



Department of Defense Dependents Schools
Aviano Middle/High School
Parent Newsletter
November 2012

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Aviano Students, Staff and Community:

I am both honored and flattered to have been asked to write to you in this opening section of the school newsletter. Of course, I spent many hours grappling over what to write about – I finally decided to write a little bit about the importance of character because I believe good character is the most important asset a person can have.

Your character is revealed by the many small decisions that you make and the many small actions that you take every day. I truly believe what Thomas Macaulay said, "The measure of a man's real character is what he would do if he knew he would never be found out." So, what do you do when no one's around?

Imagine.....The teacher steps out of the room for a moment while you are taking a test after school. You know exactly where in your notes the answer to question number 12 is. Do you look? There is very little chance of being caught. The answer to questions like this shows your character. For while being honest and honorable when others are watching is important, your private day-to-day decisions and actions will eventually build your true character.

Students - every day in each of your classes YOU DECIDE whether or not you want to learn something. Can you remember a time when perhaps you chose not to focus on learning? Can you remember a time when you chose to work really hard to learn and you mastered something really difficult? Making a tough decision (like focusing on learning every day) and following up with honorable actions (like working really hard to learn) builds good character.

I challenge you - Don't rest on your accomplishments. Continue to strive towards even loftier goals and work on building good character every day. As Ralph Waldo Emerson said, "The reward of a thing well done is to have done it."

Kim Redmond

Assistant Principal

Aviano Middle High School

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE & Info Fair - Friday Nov. 9th

- **Student Activity Information Fair** : (Elementary, Middle & High School combined) 9:00-10:00 in the MPR
- **MHS Parent Teacher Conferences**: 10:00-13:00 in the MPR
 - **All MHS teachers** will be available for individual conferences in this central location (MPR)
 - **MHS Report Cards** will be available as you enter the main lobby of the school
 - To ensure personal contact info is current our Registrar will have your file available for review/updates

SCHOOL EVENTS

Nov 1

End of 1st Quarter Term

Nov 2

NO SCHOOL- Teacher
Workday

Nov 1-3

Girls VB Europeans @
KMC

Boys VB ASIL @ Aviano

Football Super 6

Nov 8

Complex Early Release
@ 11:15

Nov 9

Parent Teacher
Conferences

Nov 9

PIE- Parent Information
Meeting @ 9am MPR

Nov 12

NO SCHOOL-
Veteran's Day

Nov 13

Winter Sports Begin

7th GRADE COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT FUND RAISER FOR "TRICK OR TREAT FOR UNICEF" & THE CFC

"Trick or Treat for UNICEF – Kids Helping Kids" was heard coming from ghost and ghouls that were prowling with pirates and vampires on Saturday Oct. 27th in front of the Aviano BX. 7th graders in Halloween costumes were there in hopes of scaring the community into contributing to a CFC - Combined Federal Campaign fund raiser for UNICEF. The 7th graders were well versed when members of the community asked where the contributions would go... "Just 3 cents will buy a kid vitamin A for a year so they won't go blind" said one of the pirates. "One dollar buys a vaccination shot for kids for a lot of different diseases" said another angel. The students had spent the week before learning how community service is a great way to give of their time and themselves. They learned how UNICEF focuses on children's needs to improve their lives through health care, immunizations along with emergency relief and nutrition. Gen. Zobrist came by to lend his support to the 7th graders, and despite the rain and few people shopping in the BX last Saturday, the 7th graders had a great response from the community and raised \$ 815 for UNICEF and the CFC.

The students that participated are: Morgan Kegin, Alyssa Garza, Aylin Blackwell, Danielle Alderman., Astrid Nazario, Zach Zobrist, Alanayn Pinaula-Toves, Camille Pukall, Zach Thompson, Carry Abel, Elizabeth Lopez, Alec Diks, Matt Cowan, Naphtali Soto, Megan Frizgerald, Logan Cox, Kathryn Clapper, Gio Ramos, Tyler Andler, Leah Ives, Nicole McDermott, Joseph Sili, Dorian Hill, Monika Stevens and Julie Merkel.



MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Aviano Men's Volleyball was lacking opponents this season, but fortunately the Chiefs Group stepped up to play several scrimmage games with the team throughout Sept & Oct. The team was made up of Chiefs, 1st Sgts, Airmen, & Commanders to include Gen Zobrist!



IN CASE OF STUDENT ABSENCE

Parents, please remember to call or email the MHS Office if your student is going to be absent or tardy. Students 9th - 12th grade are able to sign themselves in/out with just a note, email, or phone call. Students 6th - 8th must be signed in/out by a parent.

LOST & FOUND

Student lost & found is located in the MPR. It is filling up quick! Students are welcome to stop by and look for any items that have gone missing.

STOMP OUT BULLYING DAY

On Oct 10th, Aviano students joined schools across America & wore orange to show their support of *Stomp Out Bullying Day!*



HOMECOMING SNAPSHOTS

Aviano MHS celebrated Homecoming October 9TH 12th.



