

Pinecrest School

Nurturing curiosity, confidence, and a love of learning since 1957

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 9, 2009-10 – Wednesday, February 17, 2010

News and Notes

As you know, many school days were lost to the recent snow storms. Our school policy allows for five days of inclement weather before we start making them up. We have used more than five days though. The plan for making up days is below. Please note that if there are any additional snow days, we will have to add more school days to the calendar.

K-6

- *Friday, May 28 – Full Day (not a half day as the original calendar stated)*
- *Wednesday, June 9 – Full Day (not a half day and not Field Day as the original calendar stated)*
- *Thursday, June 10 – Additional Full Day (Quarter 4 report cards will go home in backpacks on this day and not on Tuesday, June 8, as the original calendar stated)*
- *Friday, June 11 – Additional Half Day / Field Day / Last Day of School*

- *The K-6 spring concert and sixth grade graduation will remain on Tuesday evening, June 8, at John Calvin Church in Annandale.*

- *K-6 after-care and bus service will be offered Friday, May 28; Wednesday, June 9; and Thursday, June 10. There is no after-care available on Friday, June 11, but bus service is available.*

Preschool

- *Friday, June 4 – Additional Regular Day of School (9 a.m.-12 noon) on Friday, June 4*
- *Monday, June 7 – Additional Regular Day of School (9 a.m.-12 noon)*
- *Tuesday, June 8 – Additional Regular Day of School / Last Day of School (9 a.m.-12 noon) (Narratives will go home in backpacks on this day, not on Thursday, June 3, as the original calendar stated)*

- *The preschool awards ceremony/families' picnic will be on Wednesday, June 9 (not Friday, June 4 as the original calendar states) at 10 a.m., at school.*

- *Preschool lunch bunch and bus service will be offered Friday, June 4; Monday, June 7; and Tuesday, June 8.*

An updated school calendar is attached to the email with this newsletter. Key dates for the 2010-11 school year are listed at the bottom of page 2. If you would like a paper copy sent home to you, please let me know.

Please be very careful when driving and walking in the parking lot and driveway. We will continue to do drop-off and dismissal as usual, and we thank you for your flexibility and caution as we deal with this historic amount of snow.

Today in Wednesday Envelopes you will have a slip to sign indicating that you read your child's K-6 report card or preschool narrative. We ask that you sign and return this as soon as possible. Thanks in advance.

2010-11 Reenrollment Forms were distributed via Wednesday Envelopes on January 20 with a requested return date of Friday, February 19. Once again, the Board of Trustees has determined that an early registration discount will be available if the registration contract and tuition deposit is returned by Monday, March 15. If you have any questions about the registration contract or the letter explaining next year's tuition and other information, please contact me directly. Additionally, if you need additional copies of any of the paperwork, please just let me know.

Our next open house for prospective families is this Sunday, February 21, from 1-4 p.m. Please invite your friends or neighbors to come check us out!

Tuesday, February 23, is our fundraising night at Ledo Pizza in Falls Church. I hope you'll consider joining us on the dining room side, anytime from 5-10 p.m. Pinecrest will receive 20% of the profits from that evening; please mention Pinecrest School to your server. The Ledo atmosphere is very kid-friendly, the prices are affordable, and our

News and Notes – continued

Pinecrest evenings there are usually a lot of fun! Please remember (and help your children to understand) that there are always other patrons at Ledo's on "our" nights there, and we must show respect and represent our school well; the entire section is not just for us.

Next Wednesday, February 24, the Auction Committee will be here taking photos of the children for us at the auction. You may hear about this from your children, and we promise that the photos will be worth the wait and used in-house only. You won't be able to see them until Saturday night, May 1, where they will be available for purchase.

The fifth/sixth grade class, under Ms. Mitlo's direction, is facilitating a community fundraising effort to help the children of Haiti. They visited classes to talk about what they are doing and why, and a collection box is in every class and in the front office. Kudos to our oldest class for their generosity and initiative!

Our Annual Fund Campaign continues and will go through June 30. We hope that you will consider donating an amount that fits within your family's means. Our goal is 100% community participation, although we have many alumni families who continue to give generously each year as well. All independent schools and non-profits run Annual Fund Campaigns each year. Your gift helps strengthen and uphold Pinecrest's mission for our current and future students.

If you read this newsletter and respond by email by Friday morning at 10 a.m., you will be entered in a drawing to win a free book for your child at the Scholastic Book Fair in May! Congratulations to Amy Knieriem (parent of John, grade 3, and Scott, grade 1) who won a discounted 2010-11 reenrollment fee for reading and responding to the last newsletter!

Pinecrest Summer Pavilion

PSP registration is open and we are truly amazed and so proud that already 175 campers are registered! Many classes are now closed. Please check the website (summer camp section of our school website) before registering. If there is a closed class in which you're interested, please email Mrs. Hartzler at summercamp@pinecrestschool.org to get on the waiting list. We are running eight weeks of camp this summer beginning the week of June 28 and ending the week of August 16. Preschool Pavilion for rising pre-kindergarten/preschool 4 children is available all eight weeks, mornings only, and is almost full itself.

Upcoming Dates

Fri., Feb. 19	2010-11 Registration Contracts & Fees (\$150/returning student) Due
Fri., Feb. 19	Grade 2 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room
Mon., Feb. 22	Grade 4 and 5/6 Field Trip – National Gallery of Art
Tues., Feb. 23	Ledo Pizza Night – 5-10 p.m. – 7510 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church
Tues., March 2	Dr. Seuss's Birthday and 100 th Day of School (barring no additional inclement weather)
Tues., March 2	Board of Trustees Meeting – 7 p.m. – science/art lab
Thurs., March 4	Faculty In-Service Workday – NO SCHOOL
Mon.-Fri., March 22-26	Faculty Appreciation Week
Fri., March 26	Grade 1 Assembly – 9:15 a.m. – multipurpose room
Mon.-Fri., March 29-April 2	Spring Break – NO SCHOOL
Mon.-Thurs., April 5-8	Spirit Week – more details coming next month about this fun week!
Fri., April 9	Parent/Teacher Conferences / Faculty Workday – NO SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: Sat., May 1 – Pinecrest Annual Auction Fundraiser – evening – adults only

Celebrations/Appreciations

We offer belated and deep thanks to Mariam Simpson (parent of Eva, preschool 3/4) for coming in to speak to our three oldest classes last month about her recent experiences in Haiti as a journalist.

Bravo to our fourth and fifth/sixth grade classes, Ms. O'Hara, and Ms. Mitlo for their excellent winter-themed assembly on January 29! I've heard some 'conspiracy theories' that this assembly was the cause of all those recent snow days. Next year, just to be on the safe side, any weather-related assemblies will be feature spring and summer only! ☺

Happy Birthday to Mrs. Wool-Lewis (February 25)!