

# PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 10, 2006-07 – Thursday, February 8, 2007

## News and Notes

Mrs. O'Hara, Mrs. Ferrier, and the fourth graders are going to Mount Vernon tomorrow – Friday, February 9 – for a field trip complementing their Virginia history studies. Thank you in advance to Susan Cohen (parent of Libby, 4<sup>th</sup> grade) and Karla Hester (parent of Nick, 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and Cam, 4<sup>th</sup> grade) for joining the class on the trip!

Monday, February 12, is our second fundraising night at Ledo Pizza. I hope you'll consider joining us on the dining room side, anytime from 5-10 p.m. Pinecrest will receive 20% of the profits from that evening; please mention Pinecrest School to your server. I do ask that you remember (and help your children to understand) that there are always other patrons at Ledo's on "our" nights there and we must show respect; the entire section is not just for us.

Our summer camp has launched! Information packets were sent home to rising K-6 students on Monday. We are all very excited about Pinecrest Summer Pavilion, and I am thrilled with everything that Mrs. Hartzler has put together! I could not have imagined anything better. Please note that 2006-07 Pinecrest students have priority registration until Wednesday, February 14; after this date, registration will be open to the general public. Some of you have asked about sharing this information with friends and neighbors – please do! All of the information will soon be on our website.

Under Mrs. Parelhoff's direction, the fifth graders recently entered a writing contest through the weekend section of The Washington Post. The contest asked writers to describe their favorite movie in 100 words or less!

The Katy Kelly in-house author event will be rescheduled for grades 2-5. More details soon. Thank you to Kathy Lewis (parent of Drew Berdo, 5<sup>th</sup> grade) for picking up all of the books at A Likely Story for us! The books will be distributed on the day of Ms. Kelly's visit to Pinecrest.

Board Member Brian Becker (parent of Kira, 4<sup>th</sup> grade, and Scott, 1<sup>st</sup> grade) and I attended a panel discussion in D.C. on Tuesday morning sponsored by the Center for American Progress. The discussion focused on teacher compensation in charter and private schools.

I am very proud and pleased to announce that we have 100% participation from the faculty in this year's Annual Fund campaign! Additionally, we received a generous donation from a current student as well. Thank you to the many families who have already given, and thank you to those who are considering making a donation. Please remember that participation, above all, is what matters most.

K-5 Pennies for Patients will begin on Monday, February 12, and will run until Friday, March 2. This is a community service outreach with the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society. The goal of this program is to teach children the value of helping others in a way where they can contribute – their own pennies as a tangible gift. This is truly a children-helping-children effort as all of the money raised goes directly to local children battling leukemia and to cancer research. There is a collection box in each classroom for any funds your child(ren) and family want to donate. Some classes may be creating thinking-of-you cards to send to local patients as well. K-5 students will see a video and listen to a presentation soon to help them understand more about this program.

Ms. Bleggi's third graders and Mrs. Johnson's preschoolers have joined together again for a buddy reading program. Regularly, for about 15 minutes per session, the third graders are reading to the three-year-olds.

## Auction Update

The auction is on Saturday night, March 10 – just about one month away! It promises to be a very special affair – both a fun evening among adults and a fundraising opportunity to further enhance and develop Pinecrest School. We hope you will make plans to join us! Your invitation and response card will be arriving in your mailbox at home very soon.

The Silent Auction works best when we have a variety of interesting and unique items to offer bidders. Please remember that the Auction Committee has asked each family to secure at least two donations for the auction. Donations should be sent in by tomorrow – Friday, February 9. Extra donation forms are available in the office.

Please contact Donations Lead Eleni Jakub (parent of Alex & Anastasia, K) with questions or to talk over any ideas at 703.917.8049.



### Upcoming Dates

Fri., Feb. 9	Grade 4 Field Trip – Mount Vernon – all day
Fri., Feb. 9	Lifetouch Individual Photo Retake
Mon., Feb. 12	Ledo Pizza Night – 5-10 p.m. – 7510 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church
Mon., Feb. 12	K-5 Pennies for Patients Begins
Wed., Feb. 14	Happy Valentine’s Day! ♥
Thurs., Feb. 15	In-house Internet Safety Seminar – Grades 3-5 – 1:20 – more details TBA
Fri., Feb. 16	K-5 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – no after-care
Fri., Feb. 16	2007-08 Reenrollment Forms & Fees Due to the office
Mon., Feb. 19	Presidents’ Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Wed., Feb. 21	100 <sup>th</sup> Day of School Celebration (note date change due to yesterday’s snow day)
Thurs., Feb. 22	Grade 5 Field Trip – Kennedy Center
Fri., Feb. 23	Grade 2 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room, newer building
Sat., Feb. 24	Open House for prospective families – 10 a.m.-12 p.m.
Tues., Feb. 27	Grade 2 Field Trip – National Aquarium, D.C.
Wed., Feb. 28	Open House for prospective families – 6-8 p.m.
Fri., March 2	K-5 Pennies for Patients Ends
Fri., March 2	Dr. Seuss’s Birthday

### Celebrations/Appreciations

Thank you to the bakers for our recent Fun Lunch – the cupcakes were delicious!

Thank you to Brian and Grace Becker for hosting a recent wine & cheese event in their home for neighbors and friends interested in learning more about Pinecrest School.

### Thought for the Day

"Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary."  
(Margaret Cousins)