

What's Happening?



Austin Middle School Where Students are #1

Welcome...

Welcome to Austin Middle School's monthly newsletter. In December, we had a lot of great events occurring. The AMS Student Council sponsored "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree to Beat Diabetes Rock-A-Thon," and raised \$1,300. They presented a check to Hunter Sego, Mrs. Sego's son who has Type 1 Diabetes, and who is the Indiana State Youth Advocate for Diabetes. The students also enjoyed a drink from Mr. Deaton, due to a bet over the Indiana and Kentucky game. The band and choir concerts took place in December, and we have some very talented kids! Also, the PTO sponsored a Christmas door decorating contest. The overall winner was Ms. Lee Anne Hahn's class.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- January 18th: Pep Session during 8th period.
- January 18th: Band will be playing at the girls' basketball game.
- February 3rd: Super Bowl Party for students who received all of their AR points for 1st Semester (both 1st & 2nd 9 weeks) Great Job!
- The Applied Skills I-STEP+ dates are March 5-13. The Multiple Choice section is April 30-May 9.

PTO Information

If you are interested in helping or being a member of the PTO, you can contact Melissa Noble at kaisautismmom@yahoo.com or 812.820.2157.

Academic Teams

If you are interested in joining an academic team, you need to see the following teachers: Language Arts—Mrs. Swank, Social Studies—Mr. Winton, Science—Mr. Barger, and Math—Mr. Myszak.

BOOK CLUB

BOYS BOOK CLUB IS READING THE OUTSIDERS BY S.E. HINTON, AND THE GIRLS ARE READING FIRELIGHT BY SOPHIE JORDAN.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL AND SET UP A CONFERENCE WITH MR. DAVID GRAY. (812) 794-8740.

**Austin Middle School
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401 S. Highway 31
Austin, Indiana
47102

Phone: 812-794-8740

SPORTS @ AMS

January 16th—7/8 Boys Basketball @ Salem (Bus leaves @ 4:30)

January 18th—7/8 Girls Basketball vs. Scottsburg

January 19th—7 A & B Boys Basketball @ Brownstown (Bus leaves @ 4:30)

January 23rd—7/8 Girls Basketball @ Southwestern (Bus leaves @ 4:30)

January 23rd—7/8 Boys Basketball @ St. John's Lutheran (Bus leaves @ 4:30)

January 25th—7/8 Boys Basketball @ Shawe Memorial (Bus leaves @ 4:30)

January 26th—7/8 Girls Basketball vs. New Washington

January 30th—7/8 Boys Basketball vs. Seymour

*Does not include tournaments

From the Principal's Desk...

It's hard to believe that 2012 is already here and our school year is half over. We celebrate our accomplishments, but at the same time we realize our need to continue to focus on academics and continue to improve test scores. Our faculty continually works to meet our students' needs here at school, and we need your help at home as well. Here are a few suggestions you can do at home to help students focus on academics.

Make reading a priority everyday. We have over 300 new books in our AMS library just this year. Share with your child an interesting book, magazine article or even an article from the daily newspaper. Reading greatly improves a child's vocabulary as well as comprehension. Middle school students also love to be read to.

Talk with your child about his/her school day. Great things are happening at AMS and allowing your child to talk about them shows your interest in education. Don't forget to check our school website, the library Facebook site, and the homework site for the latest news and homework.

Help your child keep up with homework and preparing for tests. Try to set a specific time and place, and keep noise at a minimum. Your involvement and encouragement is vital in helping your child establish organizational skills and learning to meet deadlines.

Limit TV, phone and computer time. Although technology is part of our everyday life, it can also be dangerous if not monitored. Be sure your child is using technology wisely.

Encourage rest and sleep. Great demands are made on our students everyday. To maximize their learning here at school, they need to come to school prepared to learn. Studies show that teens need about 9 hours of sleep to perform at their best. We are now in our second level of Acuity and preparing for the ISTEP+ in March. Now is a great time to start establishing a healthy routine for your child.

As always, our students at AMS are our #1 priority and we need your continued support. Let us continue to work together for the benefit of our students.

HOMework WEBSITE & INFORMATIONNOW

If your child is absent or can't remember their assigned homework, please take advantage of our middle school homework website. You can go to ms.scsd1.com/homework and find all your child's homework for the week.

On the school website, you can also check your child's grades. Click on the InformationNOW link. If you do not have the password, please have your child pick it up from the office.



Students in Ms. Lee Anne Hahn's Class showing off their awesome door decorations.



Mr. David Deaton & Mr. Edwards representing the winning team between UK & IU. Doesn't Mr. Deaton look good in red? Too bad

Mr. Dan Deaton still wouldn't give up that blue!



AMS Student Council presenting a check to Hunter Segó for the American Diabetes Association.

Student Council raised \$1,300 total.



Kenton Embrey received a \$50.00 Amazon gift card for earning 500 AR points the first semester!

His goal is 1000 points by the end of the year! Great job, Kenton!