

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 12, 2008-09 – Wednesday, March 4, 2009

News and Notes

Yesterday and today, we celebrated Dr. Seuss's birthday with class and school-wide activities. The K-6 classes got together yesterday afternoon for some fun activities inspired by Dr. Seuss's stories, and the preschool classes enjoyed readings of Dr. Seuss books by third graders this morning. Our kindergarten and preschool 4 classes enjoyed green eggs and ham as well! Photos will be available on the website soon.

A group of us from our community (including Mrs. Wheeler and her husband) are participating in the 2-day, 39-mile Avon Walk for Breast Cancer in D.C. in May. Each member of our team must raise \$1800. Today's Wed. Envelopes contained information about two fundraisers for the Wheeler's Healers team in the walk – K-6 Game Night on Friday evening, March 20, from 6-9 p.m., and K-6 after-care on Friday, March 27 (half day), from 12-5 p.m. Please see colored flyers for more details. This is our first-ever Game Night, and if it goes well, Pinecrest will run more in the future. It will be a similar to our Movie Nights – hope to see your children there!

Our first graders were recently collecting funds for children in Ethiopia. They proudly raised \$123.25! Thank you to everyone who contributed, and a tip of the hat to our very generous first grade class!

Mrs. Davis, Ms. Bleggi, and the second and third grade classes went to GMU last week to see Charlotte's Web! Thank you to Susan Akers (parent of Ellie Hohenstein, grade 3) for accompanying them.

Some of our staff recently attended workshops presented by the Office for Children – Mrs. Vogus and Mrs. Murphy on February 21, Mrs. Vogus on February 26, and Mrs. Narcisso on February 28. These workshops were focused on communication and positive and effective classroom management.

Please note the following calendar changes:

K-6 Movie Night will be held on Friday evening, May 15 (not Friday, May 8, as the calendar indicates)

Ice Cream Social will be held on Sunday afternoon, May 17 (not Sunday, May 31, as the calendar indicates)

Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, June 2 (not Sunday, May 31, as the calendar indicates)

If you read this newsletter, please email me by Friday morning at 9:30 a.m. and your child (or you – your choice) will be entered to win a free pink Wheeler's Healers breast cancer walk t-shirt! One winner will be drawn randomly from those who respond. Congratulations to Gauri Sakpal (parent of Aardra, Preschool 4) who won her daughter a free book at our May Scholastic Book Fair for reading/responding to the last newsletter contest!

Our Annual Fund continues through the end of the fiscal year in June. Gifts made to the annual fund help strengthen and uphold our mission for current and future students.

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion

At the time of the last newsletter, we had about 100 campers enrolled, we are thrilled to say that we now have 200 campers enrolled for Pinecrest Summer Pavilion this summer!!! We are delighted with the response, and we hope more current Pinecrest families will sign up to be part of the fun. If you love what we do during the school year, there is no better place to be for the summer than Pinecrest Summer Pavilion! Many classes have already closed due to full enrollment. (Please check the summer camp section of the website for more information.) Please direct any summer camp questions to Mrs. Hartizer at summercamp@pinecrestschool.org or 703.503.1132 (home).

Pinecrest's annual auction will be on Saturday night, April 18. Arrange your baby-sitters now! 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.

A flyer and donation form recently were sent home to each family. Each family is asked to get 1-2 donations to help make the auction a success. The Silent Auction works best when we have a variety of interesting and unique items to offer bidders. Donations should be sent in by Friday, March 13. Extra donation forms are available in the office. Thank you to the many families who have already contributed items! Please contact Auction Co-Chairs Vicky Carmody (parent of Brooke, grade 2) or Val Treharne (parent of Jonny & Owen, grade 4/5 & 2) with donation questions or to talk over any ideas at 703.533.9339 or vicky@carmody.ws (Vicky) or 703.642.7266 or valtreharne@hotmail.com (Val).

School Policy Highlight

From page 6 of the Community Handbook: Absences: Illness – Parents must call the office by 8:30 a.m. to notify the school that their child will be absent. You may call the school before school hours and leave the information on voicemail (703.354.3446) or email office@pinecrestschool.org. If the parent of an absent child does not call to notify the school, school personnel will call the parent to verify the child's absence. If the illness lasts more than three days, please contact your child's teacher so you can keep your child current on assignments. If requested by parents, teachers will leave students' work on the office counter and parents may pick it up whenever convenient between 12 noon and 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Dates

Fri., March 6	Grade 3 Field Trip – Green Spring Nature Center – a.m.
Fri., March 20	Grade 2 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room
Wed., March 25	Grade 4-6 Field Trip – National Geographic in D.C. – a.m.
Fri., March 27	K-6 Half Day – 12 noon Dismissal – K-6 after-care being offered 12-5 p.m.
Mon.-Thurs., March 30-April 2	Spirit Week – more details to follow
Tues., March 31	Board of Trustees Meeting – 7 p.m. – science/art lab
Wed., April 1	2009-10 Tuition Deposit Due
Thurs., April 2	Quarter 3 Ends (47 days)
Fri., April 3	Parent/Teacher Conferences / Faculty Workday – NO SCHOOL
Fri., April 3	Quarter 3 Report Cards Distributed at Parent/Teacher Conferences
Mon.-Fri., April 6-10	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
Mon., April 13	School Resumes / Quarter 4 Begins
Thurs., April 16	All-school Group Photo by Creative Images (and Individual Photo Retakes)

Celebrations/Appreciations

Happy belated birthday to Mrs. Wool-Lewis (Feb. 25) and happy early birthday to Mrs. Hartzler (March 8)! ☺

Bravo to our fourth/fifth grade class and Mr. Loring for their impressive and informative assembly on February 27! Their sets and scene changes, especially, made for an exciting show!

Thank you to everyone in our community who ordered Wheeler's Healers walk t-shirts. Mrs. Wheeler drew our logo herself – a raccoon wearing medical garb – and it will be a unique shirt to have! Your support means so much.

Applause, please, for the volunteers at our February open house for prospective families – Susan Akers, Brian Becker (parent of Kira & Scott, grades 6 & 3), Nate Carmody (parent of Brooke, grade 2), Susan Cohen (parent of Libby, grade 6), and Mark Patterson (parent of Garrett, grade 2)!

Thought for the Day

“Opportunity dances with those who are ready on the dance floor.”
(H. Jackson Brown, Jr.)