



PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 17, 2007-08 – Wednesday, June 4, 2008

News and Notes

This Thursday, June 5 (tomorrow), 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 on Friday.

Tomorrow and Friday, our fifth grade class and some fourth graders will be going on an overnight field trip to the St. Mary's county area of Maryland. They'll be studying the Chesapeake Bay all day on Friday! Thank you to the following parents who will be joining the class on the trip: Karen Dabney (parent of Maggie, 5th grade), Lyn Goodman (parent of Kyle, 4th grade), Julie Muir (parent of Kevin, 5th grade) and Lee Wittle (parent of Lily, 4th grade)!

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 her special plans for the day.

All library books are due by Monday, June 9. If you have lost a book, please send in a replacement fee of \$5/book.

K-5 quarter 4 report cards will be distributed via backpack on the Tuesday, June 11, via backpacks.

Wednesday, June 11, is the K-5 last day of school and a half day. Dismissal is at 12 noon and there is no after-care. There is regular bus service.

K-5 Field Day is on the last day of school – Wednesday, June 11. More information was distributed last week from Mrs. Browning! Any parents wishing to volunteer should please let the office staff know. Please note that Wednesday, June 11, is a half day with dismissal at 12 noon, and our special field day activities take up the majority of the day.

The K-5 Spring Concert and Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, June 11, at 6 p.m., at St. Matthew's United Methodist Church at 8617 Little River Turnpike in Annandale. This is the same location as the winter concert in December. Please take into account traffic when planning your trip to St. Matthew's to ensure that we can begin our program promptly at 6 p.m. It is expected that all K-5 children will participate.

Immediately following the spring concert (approximately 7-7:15 p.m.) on Wednesday, June 11, 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.

Last week, a parent survey was distributed by the 2007-08 Board of Trustees. Your feedback is valued so please turn your completed survey into the office by June 11. Please let me know if you need another copy of the survey.

New photos are available on the school website (in the password-protected area of the Students/Current Families section) from the recent preschool 3 and preschool 4 assemblies, ice cream social, kindergarten field trips and more!

The kindergarten class, Mrs. Higgins, and Mrs. Murphy went to Magill's on Monday to complement their study of Italy!

Last week, the fifth graders and Mrs. Hodgkins went to Baltimore for a field trip. Thanks to Karen Dabney and Lisa Layfield (parent of Lily Wittle, 5th grade) for driving and participating!

Mrs. Wheeler and the first graders went to see an Aesop's Fables play last week. Thank you to Sandra Hong-Weiner (parent of Quinton Weiner, 1st grade), Eleni Jakub (parent of Alex & Anastasia, 1st grade), Sherry Nicewonder (parent of Nicholas Ozioli, 1st grade) for attending!

News and Notes – continued

Thank you to everyone who linked his/her Giant Bonus Card to Pinecrest this year. We received \$234.17 from Giant's A+ Bonus Bucks program!

As announced to the kindergarten families last week, I've hired our next kindergarten teacher – Mrs. Heather Vogus! Many rising kindergarten families had the chance to meet Mrs. Vogus at our ice cream social on Sunday.

Although June tuition was paid last year with your tuition deposit, June bus fees must still be paid before June 11. Please contact Finance Manager Karen Tamayo at business@pinecrestschool.org if you need the exact amount owed.

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!).

Save the Dates: The first day of school will be on Tuesday, September, 2, and Visiting Day will be on Friday morning, August 29! The master school calendar will be sent to all early this summer.

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion is recognized in the June/July issue of Northern Virginia magazine in the summer camp category for “Best of NoVA!” Mrs. Hartzler and I are very excited by this honor, and thank all who voted for us. We are the only camp cited!

Camp welcome packets will be distributed to all campers soon. We now have 270 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., 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.
Thurs., June 19	Happy Birthday, Ms. Bleggi! ☺
Mon., June 23	Pinecrest Summer Pavilion Begins

Celebrations/Appreciations

Congratulations to the preschool 3 class, Mrs. Yeomans, and Ms. Cathy on the delightful assembly on May 30! Encore!

A round of applause for the volunteers at Sunday's annual meeting/ice cream social – Nate Carmody, Libby Cohen, Shirley Corkill, Phuong Dang, Tyler Hohenstein, and Monique Nguyen! A tip of the hat to Susan Cohen for organizing the ice cream social!

Congratulations to the newly-elected 2008-09 Board of Trustees: Chair Nate Carmody (parent of Brooke, 1st grade), Secretary Susan Akers (parent of Ellie Hohenstein, 2nd grade); Treasurer Brian Becker (parent of Kira & Scott, 5th & 2nd grades); Parent-at-Large Members Tim Boyer (parent of Nicholas, 2nd grade), Scott Chesbrough (parent of Cameron, K), Susan Cohen (parent of Libby, 5th grade), and Mark Patterson (parent of Garrett, 1st grade); and Faculty At-Large Member Janet Bleggi. As mandated by the school by-laws, I serve as Vice Chair of the Board.

Thank you to Denise Boyer whose library assistance was invaluable this week!

Thought for the Day

“Every end is a new beginning.” (Proverb)