



# Parent Handbook

2016-2017



2 & 3 year olds



3 & 4 year olds



SK – Grade 2



Grade 3 – 6

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Dear Parents,

Welcome to The Metropolitan Bible Church Awana Club! We are looking forward to another Bible-based, Christ-centered, fun-filled year in Awana!

The Awana prayer best explains the goals and vision of Awana:

“Our prayer is that all children and youth throughout the world  
will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ.”

That’s what we aim to do here at The MET in our Awana program. Our desire is to see the children that attend Awana grow spiritually and relationally with God and others.

This handbook is designed to inform you of the plans and programs that we use to accomplish those goals in the lives of children and youth as we serve the Lord in this ministry. If we’ve done our job well it should answer most of your questions as well!

Awana works best as a partnership between you and the Awana leaders to reach and teach your kids. Your clubber will have a handbook to work through each year. You can support and encourage them in their spiritual growth by helping them complete their handbook and participate in the other activities offered throughout the year. And we want to support you by helping in any way we can to lead your child(ren) to go deeper into the Word of God and reach further in their friendships and relationships with you and others. Feel free to talk to any Awana leader at any time and join us at Awana any week. We’ll be happy to show you around and include you in what’s happening.

Awana isn’t just about studying, memorizing verses and finishing handbooks. We’re also about having fun! That’s why we offer some light-hearted and enthusiasm-filled activities at Awana. Be sure to check out the calendar to see what’s coming up this year. And make plans to come join us... you won’t be sorry you did! You may love it so much you’ll want to join our team!

Our calendar can be accessed at this address: <http://www.metbiblechurch.ca/index.php/ministry/awana>. Check it out to see what is going on weekly at Awana. We’re having contests, theme nights and other special projects and activities regularly that your clubber won’t want to miss!

Thank you for trusting us with your child!

Ann Rudd  
Linda Lim  
Aida Castillo  
**Awana Ministry Directors**

## About Awana

The Awana Ministry has been around for nearly 60 years. That's 60 years of a spiritually- lasting impact through the Awana clubs! Statistics show that over 1 million children ages 2 - 18 participate in Awana throughout the world. Awana stands for "Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed" and is based on the Bible verse 2 Timothy 2:15.

### The Awana Prayer

"Our prayer is that all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ."

#### Key components of this prayer are:

**Know:** Our desire is that every child and youth will know Jesus personally and know that he has eternal life because he trusts in Jesus (Philippians 3:10, John 17:3, Romans 1:16).

**Love:** The Lord desires intimacy with His children. We want to disciple children and youth to grow in their love toward God and others (Ephesians 3:19, 1 John 2:5-6).

**Serve:** Serving Christ is a supernatural byproduct of loving Him. We want all believers to experience the joy of serving (Colossians 1:10, 2 Timothy 3:17 and Ephesians 2:10).

Awana is centered on five principles, these are:

1. Centered around the gospel
2. Focused on Scripture Memory
3. Exciting to young people
4. Committed to training youth to serve
5. Built on leadership

### Our Awana Pledge

"I pledge my allegiance to the Bible, God's Holy Word. I will make it a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path. I will hide its words in my heart that I might not sin against God."

### The Awana Song

Firmly Awana stands led by the Lords commands,  
"Approved workmen are not ashamed,"  
Boys and girls for His service claimed!  
Hail! Awana! On the march for youth;  
Hail! Awana! Holding forth the truth,  
Building lives on the Word of God Awana stands!

Our Savior following, with steps unfaltering,  
And love unaltering, His praise we sing.  
His banner over us, in service glorious,  
We'll fight victorious for Christ our King!

Youth on the march!



## General Information

Our Awana club meets on Thursday nights beginning in mid-September and ending in mid-May. Please ensure that you have completed an Awana registration form on line for each child found at: <http://www.metbiblechurch.ca/index.php/resources> under the registration forms subject.

### Our club fees

Registration: \$45.00 for first child  
Family maximum \$120.00  
(not including uniform)

Uniform: \$15.00

Handbook: included in the registration fee  
(clubbers usually finish one handbook per year)

Some clubs offer an optional CD that corresponds with the handbooks for \$10.00. Check with your child's club leaders if you are interested in this.

