



PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 16, 2007-08 – Wednesday, May 21, 2008

News and Notes

Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. Narcisso and the preschool 4 class went to Frying Pan park for a field trip today! Thank you to Paula O'Grady (parent of James & Freya, 2nd grade & Preschool 4) and Kristen Wool-Lewis (parent of Ethan, Preschool 4) for joining the class on the trip!

Mrs. Browning is attending a physical education workshop at George Mason University tomorrow.

This Friday, May 23, is a K-5 half day. On half days, students should bring a morning snack, but no lunch. All children will be dismissed at 12 noon.

The all-school group photos will be delivered soon and will be sent home via backpacks once they arrive.

The annual 2nd-5th Grade Read-in will be held on Friday, May 30, from 2-3:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room. 2nd-5th grade parents, please see today's Wednesday Envelope for more information.

On Sunday, June 1, 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 or in the multipurpose room if inclement weather). Please RSVP for the ice cream social to the office staff. Please note that we are again inviting new families who are joining our school community for the 2008-09 school year to join us at the Ice Cream Social!

If you do not plan to attend the Annual Meeting on Sunday, June 1 (2-2:30 p.m. in the science lab, newer building), please submit your ballot for the election of the 2008-09 Board of Trustees to the office staff before Friday, May 30.

Thursday, June 5, is the last day of school for both preschool classes. There is a preschool picnic/awards event at 10 a.m. on Friday, June 6, on the back playground. Preschool parents/families are strongly encouraged to participate and to arrive promptly at 10 a.m. so the ceremony can begin. Preschool year-end narratives will be distributed by teachers at the picnic/awards event.

In this year's auction, I offered "Head of School For a Day." Kaitlyn Nguyen (5th grade), whose parents had the highest bid in the live auction, will be the Head of School on Monday, June 9! There will be a whole-school assembly that morning where she will announce any special plans for the day.

K-5 Field Day is on the last day of school – Wednesday, June 11. See today's Wednesday Envelope for more information from Mrs. Browning about this special day! Any parents wishing to volunteer should please let the office staff know. Wednesday, June 11, is a half day with dismissal at 12 noon.

Our annual K-5 spring concert will take place at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church on Little River Turnpike in Annandale (same location as our winter concert in December) at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, June 11. Immediately following the concert (approximately 7 p.m.), we will be honoring Mrs. Higgins and her years of service to Pinecrest at a reception in the social hall at St. Matthew's. The reception is not a surprise, and current Pinecrest families do not need to RSVP. Please see today's Wednesday Envelope for your invitation to Mrs. Higgins's reception.

The kindergarten class, Mrs. Higgins, and Mrs. Murphy went to Hidden Oaks Nature Center last week for a science-related field trip. Thanks to Helen Woodfield (parent of Alice, K) for also attending!

Mrs. Wheeler and the first graders went to see a Junie B. Jones play last week at GMU. Thanks to Vicky Carmody (parent of Brooke, 1st grade) for joining the class!

The JDRF Sneaker Sale in honor and support of Ellie Hohenstein (2nd grade) has ended. Thank you to everyone who supported this worthy cause and Ellie's family in the process!

News and Notes – continued

Summer reading information will be distributed soon to rising 2nd-6th graders!

Office Hours With the Head began in April. Although I am always available to talk with parents, I thought having specific office hours (Wednesdays 1-3:30 p.m. and Thursdays 9-10:30 a.m.) might be helpful for parents and provide a more defined opportunity for me to answer questions, hear your feedback, et cetera. I am available to talk either by phone or in person during these hours (or at another mutually-convenient time – just let me know!).

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion

Camp welcome packets will be distributed to all campers at the beginning of June. We now have 245+ campers registered!!! There is still space left in many classes. Please check the summer camp section of our website or email Mrs. Hartzler for more information – summercamp@pinecrestschool.org.

Upcoming Dates

Wed., May 21	Preschool 4 Field Trip – Frying Pan Park
Fri., May 23	K-5 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – no after-care
Mon., May 26	Memorial Day Holiday – NO SCHOOL
Tues., May 27	Grade 4 Math-at-the-Mall Field Trip
Wed., May 28	Grade 1 Field Trip – Aesop's Fables Play
Thurs., May 29	Grade 5 Field Trip – Baltimore Science Museum
Fri., May 30	Preschool 3 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room, newer building
Fri., May 30	2 nd -5 th Grade Read-in – 2-3 p.m. – multipurpose room
Sun., June 1	Annual Meeting 2-2:30 p.m. / Ice Cream Social – 2:30-4 p.m.
Wed., June 4	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Shaw! ☺
Thurs., June 5	Preschool Last Day of School
Thurs., June 5-6	Grade 4 & 5 Field Trip – Skipjack / Chesapeake Bay
Thurs., June 6	K Father's Day Breakfast – 9 a.m. – K classroom
Fri., June 6	Preschool NO SCHOOL / Preschool Awards/Families' Picnic – 10 a.m. – playground
Tues., June 10	Quarter 4 Ends (45 days) / Quarter 4 Report Cards Distributed
Wed., June 11	K-5 Last Day of School / K-5 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – no after-care / K-5 Field Day 9:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m. / K-5 Spring Music Concert – 6 p.m.

Celebrations/Appreciations

Congratulations to the kindergarten class, Mrs. Higgins and Mrs. Murphy and to the preschool 4 class, Mrs. Ferrier and Mrs. Narcisso who presented lively and adorable assemblies on April 25 and May 16, respectively. Encore, encore!

On behalf of the faculty, I want to thank all of the children and families who participated in our recent Faculty Appreciation Week efforts. Your many kindnesses were truly appreciated. A heartfelt thank you to the 26 families who donated a dish or time (or both) to the lunch and supervision efforts on that Wednesday so we could all enjoy a lovely meal together. What a treat – thank you all! A tip of the hat to Susan Cohen for her efforts to organize such a special week for our hardworking faculty!

A round of applause for the volunteers at our recent Scholastic Book Fair – Susan Akers, Madelynn Arnold, Vicky Carmody, Brian Becker, Denise Boyer, Nancy Greene, Eleni Jakub, Hung Ngo, Sherry Nicewonder, Paula O'Grady, Trisha Serven, Karen Shaw, Val Treharne and Kristen Wool-Lewis! A big THANK YOU to Susan Cohen (she's been very busy this month!) and Karen Tamayo for their work organizing the book fair!

A standing ovation for Scott Pratt, who as always graciously supplied the equipment and popcorn machine for our May 2 Movie Night. And, special thanks to my best friend, Kristina Dlugozima, for chaperoning with me!

Thought for the Day

“And the day came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom.” (Anais Nin)