

Pinecrest Headlines
Communication from the Head of School – Issue 8, 2018-19
Wednesday, December 11, 2018

News and Notes

General Reminder: Please use the white doorbell if you need to be let into the lower school building; this is the best way for us to know you are there (vs. knocking on the door).

General Reminder: We ask that you think of the other students and teachers before sending a sick child to school. We understand that the school year is hectic, but it introduces a needed time for diligence when it comes to child hygiene and health. If your child is not feeling well, chances are he or she would be more comfortable staying at home than coming to school sick. Not only do you run the risk of having your child get sicker, but also the risk of infecting other students or the teachers in the class. Similarly, your child would remain healthier (and happier at school) if he/she gets enough rest each night. Thank you for your cooperation.

Thank you to the families and teachers who are participating in our Adopt a Family in need for the holidays through Britepaths. It is heartening to see practically all of the slots filled. Our family of 2 adults and 4 girls is local to Fairfax, and have been registered through the social worker at the girls' school. Sign up to donate at www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A49A4AB28A75-pinecrest. Then please send your donation to the school office no later than **this Friday, December 14th** and help give this family a great holiday. There is a bin by Ms. Sambro's desk for all donations. Please do not wrap your contributions. Any questions about this can be directed to Jaime (parent of a fourth grader and a second grader).

Thursday, December 20, is the last day of school and care before Winter Break.

The winter concert is on Friday morning, December 21, but there is no school or before-care or after-care on that day.

Our preschool through sixth grade winter concert will take place on Friday, December 21, at 9:15 a.m. **at John Calvin Presbyterian Church on Columbia Pike. **Note this is a different location than recent years**** This is not a school day and there is no care on this day / we only have the concert at this off-site location in the morning. Please feel free to invite family and friends to come and enjoy the concert with you as desired. The concert should last about 60 minutes. The children should be at the church no later than 9:00 a.m. The faculty will direct them to their seats; the children will sit together with their teachers and classmates while parents and guests sit in the other sections of the church. John Calvin Presbyterian Church is located at 6531 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003 – when entering, please use the lower entrance. We ask all children to dress for a special occasion for the winter concert. **If your child will NOT be attending the Winter Concert on December 21, please let us know.**

Winter Break Care runs Thursday, December 27; Friday, December 28; Wednesday, January 2; Thursday, January 3; and Friday, January 4. See details below.

2018-19 Tuition Installment 6 of 10 is due on January 1. (A \$50 late fee is charged if the tuition payment is not received on or by the *seventh* day of the month. *January 2019 only*)

School resumes from winter break on Monday, January 7.

Mrs. Giacomani/KidSpanish is offering another session of Spanish this winter. The classes will be held on Saturday mornings at 9 a.m. at Pinecrest from January 19 – March 9. You can register online at www.kidspanish.org and contact Mrs. Giacomani directly with any questions – larissa@kidspanish.org. While the class is being held at Pinecrest, it is open to any child in any school so you can feel free to share the information with local friends or neighbors. A gold flyer about this was recently in the Wednesday Envelope.

Thanks to everyone who shared on Facebook or through other ways about our December 9 open house. Our next open house for prospective families is Sunday, January 13, and we will send more information out about it in advance of that time.

We've posted two new blogs on our website recently – check them out here:

[Full STEAM Ahead!](#)
[Their Words, Not Ours - Why We Love Pinecrest](#)

Our Annual Fund Campaign is in progress and will go through August 31, 2019. Our goal is to raise \$10,000 and achieve 100% current parent and staff participation, although we have many alumni families and grandparents who give generously each year as well. All independent schools and non-profits run annual fund campaigns each year. The importance of Pinecrest Annual Fund cannot be overstated; it helps us close the gap between tuition and the actual operating costs of the school. Thank you to the members of the Board of Directors for their 100% participation and generous gifts and to the others in our community who have already contributed. It was especially fun to see so many Giving Tuesday donations come in – we appreciate you prioritizing Pinecrest in your charitable giving.

Our online auction committee will begin soliciting businesses soon in preparation for our annual online auction that will happen in the spring. Please consider participating – parent volunteers will receive assignments of businesses to contact, and this can be done on your own time. Erin (parent of a third grader and a first grader) will be planning a meeting soon for those interested in helping, but please sign up online in the meantime: <https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/onlineauctionhelp>.

Please DO NOT CLICK on any Pinecrest ads you may see on other websites, on Facebook or Instagram, in any apps or anywhere else. The way this particular digital marketing works is that we pay per click. We are eager to pay for clicks of prospective parents but not for those who are already sold on our school or camp. 😊 **Thank you for NOT clicking on the ads!**

Our Amazon Wish List allows us to let everyone know exactly what we need so gifts can be targeted to really make a difference to our students and teachers and provides an opportunity for parents and grandparents who want to generously contribute to our school. You can view the wish list [here](#). We have recently received some terrific purchases from our wish list, and we are grateful! ***Helpful hint: Sometimes Amazon does not tell us who ordered the item and we do not know who to thank; something you can do to mitigate this is put your name in the address with Pinecrest School and our mailing address – then we know who it is from.*** 😊

Our next PPF is this Friday, December 14, and then followed by the week we return from break on Friday, January 11. The link to sign up for pizza is [here](#) and you must sign up prior to 2 p.m. the day before.

We are looking for one or two parents to help us for the December 14th PPF – please sign up here if you are available and interested: <https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp>.

