed was *eating*. Mealtime was also a great opportunity for teachers to interact with students and to get to know them as individuals. Af-



ter every meal, the Arrowhead’s staff members called for an “O.R.T.

(Organic Recyclable Tidbits) report.” By sharing three meals a day with approximately 300 people, it was easy to see how much waste could be produced. In the O.R.T. report, buckets of uneaten foods and liquids were collected. It was a clear and simple lesson: **produce less waste**. If you have a seventh grader at home, ask your child about the O.R.T. report. I’m sure they will remember the importance of reducing needless consumption and the generation of waste.



OSS was certainly an exciting time for both students and teachers. Students will carry these memories for a lifetime. Thank you **Seventh Grade Parents** for allowing your children to attend. If you would like more details about the Arrowhead Ranch Outdoor Science School, please visit their website at:



<http://www.arrowheadkidscamp.com/arrowheadranch.html>

Connie Mimura
English & History Teacher



A BIG thank you to the 7th Grade Teachers who spend a week with our students at Outdoor Science School!

You are the best!



PTA Reflections Program – First Avenue Awards

Literature:

1st place: Andrew Yen “The Element”

2nd place: Ester Jung “The Memorable Quilt”

3rd place: Sydney Pham “We Are One”

Honorable Mention: Jessie (Yaxin) Li “Stop, Smoking”

Visual Arts:

1st place: Vicki Xu “5 Olympic Rings”

2nd place: Callie Wei “Baby”

3rd place: Andy Chen “Flames”

Honorable Mention: Yugiao Zhao “Untitled”

Photography:

1st place: James Liem

Musical Composition:

1st place: Brandon Carone



First Avenue had 114 entries in four of the six Reflections categories. Congratulations to our winners and to all who participated in PTA Reflections Program this year!

First Avenue’s 1st Place winners went on to compete at the Arcadia Council PTA level and here is how they placed:

ARCADIA COUNCIL PTA LEVEL AWARDS:

Literature – Andrew Yen won 2nd Place

Visual Arts – Vicki Xu won 1st Place and will go on to compete at First District PTA level (against winners from other school districts)

Photography – James Liem won 3rd Place

Music Composition – Brandon Carone won 2nd Place

Congratulations to our Council Winners and to all who were involved in Reflections this year.

Judy Lee

First Avenue PTSA Reflections Chair

Box Tops Update

Please continue to clip those Box Tops and send them to the school! The collection box is in the school office or your student can give them to any teacher.



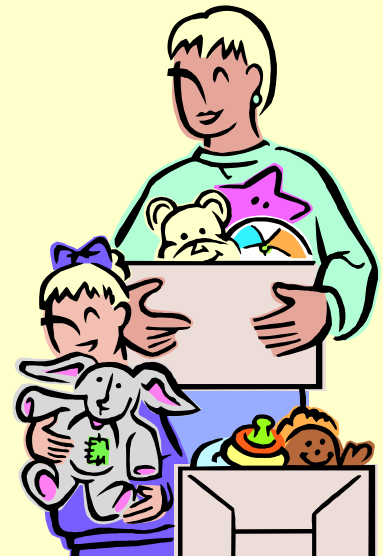
But there are more ways to help! If you go to www.boxtops4education.com and register yourself indicating your support for First Avenue Middle School you can also earn more box tops for our school. After you register you can:

1. Receive occasional e-mails offering sweepstakes (**current sweepstakes** is 5,000 bonus box tops to 10 lucky schools and each winner will receive a baking gift basket and a \$50 Visa gift card).
2. Earn e-boxtops for First Avenue when you shop through the website. They have links for shopping at Ann Taylor, Apple Store, Avon, Gap, Barnes & Noble, Best Buy, Coldwater Creek, cooking.com, Disneystore.com, JCPenny, Macy's, Office Depot, Old Navy, Target and lots more!
3. Receive coupons for products that have Box Top 4 Education on their labels. Saves you money and provides more box tops for First Avenue!

Thanks for supporting First Avenue.☺

Apache Clothing & Toy Drive December 6-10

Please donate your gently-used clothing, toys and household items for our annual Apache Drive December 6-10. New items are also accepted, as well as cash donations. Items will be delivered to the Indian Reservation December 14-17.



Many of the White Mountain Apache tribe, who live at the reservation, live without running water and electricity. Often they have four walls, but no roofs on their houses and live only by wood fire for warmth. They are grateful for the blankets and clothes that are donated. And the children love the toys!

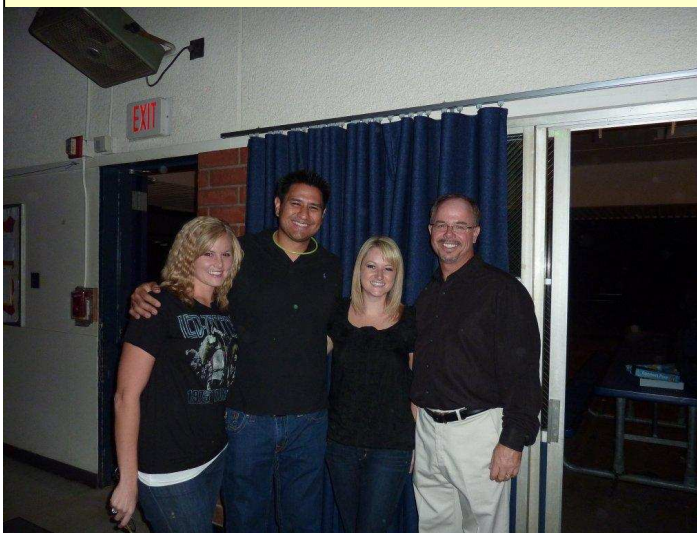
Thanks in advance for your donations and participation!☺



School Dance Photos



**Many thanks to Mrs. Bernie Schmitt for coordinating all our dances this year!
You do a fabulous job!**



Upcoming Events

December 2010

Basketball Tournaments (3 on 3) begin

- 1 Newsletter Published/Online
- 2 CPK Fundraiser, 11a.m.-9p.m., Santa Anita Mall (flyer on page 17)
- 2 Rock Band Concert, 7 p.m. Auditorium
- 2-3 Minimum Days; End of Trimester
- 7 SSC/SLT meeting, 2:30 p.m., lounge
- 7 First Avenue PTSA meeting , 7:00 p.m., FA Library
- 7 First Avenue Music Club meeting, 8:15p.m., FA Music Room
- 11 Garden Club e-Waste Drive 8:30-11:30 a.m., FA Basketball courts (see page 8)
- 15-16 Winter Concerts, 7p.m., Auditorium
- 17 Holiday Assembly Concert
- 17 PTSA sponsored Winter Continental Breakfast for our Teachers
- 20-31 Winter Break – no school



January 2011

- 1 New Year's Holiday – no school
- 4 SSC/SLT meeting, 2:30 p.m., lounge
- 4 First Avenue PTSA meeting, 7:00 p.m., FA Auditorium
- 4 First Avenue Music Club meeting, 8:15p.m., FA Music Room
- 5 Eighth Grade Promotion Party meeting-7p.m., Faculty Lounge
- 13 Souplantation Fundraiser, 5-8p.m. (see page 18)
- 17 Martin Luther King Holiday – no school
- 19 Newsletter Articles due date, submit articles to fanewsletter@ausd.net
- 21 FA Movie Night, 7p.m.
- 28 Progress Reports Go Home to Parents

