We at Hickory Elementary wish our students and their families a Happy Thanksgiving.

Enjoy these days off and for those traveling this Thanksgiving holiday, may you have safe travels.

Mrs. Grove’s and Mrs. Cintas’ third grade crafted Terrific Turkeys and then wrote persuasive essays to convince people not to eat them for Thanksgiving.
Dear Avon Families & Friends,

The future of the Avon Outdoor Learning Center (OLC) is in jeopardy. The funding for the OLC was cut as a result of the failed referendum. Since that time, money to pay the Outdoor Instruction Coordinator has been dependent upon grants and fundraising to remain open to the students of Avon Schools. Unfortunately, due to the decline in the economy, fewer grants and community donations, funding for OLC will be depleted by February 2014. However, you can help keep the doors open to this valuable community resource by helping us raise $30,000 prior to February.

Just as science programs have “inside” labs, the OLC serves as a resilient “outside” lab that has been used to teach science, math and history to our students. Teachers build lesson plans around their visits to the OLC to extend the outdoor lessons into the classroom. More than 9,100 students, parents and faculty members visited the OLC during the 2012-13 school year.

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) considers public school districts as government instrumentalities. As such, The Avon Outdoor Learning Center is eligible to receive tax-deductible contributions from individuals under Section 170 (c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). Please consider making a contribution to the Avon Outdoor Learning Center by submitting a donation directly to the OLC at 7237 E. U.S. Highway 36, Avon, IN 46123.

HICKORY PTO MEETING
Friday, Dec. 6th
From 12n-1pm
Bring a brown bag lunch and visit with Mr. Collins to learn more about our school and how you can help support student learning.

SAVE THE DATE
Thursday, December 19th
6:30pm-Hickory Café’
“Crazy Christmas”
Third graders will need to arrive in their classrooms no later than 5:45pm.

Our 3rd graders are hard at work rehearsing for their upcoming holiday performance. We look forward to seeing all of you in the audience.
Last year, donations helped to feed 350 families in Hendricks County during the holiday season. We would like to help even more this year. Please bring non-perishable food items to school to donate to this worthy cause.

**The class with the most donations wins a prize!** Thank you for your help.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEMS</th>
<th>DATES</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Canned Veggies</td>
<td>Monday, Dec. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pasta/Sauce</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peanut Butter and Jelly</td>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned Fruit</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cereal</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxed Meals</td>
<td>Monday, Dec. 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mac and Cheese</td>
<td>Tuesday, Dec. 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soup</td>
<td>Wednesday, Dec. 11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pasta/Sauce</td>
<td>Thursday, Dec. 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boxed Meals</td>
<td>Friday, Dec. 13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Five weeks ago Mrs. Cintas and Mrs. Grove’s 3rd graders began earning money by doing chores and odd jobs at home. The students were able to raise over $1,100.00! This week they all took a trip to Meijer and Kroger and used their earnings to purchase food items for the Project Angel Food Drive. They bought 132 boxes of pasta, 119 jars of sauce, 162 boxes of Mac & Cheese, 133 cans of soup, 315 cans of canned fruits and vegetables, 46 jars peanut butter and 46 jars of jelly, 100 boxed meals, and 40 boxes of cereal. Mrs. Cintas used this charitable activity to reinforce the students’ math skills (counting money, graphing etc.)

Both Mrs. Cintas and Mrs. Grove are very proud of all the hard work their students put in, and the students were all amazed at what they were able to accomplish. Great job!
New Academic Goals Announced for ACSC

Avon Community Schools is pleased to share new Academic Goals for the district. This is part of our continued commitment to offer Avon students high-quality educational instruction.

**ACSC Academic Goals:**

- **All ACSC students are on track to be life, career/college ready**
  - 90% of students in grades 3-8 will pass both portions of ISTEP+ (88% in 2014; 90% in 2015)
  - 95% of 3rd grade students will pass I-READ3 (Indiana Reading Evaluation and Determination) by the summer assessment (2014)
  - 96% of AHS graduates will have passed the Algebra I and English 10 ECA (End of Course Assessment)
  - Students with college aspirations will achieve at or above the 70-75th national percentile on NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) assessments (performance)
  - At least 35% of AHS graduates will take and pass one Advanced Placement (AP) exam
  - 50% of AHS graduates will earn an Academic Honors or Technical Honors Diploma

In addition to these academic goals, ACSC remains committed to the development of the whole person. As such, we will continue to offer art, music and PE at all grade levels. The performing arts will continue to begin in the 6th grade.