CREATIVE CONNECTIONS



Congratulations to Cody Price, Phoenix Lewis, Zach Erskine, Allison Walker and Ricky Herrera (*alternate Rachel Birri*) who have been selected as representatives from AVIANO HS to participate in this year's Visual and Performing Arts Symposium; **Creative Connections 2012 "Infinity"**! There was a record breaking 508 students who applied for courses this year! 97 applicants for DRAMA, 90 for Show Choir and 75 for Mixed Media topped the lists! **Creative Connections 2012 "Infinity"** will take place at Oberwesel Lodge in Germany during the week of 4-9 November 2012. It is an INTENSE 1 week workshop where students grades 9-12 who are interested in "The Arts" have the opportunity to be actively involved with others' just like themselves!! Thanks to all who worked diligently from the first day of school to encourage student participation, and to Mrs. Sandy Young for supporting our student in their travels as chaperone!

Congratulations 2012-13 Class Officers!

12th Grade: President – Matthew O'Brien, VP– Zach Erskine, Secretary – Grant Wong, Treasurer – Giulia Silvi, PR– Shelby McHugh

11th Grade: President – Alex Slauchbaugh, VP– Ally Dinges, Treasurer – Sabrina Huerta, Secretary – Rachel Ives, PR – Midori Sakagawa, Fundraising Chair AnnCamille Stubbs

10th Grade: President- Bailey Minyon, VP- Georami Corral, Secretary-Kristen Kennedy, Treasurer-Riley Fulton, PA-John Ozgul

9th Grade: President- Rachel Birri, VP-Anibal Rodriguez, Treasurer-Daniel Dinges, Secretary- Elyse Slabaugh, PA-Elizabeth Corriere

8th Grade: President- Malin Barnes, VP- Tianna Sian, Secretary-Briahna Thompson, Treasurer-Monica Stevens

7th Grade: President: Joseph Sili, VP- Sam Madrid, Secretary- Breanna White, PA- Hannah Stone, Dorian Hill and Morgan Kegin

AVIANO SENIOR RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION



Senior, Andrew Bert, was recently notified that he was one of 3,000 participants that received recognition from the National Achievement Scholarship Program. "The students scored in the top 3% of more than 160,000 who requested consideration when they took the PSAT." As a result of this distinguished acknowledgement, his name will be forwarded to over 1,000 colleges and universities throughout the United States. This program was started in 1964 to honor Black American high school students who show great promise in the future. Andrew is well-known and respected by teachers and fellow students here at Aviano Middle/ High School. Aside from academics, Andrew is also a captain of the football team, basketball team, and track team.

By: Jasmine Soler

FALL FEST BAND FUN

Approximately 50 students from the Aviano Middle/High School took the stage in the MPR last Saturday, October 27th. It was about two hours before the Fall Fest would begin, and the students and their conductor were dressed in their Halloween costumes. After warm-ups, they rehearsed selections of music chosen for their seasonal appeal: theme music from 'Jaws', 'Tales from the Crypt', 'Psycho', and 'Nightmare Before Christmas' could be heard throughout the school halls.

They were joined late by the Roveredo Youth Band, Italian national students who performed with our students earlier this year at the Maniago Italian/American Friendship Festival, and last year at the sold out gala fund raiser for the Aviano Cancer Hospital. The Italian students were excited to be on base, and also excited to participate in the Halloween festivities, a tradition that is not as common here as in the States. They were dressed in costumes as well, and had prepared the same scary pieces the Aviano band had been working on.

But it was raining. Rain would ruin many of the instruments being played, particularly the percussion and woodwind instruments. The performance was cancelled.

"It's disappointing, but still a success", said Mr. Boyle, the band director. "Every time these two bands get together it's a good thing. Our students had a chance to show the Italian kids around and share our festival with them. More and more of the Aviano students are joining the Roveredo band, and becoming social outside of the base and grappling with the language. I'm still glad we did it!" The bands are planning future events this school year together.



The Roveredo Youth Band pose in front of AMHS in their Halloween costumes after an evening of American-style trick-or-treating.

DIG PINK

The Aviano High School Women's Volleyball team sponsored its 5th annual 'Dig Pink' weekend on October 5th and 6th in honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. With the help of the base Women's Health Clinic and Ms. Young, the school nurse, the team set up an information booth and solicited donations which were given to the Get in Touch Foundation, a non-profit organization which encourages young women to start breast self-examinations early. The team sported pink uniforms and passed out pink ribbons to the crowd.



MEXICAN HAT DANCE

On Monday, October 1st, the second grade FLES students taught the Spanish level three high school students how to do the Mexican Hat Dance, or El Jarabe Tapatío in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month. This dance originated in Mexico in the 1700's and was considered the National Folk Dance of Mexico because of its popularity. It is usually performed in pairs or in groups and represents a man's courtship of a woman.

By: Jeddah Ortega & Orlando Accetty



BRAVO FOREIGN LANGAUAGE STUDENTS!

Aviano MHS students have a history of high performance on the AP Exams in Italian and Spanish; last school year was no exception. This group of students excelled with a 100 percent passing rate, compared to the overall DoDEA rate of 73 percent for Italian and 72 percent for Spanish. Especially noteworthy are the results for Italian, with four scores of "5", the top score, and one of "4". Foreign language students taking the AP Exams last year were enrolled in levels II and IV in Spanish and Italian, respectively. Congratulations to these outstanding foreign language students.