### Club Organization

Puggles.... Ages 2 (by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year) - 3  
for children of Awana volunteers only.  
Cubbies.... Ages 3 (by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of the current year) - 4  
Sparks.....SK - Grade 2  
T&T.....Grades 3 - 6

Club begins at **6:30 p.m.** Puggles and Cubbies will be finished at **8:00 p.m.** and Sparks and T&T will finish their programs at **8:15 p.m.**

## Awana Program

**Opening Ceremony:** Puggles and Cubbies will hold their opening ceremony in their club rooms. Sparks and T&T clubbers, in the gym, take part in singing worship songs, the national anthem and Awana theme song. Club themes and other special contests will be acknowledged and announcements will be shared during this time.

**Game Time:** This is a chance to allow clubbers to have fun and be a part of a team. Each child is placed on one of four teams of different colours (red, yellow, green or blue). The games are both fun and competitive and they are designed to allow each child to participate. Even if your child doesn't feel comfortable playing the games we ask them to stay with their team and cheer them on.

**Handbook Time:** Each T&T and Sparks child is part of a small handbook group with one or more leaders. The clubbers in these groups have a chance to recite the verses they have memorized at home, share any projects they have completed, and pray for each other. Rewards are given for finishing sections in the handbooks.

**Large Group Time:** A lesson is presented that covers many important questions that T&T and Sparks clubbers may be asking about their Christian walk. Christ and His Word are at the center of our messages. We also

regularly share the gospel message in the lessons. Our leaders and special guests lead this time of teaching.

**Discipline Policy:** For individual behavior concerns, leaders will use the 3 count method. The three-count is a series of discipline steps. The purpose is for individual discipline of a child, not a group. It is positive discipline, not negative punishment. It seeks to guide and direct children for their benefit.

### Here's how it works:

1. The child receives a specific warning from a leader that his or her behaviour is inappropriate, and he or she has been given warnings and opportunities to correct his/her behaviour.
2. After another misbehaviour, the club director or ministry director will meet with the child and the leader to discuss the problem behaviour what can be done so the child can remain in the activity without disrupting others.
3. After another misbehaviour, the club director or ministry director will remove the child from the activity and take him or her aside for a designated amount of time. They will speak to the child's parents, with the child present, to explore together how their child can be successful in club and avoid being disruptive.

## Puggles & Cubbies

The Puggles and Cubbies clubs run independently from the T&T and Sparks schedules and programs. Puggles and Cubbies begin their night being dropped off at their rooms where their activities are held. A typical club night will include a Bible story, learning Bible verses, playing games and enjoying a snack. Bible verses for Puggles and Cubbies are shortened, making it easier for children to successfully learn them.

Parents are expected to sign up to volunteer during club night on a regular basis. Please see the Puggles and Cubbies leaders for details regarding this responsibility. In addition to volunteering in the club we ask that one or more parent or guardian remain on the church campus during club hours so we can find you should a need arise with your clubber.

## Awana Time Schedule 2016-2017

"Our prayer is that all children and youth throughout the world will come to know, love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ."



**Puggles:** (2 yrs. By Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of current year – 3 years)  
**6:30 – 8:00 pm** (Room 150)



**Cubbies:** (3 yrs. by Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of current year - 4 years)  
**6:30 – 8:00 pm**  
(Rooms 205, 223, 232, 234)



**Sparks:** (SK – Gr. 2)  
**6:30 – 8:15 pm** Preschool & MACS Wings (Rooms 154 – 160; MACS 211 – 213)



**Truth & Training:** (Gr. 3 – 6)  
**6:30 – 8:15 pm** (Rooms 236 – 248)

Time	Large Group Time	Small Group Time	Games
<b>6:30 – 6:45 Opening</b>	All in Gym		
<b>6:45 – 7:15 (30 min)</b>	<b>T &amp; T (gr. 3/4)</b> (Children's Wing – Upstairs)	<b>T &amp; T (gr. 5/6)</b> (Children's Wing – Upstairs)	<b>Sparks Groups A &amp; B</b> (gym)
<b>7:15 – 7:45 (30 min)</b>	<b>Sparks Group A</b> (Room 211)	<b>Sparks Group B</b> (Preschool Wing)	
	<b>T &amp; T (gr. 5/6)</b> (Children's Wing – Upstairs)	<b>T &amp; T (gr. 3/4)</b> (Children's Wing – Upstairs)	
<b>7:45 – 8:15 (30 min)</b>	<b>Sparks Group B</b> (Room 211)	<b>Sparks Group A</b> (Preschool Wing)	<b>T &amp; T</b> (gym)

## Points and Awana Bucks

### Individual Points

Clubbers are able to cash in their points earned throughout the year through our Bucks-A-Rama catalogue. Clubbers earn Awana Bucks for passing sections in their books, bringing friends and participating in special theme nights. The bucks are totalled and clubbers are able to purchase age-appropriate and spiritually encouraging merchandise. The catalogue is available starting in April for ordering and prizes are passed out at the end of the year finale in May.

