

Nov. 13, 2019



Have a submission for the All-Star News? Send it to [Leslie Garrison](#) by 5 p.m. Sunday.

Coming Up At Avery

Through Nov. 14
Scholastic Book Fair

Nov. 15
No School for K-6 Only

Nov. 18
Cub Scout Meeting

Nov. 19
Moving from
Bystander to Upstander
7-8:30 p.m.
Avery Library

Nov. 20
Science Fair Info Night
6 p.m.
Edgar Road Elementary

Nov. 27-29
No School

Reminder: No School Friday

Please remember that there is no student attendance for K-6 on Friday, Nov. 15.

How Inclusive is Our School?

Avery Parents for Racial Equity would like your feedback on how Avery can be more equitable and inclusive for all children. The committee is partnering with a team from Lindenwood University to conduct a survey. Participation is voluntary and if you choose to fill out the

survey, please [click this link](#). We thank you for your time and opinions so we can make the Avery community a more supportive environment.

Thank you,
Elisa Tomich and Tasha Taylor
Co-Leaders of Avery Parents for Racial Equity

Book Fair Update

The Book Fair Committee is excited to announce that we exceeded our goal of \$600 in our All for Books change campaign! Thank you all so much for your generosity! This money helps all Avery All-Stars have access to books at the fair and the students have earned a special reading day for Nov. 26!

The Scholastic Book Fair runs through Thursday in the Avery library. It is a fantastic place to find a variety of books at low prices! The fair hours are:

- Wednesday, Nov. 13 from 8am to 7:30pm
- Thursday, Nov. 14 from 8am to 6pm

There will be a table where you can buy and donate books that the teachers would like to own for their classroom libraries. Your child can write their name on a sticker inside the cover and deliver it themselves, or have the book fair volunteers get it to the teacher(s).

Your purchases help Avery, as 50% of the money that is made through sales at the book fair or at the online book fair is converted into Scholastic Dollars, which will be used by the Avery librarian to stock the library shelves, so all of the students benefit from the fair!

If you can't make it to the book fair, or would like to see an even greater variety of available books and products, check out our [online book fair](#). The online book fair runs through **Wednesday, Nov. 20**. Avery earns books and other products through all online book fair sales, just like with the regular fair. Any books ordered through the online book fair will be delivered directly to your home!

Green Committee Tip of the Week

More on Recycling:

Welp, it didn't take long for me to mess up. Last week, I said that you cannot recycle plastics with numbers over 5. A reader double-checked with Waste Management and found out that is

not the case. According to the Waste Management website, you should recycle all clean and dry plastic bottles and their caps by putting the caps back on the bottles.

This is great news and I have never been happier to be wrong! That said, I do stand by switching to reusable drinking bottles whenever possible because what can be recycled varies widely from place to place and, as a result, many things end up in the trash instead. According to National Geographic, "a whopping 91 percent of plastic isn't recycled." It is best to avoid relying on recycling if there is another choice.

Yes, reusable is best but it definitely requires a mind shift. I am still struggling with bringing my own bags to the grocery store. The only reusable bag I remember to bring is the Art of Entertaining's bag only because they give you \$1 off you meal. Are you listening other stores? You should incentivize reusing bags! It's good for all of us in the end! ;)

If you have any tips for the Green Team, send to Beth Connolly at connollybjm@gmail.com.

Cub Scout Pack Meeting

Monday, Nov. 18 at 6:30 p.m. at Webster United Methodist Church, we will be discussing how a Scout is Friendly! It will be a multicultural celebration, as members from the Webster University International Student Association join us for the evening. They will share with us how children around the world help their families, as well as what foods they enjoy and some games they play.

Please note the different day of the week and location for this month's meeting. Siblings are always welcome!

Questions? Contact Cubmaster Brandon Thurmon at bthurmon@gmail.com.

Why Didn't I Say Something: Moving from Bystander to Upstander

Have you experienced instances where you have been a witness to bias, or to divisive or racist behaviors? Did you walk away and think to yourself, "I should have said something," but you just didn't know what to say? This interactive session led by diversity and inclusion consultants Elizabeth Fuchs and Angela Cody will focus on ways to recognize and manage these situations. Participants will walk away with tools to respond to micro-aggressions and gain allies and not enemies.

Hosted by Avery Parents for Racial Equity. Free childcare provided for kiddos 2 and older.

When: **Tuesday, Nov. 19**, from 7-8:30 p.m.

Where: Avery library

To help ensure we have adequate space, please [rsvp here](#) if you're interested in attending.

Ras Jones Awards at MLK Celebration

Ras Jones was a civil rights activist and leader in Webster Groves who is honored through the MLK Community Celebration essay/arts program. Students this year are invited to submit projects based on the theme "Building Character" and that reflect on Dr. King's identification of "true education" as "intelligence plus character."

Awardees will be invited to read from essays or say a few words about their arts projects, at the 2020 Community Celebration, the evening of January 19; each awardee will also receive a gift towards purchasing a \$50 savings bond. All projects submitted will be displayed at the event, at Steger Sixth Grade Center/Henry Givens Jr. Elementary School.

See [the flyer](#) for more information.

Science Fair Info Night

Come learn about the science fair and how to complete a project on **Wednesday, Nov. 20** in the Edgar Road Elementary library at 6 p.m. If you cannot attend or would like more information, please contact district science fair coordinator, Shayla Pott, at pott.shayla@wgmail.org.

Girls on the Run Coaches

Are you interested in being a Girls On The Run coach at Avery? The coaching commitment requires a short training session and availability to attend after school meetings/training sessions with the students two afternoons a week for 10 weeks. Girls On The Run begins in late February and culminates with the Girls on the Run 5K in May.

Please contact Amy Fuhr at aledioyt@aol.com or Michele Willis at micheleiwillis@gmail.com for more information on coaching. Coaching registration begins soon. More information for STUDENT registration for Girls on The Run will be available in January.

New Student Grant Opportunity

All of the money raised from the Kona Ice days will be reserved for student grant ideas on how to serve the community outside of Avery. Students can come up with an idea of how to benefit others outside of Avery with their families, friends or teachers. Please turn in grant ideas to classroom teachers, who will then pass them on to PTO. Students will be asked to attend a PTO meeting to present their idea.

School Board Seeks Applicants to Fill Vacancy

The Board of Education is seeking applicants who would like to serve on the board until an election can be held in April to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Arnold Stricker, who has resigned. The board is asking interested persons to submit a cover letter and resume. You can find details [at this link](#).

Avery Spirit Wear Available!

Show your school pride with an Avery Elementary shirt, hoodie, hat or sticker! View and purchase products online at averyspirit.com.

PTO Buyout

Several years ago, the PTO decided to no longer ask parents to sell anything to help with fundraising. Instead, we do a PTO "buyout," which is a one-time direct donation to the PTO. We get to keep 100% of the funds, and every single penny will go back into Avery this year, with the bulk of money going directly to the teachers to help reimburse them for personal money they have spent on their classrooms!

Our goal this year is \$12,000!! This is the highest goal we have set! Please remember that EVERY dollar counts! It's not how much you can give, just that you give! You can donate through [the Avery PTO PayPal buyout link](#).

Flyers

[Boy Scout Troop 303 Tree Lot](#)

[Webster Groves Parent Advisory Council \(PAC\) Meeting Information](#)