

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 16, 2006-07 – Thursday, May 10, 2007

News and Notes

Photos from recent school events, including Spirit Week, the kindergarten assembly, Spruce Up Day and more are now posted on the website. Please remember that your login and password are the same. If you cannot remember yours, please e-mail me and I will send it to you. (head@pinecrestschool.org)

The kindergarten class went with Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Murphy to Cox Farm for a Green Thumb group visit last week. Thank you to Eleni Jakub (parent of Anastasia & Alex, K), Sherry Nicewonder (parent of Nicholas Ozioli, K), Hye Young Shin (parent of Hwang-Seung & Yoon-Seung Lee, 4th grade & K) and Val Treharne (parent of Jonny & Owen, 2nd grade & K) for joining the class on the trip!

Nine families, Mrs. Higgins, Ms. Perlroth, Mrs. Renoll, Mrs. Parelhoff, Mrs. Strunk and her family, and I joined Ellie Hohenstein (1st grade) and her family at the JDRF Walk to Cure Diabetes on the National Mall last weekend! The Ellie's Fans Team raised over \$3000 for JDRF (Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation). The sneaker sale in the front office continues for this same cause.

On Tuesday evening, Mrs. Strunk attended a workshop about organizing your school, held at George Mason University as part of their professional development series for early childhood/elementary school educators and administrators.

On Sunday, June 3, we will have our Annual Meeting (2-2:30 p.m. in the science lab, newer building) and Ice Cream Social (2:30-4 p.m. on the back playground). Please note that this is a date change from what is listed on the school calendar. Please RSVP on the yellow flyer that was sent home yesterday for the ice cream social. Please note that this year, we are inviting new families who are joining our school community for the 2007-08 school year to join us at the Ice Cream Social!

Yesterday in Wednesday Envelopes, each member of our school community (one per family) received a letter and ballot for the 2007-08 election of the Board of Trustees. Please turn this ballot in if you do not plan to be present at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 3 (2-2:30 p.m. in the science lab, newer building). If you plan to be present for the Annual Meeting, please bring your ballot with you at that time. In addition to the election of the new Board of Trustees, the Annual Meeting will feature a sort-of State of the School address by me and one about the Board by Board Chair Susan Akers (parent of Tyler & Ellie Hohenstein, 5th & 1st grades).

Messages from Mrs. Strunk

A few reminders: May was the last tuition payment. The tuition deposit paid last year applies to June 2007.

If your child rides the bus, the amount for June is one half of the normal monthly amount.

Also if your child is returning next year tuition deposits for 2007-08 were due Friday, April 13th. If you need to know the amount please let Mrs. Strunk know.

June after-care bills will be mailed to your home and payments can be mailed back or dropped off.

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion

Our camper total is now at 125! There is still space available in many of our unique classes such as Let's Dance K-2 (Week 1, morning); Jazz It Up 2-6 (Week 1, afternoon); This Land Is Your Land: America's Birthday Bash K-6 (Week 2, morning); Book Nuts 4-6 (Week 4, morning); Encore! Drama 3-6 (Week 7, morning); Human Body 3-6 (Week 7 afternoon); Keepers of the Earth 2-5 (Week 8, morning) and many, many more! Closed classes are listed on our website in the summer camp section. Also, did you know that Mrs. Samaha is teaching two French classes – Vive La France 3-6 (Week 4, morning) and Vive La France K-3 (Week 5, morning)? Space is available in both of these classes too!

