

## Pinecrest Headlines

### Communication from the Head of School – Issue 12, 2018-19

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

#### News and Notes

Handbook Reminder (page 27): Parents must keep their children home from school when they are ill. A child is considered ill when s/he has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, has recurrent diarrhea or vomiting, or has contracted one of the diseases on the [Communicable Disease Reference Chart for School Personnel](#) in the appendix. When a student becomes ill at school, a parent or emergency contact person will be called to pick up the student as soon as possible. Students should remain home until all signs of the illness are gone. If the child has been sick during the night, please keep him/her home the next day even if s/he seems well by morning. **Students should be fever-free, vomit-free or diarrhea-free for at least 24 hours before they return to school. Students with strep throat must be on antibiotic or other doctor-prescribed treatment for 24 hours before returning to school.** If your child becomes ill with a contagious disease (e.g. chicken pox, strep throat) or contracts head lice, please notify the school immediately. The Head of School or her designee will alert the other parents so they may take the appropriate action. Students with lice cannot return to school until their hair is nit-free.

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 teachers.** Similarly, your child would remain healthier (and happier at school) if he/she gets enough rest each night. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Registration is open for spring after-school activities and the late fee of \$20/student/class will begin 12 noon on Thursday, March 13. [Register now!](#)**

Our annual Family Bingo Night is next Friday, March 22, from 7-9 p.m. This is a fun tradition for our community and a great family activity! As part of that tradition, our very own Pinecrest Alumni are invited to assist as guest Bingo number callers... and the class with the largest number of attendees will be invited to join our Alumni as guest number callers for the final Bingo round! There will be kid-friendly prizes for the winners and popcorn. Sign up to be part of the fun [here](#).

Final tuition installments for 2018-19 are due April 1, May 1 and June 1, 2019.

Help Pinecrest School and Pinecrest Pavilion Summer Camp win "best of" in *Washington FAMILY Magazine's* online survey. Voting is a wonderful way to help spread the good word about Pinecrest - we have won previously and would love to do so again! And please consider voting for friends of Pinecrest, too! Use [this link](#) to *Washington FAMILY Magazine's* to access the online survey. You will need to provide your name and email address. **Voting will end on Friday, March 15, so don't wait - VOTE NOW!**

- Best Children's Yoga - Heart & Soul Yoga Annandale
  - **Best Day Camp - Pinecrest Pavilion at Pinecrest School Annandale**
  - Best Foreign Language Instruction – KidSpanish Alexandria
  - **Best Preschool Program - Pinecrest School Annandale**
  - **Best Private Elementary School - Pinecrest School Annandale**
  - **Best Private School (overall) - Pinecrest School Annandale**
  - Best Local Bakery - Out of the Bubble Bakery Springfield
  - Best Local Cupcake Shop - Out of the Bubble Bakery Springfield
  - Best Local FAMILY Photographer - Cynthia Sambro-Rier Photography Alexandria
- 11th screen - click CAPTCHA square and then submit!

When you dine at any Glory Days Grill location in March, Glory Days will contribute 10 percent of the total food and beverages purchased to Pinecrest. You must ask your server for the itemized copy of your receipt (not the credit card receipt - the one that shows all the items that you purchased) and then submit that receipt to Pinecrest. We do need the actual receipt (scans not accepted). You can find a Glory Days location [here](#). The closest one to Pinecrest is [on Columbia Pike in Falls Church](#). Please share this with local family, friends and neighbors who may patronize Glory Days and also want to support Pinecrest. You can also share it on Facebook [here](#).

Thanks to everyone who came to Glory Days Grill on Columbia Pike in Falls Church (Barcroft Plaza) on Monday night for our fundraising meet-up! It was fun to see so many of our families there.

Parent Conferences will take place Friday, April 5. The teachers are looking forward to meeting with parents at that time. This is a no school day for students, but care is offered. **Sign up for a parent conference [here](#)**; if needed, sign up for care [here](#). Thanks to those who have already signed up!

You can designate Pinecrest in your Amazon account for our school to automatically benefit from any eligible purchases you make from smile.amazon.com. The instructions to link your account are here: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1055578>. Once you link your account, you must then do all of your purchasing from smile.amazon.com vs. amazon.com – you will know you are on the right page when you see “Supporting Pinecrest School Inc” under the search bar. This is not something you have to do with each purchase you make. You do not need to re-link your account each year. Thanks to those who have already done this!