### Weekly T&T game team points

1 <sup>st</sup> place team.....	100
2 <sup>nd</sup> place team.....	75
3 <sup>rd</sup> place team.....	50
4 <sup>th</sup> place team.....	25
Team showing the best behaviour and sportsmanlike conduct.....	100

(Awana bucks are earned weekly for the winning team in game time.)



## Awards (Sparks and T&T)

### Handbook Awards

When a child finishes a section in their handbook or completes a handbook they are recognized for their efforts during large group time by receiving an award to put on their uniform. To receive these awards children must be wearing their uniform. If they don't have their uniform on they will receive their awards the next large group time they are wearing their uniform.

### Special Awards

These awards will be handed out to each child at the end of the Awana club year. All parents and family members are invited to celebrate the clubbers' accomplishments at our Awards Finale. Check the calendar for current dates. The awards presented are as follows:

**Sparky First and Second Book Ribbons:** These ribbons are given on completion of the HangGlider (year 1) and Wing Runner (year 2) books.

**Sparky Plaque:** Awarded to any Sparky who completes all three handbooks: HangGlider (year 1), WingRunner (year 2), and Skipper (year 3).

**T&T First Book Ribbon:** Awarded on completion of the first T&T handbook.

**Excellence Trophy:** Awarded on completion of the second T&T handbook.

**Third Book Plaque:** Awarded on completion of the third T&T handbook.

**Timothy Trophy:** Awarded on completion of the fourth T&T handbook.

## Special Events:

(check calendar for current dates)

### Awana Grand Prix (February)

This is a fun chance for our Sparky and T&T clubbers to design and build their own pine-wood derby car and race it against other clubbers. This is a great chance for mom and dad to help their child build their winning car! We even have Grand prix workshops that mom or dad can take their child to and learn from expert grand prix car builders how to make a winning car! This is also a good opportunity to learn how to do some simple woodworking. Parents stay to cheer on their child's car as he/she participates in the race.

Cars will be offered for sale starting in December. Car kits are \$4.00 each.

The Awana Grand Prix Regional race, which includes all Awana clubs in the area, is held in February. The top winners from each local T&T club compete in the regional race.

Cubbies have a chance to race toy cars from home as a competition in their club time.

### Awana Bible Quizzing (T&T) (check calendar for current dates)

Bible Quizzing is open to young people in grades 3 – 6. This event motivates students to increase their Bible knowledge while giving participants, leaders and even parents an intense exposure to Scripture. Bible Quizzing tests clubbers' knowledge of material in handbooks and manuals and provides individual recognition and awards.

Two basic types of questions are used:

1. Speed quizzing is a tense, fast-action event which works well with older students. Questions used are open-ended. The first student to respond is given a chance to answer the question.
2. Multiple Choice is used with younger clubbers. The quizmaster asks a question and then reads a list of possible answers in a multiple-choice format. Each quizzing has paddles with letters on them. The clubbers raise the appropriate paddle to display their answer.

Be sure to check the calendar for current dates of practices and the quiz meet.

### Sparks-a-Rama & Awana Games

(check calendar for current dates)

#### Awana Games

Awana Games is a games competition between clubs in the area. Awana clubs come together and participate in various games and races to earn ribbons and awards. There are many benefits of participating in the games: Clubs develop a stronger identity and closer bonds among members; kids are also motivated to attend club and complete handbook and manual sections to qualify for their team, learning God's Word in the process; area churches and leaders are also able to connect with each other in an atmosphere of fellowship; and leaders are able to interact one-on-one with clubbers' parents. Awana Games is a win/win competition.

#### Sparks-a-Rama

Sparks-a-Rama is the Sparks version of Awana Games but with less intense competition. Sparks-a-Rama focuses on fun and meeting new friends through playing games. Emphasis is also placed on learning sportsmanship from a biblical perspective.

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### Awana Games and Sparks-a-Rama are highlights of the year.

Clubbers look forward to this fun day to show their best sportsmanship and abilities. Most importantly, the gospel is presented at each Sparks-a-Rama and Awana Games competition, allowing unsaved family members and friends in attendance a chance to hear and respond to the plan of salvation, many for the first time.