We are looking for more PPF dessert sponsors from February 1 – May 31. PPF dessert sponsorships are not tax-deductible donations because in return for the dessert, the school allow the sponsor's child(ren) to eat free pizza on the day the parent provides the dessert. The dessert item should be nut-free, and the dessert sponsor is provided with the quantity needed the day before the PPF just after 2PM when the sign-up link closes. The sign-up link is here: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/eventsponsor/index.html>. Thank you to the seven families that have already signed up as dessert sponsors – we appreciate your involvement! This generosity allows us to maximize profits from this fundraiser and we are so appreciative.

If you need a Pinecrest car magnet, they are in the office at the front desk. We can easily send them home – just let us know if you need one (whether it be a new one for the first time or a replacement because of fading)! 😊

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 “retro” Pinecrest shirt for your child (or maybe you!). Limited sizes and colors available. Ms. Haden was the winner last time – thank you for reading the newsletter and congrats!

Follow us on [Facebook!](#) [Instagram!](#) [Twitter!](#)

Winter Break Care – not too late to sign up!

Pinecrest School is offering 5 days of Winter Break Care in 2018-19. Winter Break Care will be held at Pinecrest School and is open to preschool through sixth grade students.

Dates:

- Thursday, December 27, 2018
- Friday, December 28, 2018
- Wednesday, January 2, 2019
- Thursday, January 3, 2019
- Friday, January 4, 2019

Registration:

- Online at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/wintercare/index.html>
- You may sign up for 1 day, some days or all days as needed
- You can add more days later as needed as well if you sign up for some now and something changes

Fees:

- K-6 Care – 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. – \$75/day (After November 27, \$85/day)
- Preschool Care – 8:45 a.m. to 12 p.m. – \$35/day (After November 27, \$55/day)
- Before-care for both age groups – begins at 7:30 a.m. – \$12/day, prepaid online or \$12/day drop-in
- After-care – K-6 After-care runs 3:45-6 p.m. / Preschool After-care runs 12-6 p.m. – \$12/hour, billed after use

Photos

From Facebook:

Scenes from Our Classrooms [11/26 and 11/19](#)

[K-Kids Cards for Aarondale Residents 12/10](#)

[Video - 2nd/3rd Grade Class Presentation 12/7](#)

[2nd/3rd Grade Field Trip - Green Springs 12/4](#)

[Happy Hanukkah! 12/3](#)

[Preschool Field Trip - Holiday Tunes for Tots Concert 11/28](#)

Upcoming Dates

More details will follow soon about upcoming events/activities if not included here.

Thursday, December 13	Preschool Color Day – Red
Thursday, December 13	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Stevens! 😊
Friday, December 14	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/ (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!
Friday, December 14	Deadline to submit unwrapped holiday gifts for our sponsored family through

	Britepaths Sign up to contribute here: www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0A49A4AB28A75-pinecrest
Friday, December 21	No School / No Care
Friday, December 21	Preschool & K-6 Winter Concert – 9 a.m. – John Calvin Presbyterian Church, 6531 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003
Monday, December 24 – Friday, January 4, 2019	Winter Break – No School
Tuesday, December 25	Happy Birthday, Ms. Serven! ☺
Thursday-Friday, December 27-28 and Wednesday-Friday, January 2-4	Winter Break Care – register at https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/wintercare/index.html / prices increase after November 27 / not too late to register!
Monday, December 31	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Salisbury! ☺
Tuesday, January 1	2018-19 Tuition Installment 6 of 10 Due (A \$50 late fee is charged if the tuition payment is not received on or by the seventh day of the month. *January 2019 only*)
Sunday, January 6	Happy Birthday, Ms. Mitlo! ☺
Monday, January 7	School Resumes
Wednesday, January 9	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – conference room
Thursday, January 10	Preschool Color Day – White
Friday, January 11	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp! (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!
Wednesday, January 16	K/Grade 1 Field Trip – Smithsonian Air & Space Museum – Udvar Hazy Center
Sunday, January 13	Open House for Prospective School Families – 1-4 p.m.
Friday, January 18	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp! (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!
Friday, January 18	K-6 Quarter 2 Ends (44 days)
Monday, January 21	Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Holiday / No School / No Care
Tuesday, January 22	K-6 Quarter 3 Begins
Wednesday, January 23	K-6 Quarter 2 Report Cards Distributed in Wednesday Envelopes
Wednesday, January 23	Preschool Narratives Distributed in Wednesday Envelopes
Wednesday, January 23	2019-20 Re-enrollment Materials Distributed in Wednesday Envelopes
Friday, January 25	Faculty Professional Development Time / No School / Care Offered
Monday, January 28	2019 Camp Materials Distributed by Email and on Website

*** SUBSCRIBE TO OUR GOOGLE CALENDAR: <https://tinyurl.com/pinecrestgooglecalendar> ***

Celebrations/Appreciations

We appreciate all of the parents who have joined us for field trips recently – we could not do these without you – thank you!!

Thank you to Liza (parent of a preschooler) for being our most recent PPF volunteer!

Three cheers for our December 9 open house volunteers – Pinecrest parents and board members Aimee, Erin, Cathy and Melissa!

Piece of Light

I use this space to share articles or pieces that I love or that I feel are thought-provoking, valuable or useful – or some combination of all of those factors.

[How Children Learn Bravery in an Age of Overprotection | Psychology Today](#)