Upcoming Dates

Mon.-Fri., May 7-11	Faculty Appreciation Week
Wed.-Fri., May 9-11	Kindergarten Metropolitan Readiness Test – mornings – no make-ups
Thurs., May 10	Kindergarten Mother's Day Tea – 2:30 p.m. – K Classroom
Fri., May 11	Grade 1-5 Authors' Teas – Grade 1: 1:30-2:30 p.m.; Grade 2: 2-2:45 p.m.; Grade 3: 2:30 p.m.; and Grade 5: 2:00 p.m.
Sat., May 12	Open House for prospective families
Wed., May 16	K and Grade 4 Pennies for Patients Pizza Party Lunches (for being the top 2 fundraising classes in the school!) – regular lunch time in classrooms
Fri., May 18	Preschool 4 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room, newer building
Mon., May 21	Fairfax County Public Library Visits to promote summer reading program – K-Grade 2: 10 a.m.; Grades 3-5: 10:30 a.m. – playroom
Fri., May 25	Preschool 3 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room, newer building – please note that this is a date change from what is listed on the school calendar
Fri., May 25	K-5 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – no after-care
Mon., May 28	Memorial Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Sun., June 3	Annual Meeting 2-2:30 p.m. – science room, newer building / Ice Cream Social – 2:30-4 p.m. – back playground
Thurs., June 7	Preschool Last Day of School
Fri., June 8	Kindergarten Father's Day Breakfast – 9-10 a.m.
Fri., June 8	Preschool NO SCHOOL / Preschool Picnic/Awards – 10 a.m. – back playground/sport court area (weather permitting)
Fri., June 8	Grade 2-5 Read-in – 1:30-3:30 p.m. – multipurpose room
Wed., June 13	K-5 Last Day of School / K-5 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – bus service available – no after-care
Wed., June 13	Quarter 4 Ends (47 days) / Quarter 4 Report Cards Distributed
Wed., June 13	K-5 Field Day – 9:30-11:30 a.m.
Wed., June 13	Graduation & K-5 Music/Awards Program – 6 p.m. – St. Matthew's United Methodist Church on Little River Turnpike (same location as Holiday Music Program in December)
Thurs.-Fri., June 14-15	Faculty Workdays

Celebrations/Appreciations

We celebrate and appreciate our outstanding faculty this week for the countless ways that they are the true heart and soul of the Pinecrest community – Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. Narcisso, Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Murphy, Ms. Perlroth, Mrs. Renoll, Ms. Bleggi, Mrs. O'Hara, Mrs. Parelhoff, Mrs. Samaha, Mrs. Yeomans, Mrs. Browning, and Mrs. Cantor!

I want to acknowledge the 50 families in our school community who contributed monetarily to the efforts to recognize the faculty/staff this week. Your overwhelming generosity helped make possible the wonderful appreciation luncheon, luncheon gifts, and the vases and some flowers on Monday, as well as a few other treats for

Celebrations/Appreciations (continued)

the teachers! Thank you also to the parents who came in to volunteer with lunch set-up/clean-up and/or supervising the children during their lunch and recess periods – Madelynn Arnold, Denise Boyer, Shirley Corkill, Lisa Layfield, Truc Mai, Valerie Montgomery, Sherry Nicewonder, Karla Ochoa-Lopez, Dang Phuong, Karen Tamayo, Val Treharne, and Havva Yozgat! Last, but not least, a heartfelt round of applause to Susan Cohen and Kathy Ginsberg whose organization and coordination made this week like no other Teacher Appreciation Week Pinecrest has ever seen!

A standing ovation for the volunteers at the recent Spruce Up Day – Geoff, Christy and Sam Allen; Madelynn Arnold; Tim and Nicholas Boyer; Karen and Cameron Chesbrough; John Corkill; Kathy, Steve and Max Ginsberg; Diego and Santi Lorenzo; Thuan Luc; Julie and Kevin Muir; Hung and Anna Ngo; Sherry Nicewonder and Nicholas Ozioli; Karen Parelhoff; Ken Strunk; Steve, Val, Jonny and Owen Treharne; Guy Weber and Alex Kulvivat; Ken and Quinton Weiner; and Lee and Lily Wittle and Lisa Layfield. The campus looks fantastic! Thank you to the families who donated to the event – the Carmody, Choi/Kwon/Wang, Goodman, Neumann Families. Finally, a big tip of the hat to Mary Strunk for all of her work to organize and coordinate this event!

Thank you in advance to the volunteers at our May open house for prospective families this Saturday – Brian Becker (parent of Kira & Scott, 4th & 1st grades) and Mary Strunk!

Thought for the Day

“Teachers, I believe, are the most responsible and important members of society because their professional efforts affect the fate of the earth.”

(Helen Caldicott)