



Dear Parent and / or Guardian:

How thrilled I am to have your child in the AWANA program here at First Baptist Church-Diana. I am praying this year will be full of fun and learning for your child. I want you to know more about our program. After reading this letter, please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

AWANA is an international, nondenominational, Bible-centered organization providing weekly clubs for children. AWANA stands for "Approved Workman Are Not Ashamed" and comes from the scripture II Timothy 2:15: *"Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a workman who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth."* NIV

Our clubs meet weekly on Wednesday evenings from 5:50 to 7:30 p.m. during the months of September through May, except on holidays or other special events. Your child will receive a flyer each week informing you of events scheduled for the following week.

The club meetings are composed of five parts:

- **Opening Ceremony** – Approx. 10 minutes. Beginning at 5:50 p.m. sharp, all clubbers line up for opening ceremony.
- **Game Time** — Approx. 30 minutes. Children enjoy interactive games, created around the AWANA game circle.
- **Handbook time** — Approx. 30 minutes. Trained leaders work with small groups of clubbers assisting them in memorizing Bible verses and other learning activities. Your child gains a valuable understanding of spiritual truths in this way. He / She will earn AWANA bucks and awards for passing sections in their handbooks. Clubbers usually save their AWANA bucks and use them to purchase some great toys or prizes from the AWANA store.
- **Council Time** — Approx. 20 minutes. During Council time, your child is exposed to a message or object lesson from an adult that is Bible based. There is also a fun time of music and singing.
- **Closing Ceremony** – Approx. 10 minutes. All clubbers will meet in the gym for closing ceremony. Handbook awards will be given at this time as well.

In order for your child to get the most from the AWANA program, we offer the following suggestions:

1. Please bring your child to club on time. Club starts at 5:50 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. Please be prompt and allow time for sign-in, which will start at 5:30. You are welcome to stay for Prayer Meeting, Bible Study or other activities which will all take place while your child is at AWANA.
2. Make sure your child wears his / her official AWANA uniform to club. Wearing the AWANA uniform promotes discipline and unity. In addition, the uniform provides a place to display awards and also identifies the leader with the clubbers. You will receive a letter once your child is eligible for his / her handbook and uniform.
3. Make sure your child brings his / her handbook to club each week. Please have your child write his / her name on their handbook in the event it is misplaced.
4. Make sure your child brings his / her Bible. Also, please help your child to prepare for club each week by spending some time at home with him / her reading and reviewing handbook material.
5. Make sure your child pays club dues each week. Club dues are 50 cents and are used to defray the cost of awards and incentives that motivate clubbers to achieve. Paying dues also promotes a

sense of ownership in the program and teaches clubbers responsibility and good stewardship. Dues may be paid all at once at the beginning of the year. Total amount will be \$15.

6. Clubbers are encouraged to bring a small, nominal offering (10 to 25 cents) for missions each week. Mission offerings are used to go to a needed cause, such as a missionary or a person in need of help. While mission offerings are not mandatory, contributing clubbers are awarded bonus points for themselves and their team.
7. Children are awarded Awana bucks each club meeting for attendance, wearing uniforms, bringing their Bible, bringing dues, mission offerings, bringing a first time visitor, and attending Sunday school at a church somewhere for that particular day. These points are accumulated for each week and for the entire year.
8. At the end of the club meeting, we request parents and guardians to come inside the Church to pick up their children. This is in an effort to protect both your child and you, the driver. This primarily applies to the Cubbies and Sparks.
9. Encourage your child. Achievement is "Hard Work"!
10. Visit our club, or come to one of our occasional AWANA outings. We welcome parents / guardians to club, allowing you to see what your child does, and for you to catch the excitement of AWANA!!

Attached is more information and a list of AWANA club rules. These rules are set for the purpose of having the best for your child while he / she is here at FBC Diana. These rules are not meant to offend anyone or keep anyone from coming to AWANA. Rules are established to assure your child of getting the most out of the AWANA program. We ask that you read these rules thoroughly and make sure your child understands them. Please keep this copy and thank you for your cooperation in this matter.

I am thankful that you allow FBC Diana the privilege of working with your child each week in the AWANA Club. I know your child will enjoy the club this year and will continue to progress through all program levels. More importantly, he / she will learn and gain more knowledge about Jesus Christ. Please contact me at 903-663-4932 or our Pastor, Marc Minter at 903-663-1236 should you have any questions or concerns.

Be Blessed,

Randy Young
AWANA Club Commander, FBC Diana

Hello again and welcome to the AWANA ministry at First Baptist Church, Diana! We are very happy to have your child(ren) with us. We pray that this will be a year of fun and most importantly, a year of spiritual growth and understanding for your child(ren).

We offer three clubs for your child(ren).

AWANA Club	Cubbies	Sparks	Truth & Training (T & T)
Age / Grade Range	Ages 3 – Pre-K	Kindergarten – 2 nd grade	Grades 3 – 6
Years in Program	2	3	4
Uniform / Handbook <i>Club Bag Optional</i>	Vest – \$10 Handbook - \$10 Club bag - \$10	Vest – \$10 Handbook - \$10 Club bag - \$10	Uniform – \$14 Handbook - \$10 Club Bag - \$10
Weekly Dues	50 cents	50 cents	50 cents

Parents are encouraged to purchase their child’s AWANA uniform and handbook as soon as the child is eligible. These items will belong to the clubber, and will have to be reordered if misplaced. After these initial investments are made in the program, your child(ren) will “earn” any and all awards.

If your child is new to AWANA, he or she will receive a fun introductory club starter book. After completing these requirements (over the first couple of weeks), the child will be presented his or her uniform and handbook, so parents should be sure to place the uniform and handbook order ASAP, to allow time for these items to arrive (and be presented).

Each week clubbers are required:

1. To be in uniform
2. To bring their Bible (if your child does not have one, please let their leader know)
3. To bring their starter book or handbook
4. Pay dues (50 cents)

We will provide you with a calendar for the entire AWANA year. In addition, every child will receive a flyer each week informing you of the next week’s theme.

There are a few things that you can do to help our program run more smoothly. Please help us with the following:

- ✓ Have your child(ren) here between **5:30** and **5:50pm**.
- ✓ Pick up your child(ren) at **7:30pm**. They will be in the gymnasium.
- ✓ Encourage your child(ren) to participate in theme nights and special events.
- ✓ Mark each AWANA club meeting on the family calendar.
- ✓ Help your child(ren) work on verse memorization. 5 – 10 minutes a few times each week is a great investment to help your child(ren) succeed.

Thank you in advance for your assistance and once again, we are excited to have your child(ren) in AWANA this year. If you have any questions concerning a club or just in general, please do not hesitate to contact any of the following:

AWANA Club Directors:

Cubbies Maria McMillan
 Sparks
 T & T Cassi Minter
 Games Josh & Becky Tanner

AWANA

Commander: Randy Young (903)663-4932 commanderrandy@gmail.com