Thank you to the seven parents who have agreed to be on our new Maintenance Committee! Two tasks are already being pursued – thanks to Marek, Dave and Grant for spearheading these first items. The idea is that these parent volunteers can help us out when we have small-scale maintenance or similar needs, i.e. a clogged toilet or a big branch in the driveway – those kinds of things. If you would be interested in being part of this group, please let me know – it’s not too late!

Thanks to everyone who shared on Facebook or through other ways about our March open house. We had terrific attendance for both March and February, and I appreciate everyone who helps us spread the word!

**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 Annual Fund Campaign is in progress and will go through August 31, 2019. **Our goal is to 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. Donate [here](#)! Thank you to the members of the Board of Directors for their 100% participation and generous gifts and to the families and staff who have already contributed – we appreciate those who prioritize Pinecrest in their philanthropic giving.

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.\*\*\* ☺

**We have added some new PPF dates for the remainder of the school year.** All of the dates are as follows: March 15, March 22 (new date), April 12, April 26, May 3 (new date), May 10, May 17 (new date) and May 31. 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 March 22, May 3 and May 10 PPFs – please sign up here if you are available and interested: <https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp>. Thanks to the parents who recently signed up and filled some gaps – this is a great help to us and we appreciate it!

We are looking for more PPF dessert sponsors from April 26 and May 10 – 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 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)! ☺

Faculty and staff members engage in regular professional development throughout the year. Recently, Mrs. Edwards participated in almost four hours of music training with the American Orff-Schulwerk Association.

Check out the most recent blog on our website:

["History is Better When We Act It Out!"](#)

We are trying to use the blog more often and as an organic way to improve our search engine optimization. If you'd like to be a guest writer and/or have an idea for a good topic, please let me know.

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.

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

### **Celebrate Pinecrest Auction – Saturday, April 27**

Save the date, reserve your baby-sitters and [buy tickets](#) now: Our annual Celebrate Pinecrest auction is on Saturday night, April 27. This is an adults-only night of fun and fundraising for our school, and we hope to see everyone there! Thanks to everyone who has already bought tickets – it's great to see this!

Part of our Celebrate Pinecrest auction fundraising includes an online auction, which will take place Wednesday, April 24 – Sunday, April 28. More details will follow.

### **Summer Camp – Pinecrest Pavilion**

For the third consecutive year, we've been featured in [Northern Virginia Magazine](#) as a best summer camp – yay! Check out our mention [here](#).

We are always excited to see our own students register for summer camp – thanks to all who have signed up! Registration is now open to the general public (no password required) and we would love for you to share the information with local friends, family and neighbors. Thanks in advance!

All children who are registered by March 15 will receive free pizza every Friday they are at camp.

## Spring Break Care

We are offering spring break care from Monday-Friday, April 15-19. The registration link is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/breakcare/index.html>. You can sign up for all 5 days or pick and choose what you need per day. **The price will increase after this Friday, March 15.**

## June Care

We are offering June care from Monday-Friday, June 10-14. This is part of the period of time between the K-6 last day of school and the first day of summer camp. (Note that there is more of a gap for preschoolers as the preschool last day of school is May 31 and June Care does not begin until June 10.) The June Care registration link is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/junecare/index.html>. You can sign up for all 5 days or pick and choose what you need per day. The price will increase after May 10.

## Photos

Facebook:

Scenes from our Classrooms – Weeks of [3/4](#) and [2/25](#)

[Our new accreditation certificate! 3/4](#)

[Happy Birthday, Dr. Seuss! 3/2](#)

[4th Grade No Taxation Without Representation Lesson 3/1](#)

[All-school Read-in for Dr. Seuss' Birthday 3/1](#)

[Preschool & K Dentist Visit 2/28](#)