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**NOW - DEC. 24th GET A**

$10 IN-STORE ONLY GIFT CARD...

FOR EVERY $50 SPENT ONLINE @ www.avonozone.com

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**Avon Tree Lighting Ceremony**

**Avon Town Hall**

- **Time:** 6:00-7:00pm
- **Date:** 12/01/13
- **Visit Santa Inside Town Hall!**
- **Live Entertainment on the Front Stairs!**
- **Kids Crafts!**
- **Project A.S.G.E.L. will be Collecting New, Unwrapped Gifts!**
- **Fireworks to Follow the Lighting!**

Lighting with the 2013 AVON High School Girls Volleyball and Soccer State Champion Coaches:
- Eric Sainz
- Girls Soccer Coach
- Scott McGowan
- Girls Volleyball Coach.

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On Tuesday, November 12th, the members of the APPC (Avon Parent Partnership Committee) met and discussed the following topics:

- Volunteer History/Background Checks
- Online Textbooks
- Teacher Evaluation System (ATLAS)

To view the minutes from the November 12, 2013 APPC meeting, please click here.
It’s the Most Wonderful Time....

It is indeed one of the most wonderful times of the year. We also have the most wonderful faculty and staff in our school corporation. If you are looking for a unique way to honor a wonderful Avon teacher or staff member, please consider the Honor an Educator program coordinated by the Avon Education Foundation (AEF). Your gift of $10 or more honoring your special faculty or staff member is made payable to AEF. These gifts become part of something larger to support the many educational programs funded by AEF in Avon schools. When making your donation, you are given the opportunity to write a personal note to the recipient. The honoree will receive your personal message along with a special gift the last week before winter break. It is always a delight to see the joy on the faces of the honorees as an AEF representative visits their classroom or worksite to make these surprise deliveries on behalf of you or your child. Contact Kristi Kerr at jkckkerr@sbcglobal.net with any questions about the program. Donations are due by December 6 using the form on the next page of this issue of the Hickory Highlight. It is also available on the AEF website (www.avoneducationfoundation.org ) and return to your school’s office or the ACSC administration building (7203 E. US 36, Avon, IN 46123.) Your participation in the AEF Honor an Educator Program keeps on giving and helps continue the wonder beyond the holidays. Thank you!
Honor an Educator

It's the most wonderful time of the year!

It is also a wonderful time to show your appreciation to an Avon Educator. If an Avon teacher or employee has touched your family's lives in a special way, consider a tax-deductible donation in his or her name to the Avon Education Foundation. Your donation of $10 or more made to Avon Education Foundation becomes part of something bigger to benefit students in the Avon Community School Corporation. Your honoree will receive a small gift, and you have the option to write a personal note that will be included. All proceeds from Honor an Educator directly benefit children through classroom grants, funding for classroom projects & supplies, and educational programs in all school buildings of the corporation.

Donations should be received by the Foundation no later than Friday, December 6.

Your donation of $10.00 or more should be made payable to:

Avon Education Foundation
7203 East U.S. Highway 36
Avon, IN 46123

You may also send your donation to your child’s school office marked in an envelope:

Avon Education Foundation - Confidential

Website Address: www.avoneducationfoundation.org
Phone Number (317) 544-6090

Honoree Name: ___________________________ Grade/Subject: ___________________________
School/Building: ___________________________ Bus# (if driver honored): ________
Child’s Name (or Name of Donor): __________________________________________
Parent Name: ______________________________________________________________
Address: ___________________________ City/State/Zip: ___________________________
Email Address: ___________________________ Phone: ___________________________
Donation amount enclosed: $__________________

Donations are tax-deductible. The honoree will know of your gift but not the amount.

You or your child may provide a personal note below. We will detach it and include it a special card.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Sincerely, ____________________________________