

## Message from the Head of School...

As Fall begins and cooler temperatures arrive, all schools find themselves imperceptibly changing their focus from settling back into a routine, to getting down to work, to preparing for the events and occasions, which form part of the life of the institution on a year-round basis.

Our community here at Awty has been hard at work on many different fronts since we came together at the start of the year. Our Grade 11 and 12 students are now studying at full capacity, in preparation for SATs and the onslaught of IB and Baccalauréat, which will come upon them all the more quickly after the Winter Break. Other students in the Upper School have begun the process of considering their options for tertiary education, together with visitors and admissions officers from universities across the United States.

Our Lower School students have celebrated the changing seasons in art and stories, which have provided delightful decoration to the walls of the Lower School Building. Myself and other colleagues have read our favorite stories to classes in the Lower School, as part of the “Lire en Fête” program. Some of us even joined the students on the catwalk last month as part of the Awty Fashion Show at the Junior League.

Once seen, never forgotten...



The APPA was active with the wonderful Fall Fun Festival last month and is now preparing for more social events and fundraisers to coincide with the coming festive season. Thank you to all our parents who contribute so much to the life of the school. Parents are reminded that, as of January 1, 2008, in common with many other independent schools, all parent volunteers to Awty will be required to register themselves with the Advancement Department. More details of the Parent Volunteer program and how to register are available on our website under the “Parents” menu.

In its turn, the Board of Trustees has also been busy in considering important issues of the future development of Awty, in the light of Awty’s 2007-2012 Strategic Plan. The completion of our new athletics facility, (due in February 2008), together with issues relating to the school’s master plan in the coming 3-5 year period, are all top of the agenda for myself and the Board over the weeks and months to come.

I have been pleased to see how well the new dining facility here at school, operated by Sage Dining, has experienced a quiet but tremendous success over the past couple of months. There are some small improvements still to be made in the Lower School but generally things are much improved on this time last year. Our work within school continues upon the completion of our Self Study, as part of our accreditation with the Council of International Schools (CIS) and the Independent Schools Association of the Southwest (ISAS). Our visiting team, composed of educators from around the world, will arrive in school for a one-week accreditation visit in 12 months time.



One important matter of housekeeping: please do not use the students' parking lot as a drop off or pick up area, either before or after school. This is both an inconvenience to teachers and students who park in that car park, as well as a danger to everyone's safety. Parents should always use the main car pools provided. Your cooperation in respecting these arrangements is appreciated.

Also, you may have noticed that the access way joining the main campus to the stadium is now laid. However, it is important no one drive or walk down this access road until it is officially authorized to do so. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Finally, as you may know, all parents and friends of the school can help us to attain our common goals by creating a community of giving and by making a firm decision to donate to the Annual Fund of the school. It is important that all of us in the Awty Community join together for the greater good of all of our children. Your commitment to the school is appreciated by us all. Please contact the Advancement Department should you have any questions regarding your pledge or donation.

With best wishes to all members of the Awty community for a pleasant Thanksgiving holiday break.

Dr David Watson  
Head of School