



PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 6, 2007-08– Wednesday, November 14, 2007

News and Notes

Traditionally, each class will have a Thanksgiving feast on Tuesday, November 20; more specific information about each class's plan will come from classroom teachers and/or room parents (if it has not already).

Please note that Pinecrest is closed Wednesday-Friday, November 21-23, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Also, there is no after-care on Tuesday, November 20 (as stated in the school calendar).

Our 2nd Annual Parent Education Evening featuring Cindy Post Senning, Ed.D., co-author of The Gift of Good Manners: A Parent's Guide to Raising Respectful, Kind, Considerate Children, will be held on Wednesday, November 28, from 7-8:30 p.m., in the newer building multipurpose room. Dr. Senning's discussion will center on how the fundamental principles of etiquette (consideration, respect and honesty) help us all succeed and how manners are important skills that help children build relationships and self-confidence in all aspects of life. Childcare is available at an affordable cost. The deadline has passed for ordering books, but it is not too late to RSVP if you would like to attend. I would love to see a high percentage of our families participate in this special evening, and I think the topic is a very important one. Please join us!

Please look in today's Wednesday Envelope for information about our Movie Night on Friday, December 7. Very simply, this is a unique opportunity for children to be at school in their pajamas without their parents and with their friends and for parents to be out for a few hours without their children! Movie Nights are always a lot of fun, and I hope many K-5 children will join us on December 7!

This year's Scholastic Book Fair raised approximately \$950.00 for the school! Thank you to all of the parents and faculty/staff who patronized the book fair. Your support of reading as an important pastime and of Pinecrest School is commendable. We have decided to add another Book Fair to our calendar this school year – mark your calendar for May 9-15, 2008!

Over 39 pounds of candy was turned in for our Halloween Candy Surrender! The candy will be shared with the same benevolence program of Woodbridge that's benefiting financially (along with Pinecrest) from your children's generosity – StreetLight Community Outreach Ministries in Woodbridge. Thank you again to Dr. Monique Nguyen (parent of Kaitlyn, 5th grade, & Angelyn, K) for implementing this program!

Quarter 1 report cards (with any addendums that accompanied the report card) should be returned immediately to your child's classroom teacher. Thank you if you have already done so!

The fourth grade went on a field trip with Mrs. O'Hara last week to see a play at George Mason University – "Salem Justice."

I attended a workshop yesterday in Fair Oaks – "Leadership & Supervisory Skills for Women," presented by National Seminars Group.

Mrs. Higgins, Mrs. Murphy and the kindergarten class went to Cox Farms in Centreville on November 1, for a day of fall fun, and they traveled to George Mason University on Monday for a TheatreWorks production of "If You Give a Mouse a Cookie." Thanks to the following parents for attending the Cox Farms trip: Scott Chesbrough, Merari Chollete (parent of Julienne, K, & Jenelle, Preschool 4), Brenda Klisowky (parent of Carly Hayes, K), Virginia Trevisan (parent of Gerik, K), and Helen Woodfield (parent of Alice, K)!

Upcoming Dates

Thurs., Nov. 15	K Parent Visiting Morning – 9:30-11 a.m.
Fri., Nov. 16	Fourth Grade Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room
Sat., Nov. 17	Open House for prospective families – 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Tues., Nov. 20	Thanksgiving Feasts (per class) / no after-care
Wed.-Fri., Nov. 21-23	Thanksgiving Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Wed., Nov. 28	Preschool & K In-house Author Visit/Presentation with Dr. Senning – 9:30 a.m. (<u>Emily's Magic Words</u> – preschool) and 10:15 a.m. (<u>Emily's Everyday Manners</u> – K) – playroom – parents are welcome to attend
Wed., Nov. 28	Parent Education Evening with Dr. Senning – 7-8:30 p.m. – multipurpose room
Thurs., Nov. 29	Preschool Field Trip – Holiday Tunes for Tots Concert
Fri., Nov. 30	Ident-a-Kid 9:30 a.m.
Fri., Dec. 7	K & Grade 1 Miss Cathy Storyteller In-house Presentation – 9:30 a.m. – playroom
Fri., Dec. 7	K-5 Movie Night – 6-9:30 p.m. – multipurpose room
Sat., Dec. 8	Open House for prospective families – 10 a.m.–2 p.m.
Fri., Dec. 14	NO SCHOOL – Winter Music Concert – 9:15 a.m. – no bus service – location TBA
Mon.-Mon., Dec. 17-31	Winter Break – NO SCHOOL
Tues., Jan. 1	New Year's Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Wed., Jan. 2	School Resumes

Celebrations/Appreciations

Kudos to the faculty and parents for their open communication and dialogue during the recent parent/teacher conferences!

Thank you to the following people who volunteered at our fall Book Fair: Susan Akers, Patti Allis, Madelynn Arnold, Denise Boyer, Jamey Butcher, Karen Chesbrough, Merari Chollette, Stacy Clark, Lyn Goodman, Vikki Keen, Hung Ngo, Tan Nguyen, Thao Nguyen, Sherry Nicewonder, Paula O'Grady, Trisha Serven, Val Treharne and Virginia Trevisan. And, finally, a big thank you to Mrs. Strunk for organizing and coordinating this very successful event!

Thank you to the families who purchased books on the teachers' wish lists! Your contributions help grow our classroom libraries.

Thank you to all who joined us for Monday's Parent Visiting Morning and Ledo Pizza Night!

Applause, please, for U.S. Navy Commander Scott Chesbrough (parent of Cameron, K); Royal Navy Commander Matt O'Grady (James, 2nd/3rd grade, and Freya, Preschool 4); Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Steve Treharne (Jonny, 2nd/3rd grade, and Owen, 1st grade) and British Army Lt. Colonel Simon Waddington (Benjamin, 2nd/3rd grade, and Toby, K) for sharing their experiences with our second – fifth grade classes this morning in honor of Veterans' Day! Special thank you to Paula O'Grady for helping to organize the presentation!

Accolades for Manisha Bhaksar (parent of Shiv, Preschool 3) for sharing a Diwali activity with the three-year-olds last week!

Thought for the Day

“Thanksgiving Day comes, by statute, once a year;
to the honest person, it comes as frequently as the heart of gratitude will allow.”
(Edward Sandford Martin)