

## SPARKS 2023-2024

We are delighted to have your child in Sparks at Spring Creek Church. It is our desire that your Spark fall in love with Jesus and His church. We believe that God has given us a very precious gift in His Word, the Bible, and we pray that it will become a prized possession and guide for your Spark!

AWANA recognizes that spiritual development of children begins at home. Children will benefit the most if parents go over the lessons and work with them to learn their verses at home. We encourage you to read the Bible stories with your children and share excitement for each verse that they memorize. Give them many opportunities to practice, not only at home, but also when they are riding along with you in the car. Their table leader will work with them as time allows, but it is limited, and they will not learn their verses as well as they could if they diligently work on them ahead of time.

When you arrive, use the kiosks to check in your child and print 2 stickers. Your child wears the first one as their nametag. Retain the other sticker to use for pickup. Sparks meets upstairs in KidsCreek from 6:30-8:00pm. Doors open at 6:15pm to drop off your child. Pick up is promptly at 8:00pm. Anyone 6th grade or older may pick up, as long as they have the matching sticker. If you need a replacement sticker, stop at the information desk downstairs.

Sparks schedule (Wednesdays, September 6 – May 1):

- 6:15-6:30 – Drop off at designated classroom
- 6:30 to 6:55 - Handbook Time
- 7:00 to 7:25 - Game Time in the Clubhouse or Quiet Time in the Sparks Zone (STEM activity instead of game time once a month)
- 7:30 to 7:55 - Flag Ceremony, Awards, and Counsel Time
- 8:00 – Pick up at designated classroom (when the door at the top of the stairs is opened)

Theme Nights: we have dress up nights once a month (optional)

The other side of this sheet contains information about the structure of our curriculum and awards.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

We are looking forward to having your child in Sparks this year!

Jennifer Malecki, Sparks Director [jenmalecki77@gmail.com](mailto:jenmalecki77@gmail.com) 262-408-0296 (call or text)

Janet Thompson, Sparks Secretary [jmthomp63@aol.com](mailto:jmthomp63@aol.com)

SPARKS ENTRANCE BOOKLET - FLIGHT 3:16: When starting the Sparks Club, children in K-2nd grade will be given the Flight 3:16 Entrance Booklet. This booklet helps clubbers learn the Sparks Motto, Sparks Key Verse, the AWANA Pledge, etc. Upon completion of this booklet, the clubber receives a Sparks Membership Card and is ready to start in the 1st Sparks Handbook, HangGlider. NOTE: Regardless of the age of the child, each NEW clubber begins with the Flight 3: 16 Booklet.

SPARKS HANDBOOKS AND FREQUENT FLYER BOOKS: The Sparks Club has 3 main handbooks and 3 frequent flyer books. The goal for your Spark is to finish their handbook. To do that, Sparks will complete 1 to 2 sections a week. If their pace is escalated, they will have the opportunity to do the book review and extra credit sections in the Frequent Flyer Book. Please note that we generally don't have time for Sparks to do MORE than the 1 to 2 sections per week. The recommended sequence of completion for a child that starts in Kindergarten and stays in Sparks through 2nd grade is:

- KINDERGARTEN (1st year of Sparks) – Flight 3:16, HangGlider Handbook, Review of HangGlider Handbook, Extra Credit in HangGlider Frequent Flyer Book
- FIRST GRADE (2nd year of Sparks) - WingRunner Handbook, Review of WingRunner Handbook, Extra Credit in WingRunner Frequent Flyer Book
- SECOND GRADE (3rd year of Sparks) - SkyStormer Handbook, Review of SkyStormer Handbook, Extra Credit in SkyStormer Frequent Flyer Book

MEMORY VERSE REQUIREMENTS: When Sparks are reciting verses, they are required to say the reference (ex: John 3:16) as well as the verse. The leader can give them two helps during the reciting of the verse. If they require more than two helps, they will be asked to work on the verse some more before trying again.

SPARKS UNIFORM AND BOOK AWARDS: Sparks should wear their vests every week. As they complete sections in their handbook, they earn a patch that is sewn onto their vest. Additional sections earn them different colored jewels that are attached to a flight pin that is worn on their vest. The awards earned are issued during club time. Sparks must be wearing their vest to be issued awards. This keeps the jewels from getting lost since they are small and specially attached to the flight pin. If a child forgets their vest, the awards will be held until the next week. Review completion earns them an additional patch and Extra Credit completion earns them an additional pin.

ATTENDANCE AWARDS: During an AWANA year, we have 4 quarters of awarding club attendance jewels. If the clubber misses two times or less during each quarter, they will be awarded a blue jewel for that quarter. We usually add the blue jewels to the vests in January and April each year.

END OF YEAR AWARDS (May 1, 2024): Book awards are given for the completion of the following books:

- HangGlider Book - 1st Book Lanyard
- WingRunner Book - 2nd Book Lanyard
- SkyStormer Book - Sparky Trophy