## Upcoming Dates

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

Thursday, March 14	Preschool Color Day – Green
Friday, March 15	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at <a href="http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/">http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/</a> (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html</a> !
Monday, March 18	K-Kids Service Activity after school – making dog toys <a href="https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_008">https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_008</a>
Wednesday, March 20	K & Grade 1 Field Trip – Smithsonian Udvar-Hazy Center, National Air & Space Museum
Thursday, March 21	Grade 2/3 Field Trip – Green Springs Gardens
Friday, March 22	Preschool Field Trip – Children’s Science Center in Fairfax
Friday, March 22	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at <a href="http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/">http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/</a> (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html</a> !
Friday, March 22	Family Bingo Night – 7 p.m. – multipurpose room Sign up to be part of the fun at <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/bingonight/">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/bingonight/</a>
Thursday, March 28	Grade 1 Field Trip – Kennedy Center
Friday, March 29	Grade 1 Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, March 29	K-6 Quarter 3 Ends (46 days)
Friday, March 29	K-Kids Service Trip – Adopt-a-Highway Clean-up after school <a href="https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_011">https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_011</a>
Monday, April 1	2018-19 Tuition Installment 8 of 10 Due (A \$50 late fee is charged if the tuition payment is not received on or by the fifth day of the month)

Monday, April 1	K-6 Quarter 4 Begins
Wednesday, April 3	K-6 Quarter 3 Report Cards Distributed in Wednesday Envelopes
Friday, April 5	Parent/Teacher Conferences / No School / Care Offered This is a no school day for students, but care is offered. Sign up for a parent conference <a href="#">here</a> ; if needed, sign up for care <a href="#">here</a> .
Monday, April 11	K-Kids Service Trip – Aarondale *space still available* <a href="https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/kkidsseniorvisits">https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/kkidsseniorvisits</a>
Friday, April 12	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at <a href="http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/">http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/</a> (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!</a>
Monday-Friday, April 15-19	Spring Break
Monday-Friday, April 15-19	Spring Break Care – the price will increase after March 15 <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/breakcare/index.html">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/breakcare/index.html</a>
Monday, April 22	School Resumes
Monday, April 22	K-Kids Earth Day Pinecrest Clean-up <a href="https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_002">https://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/event_002</a>
Tuesday, April 23	Preschool In-house Field Trip – Storytime Express show
Friday, April 26	Pinecrest Pizza Friday Sign up to help at <a href="http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/">http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp/</a> (each date is its own tab) / Buy pizza for your child(ren) at <a href="https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!">https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/schoolppf/index.html!</a>
Saturday, April 27	Celebrate Pinecrest Auction / Drinks and Dessert Evening – 7 p.m. – multipurpose room (adults only) – save the date, reserve your baby-sitters and <a href="#">buy tickets</a> now!
Mon.-Fri., April 29-May 3	Spirit Week

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

## FYI – Parent Programs or Similar Information

Whenever there are relevant speakers or programs coming to our area (or available online), we often share that information if we think the message is a match with the Pinecrest School message and philosophy and/or we think parents might be interested. To that end, I want to share as FYI – many upcoming opportunities that look very valuable:

### Reducing Anxiety Presentation – Monday, April 1, 7pm, McLean Community Center

Anxiety is a very persistent master; when it moves into families, it takes over daily routines, schoolwork, bedtime, and recreation. Join us to learn strategies for breaking the worry cycle so we can raise courageous and independent children and improve the emotional functioning of our families. Licensed clinical social worker and psychotherapist Lynn Lyons will discuss concrete strategies parents and educators can use with children and teens to handle current anxiety and also to prevent the development of anxiety and depression later in life. Lynn is the co-author with Reid Wilson of *Anxious Kids, Anxious Parents: 7 Ways to Stop the Worry Cycle and Raise Courageous and Independent Children* and the companion book *Playing with Anxiety: Casey's Guide for Teens and Kids*. She presents internationally to mental health and medical providers, educators, school nurses, and parents. She is regularly featured on television and public radio, including Katie Couric and Morning Edition. Books and DVDs will be available for purchase. More details: [https://mcleanscc.org/workshops/lynn\\_lyons/](https://mcleanscc.org/workshops/lynn_lyons/) / buy tickets [here](#). If you cannot attend, you may be interested in the book: [Anxious Kids Anxious Parents: 7 Ways to Stop the Worry Cycle and Raise Courageous and Independent Children by Lynn Lyons, LICSW](#).

### Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope Documentary Screening – Monday, April 9, 6-7:30pm, Falls Church

Join FCPS Early Childhood Identification & Services for a free screening of this award-winning documentary followed by a panel interview of early childhood experts on Monday, April 9, at the Gatehouse Administration Center, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042. Both nights are from 6-7:30pm. *Resilience: The Biology of Stress & The Science of Hope* chronicles the birth

a new movement among pediatricians, therapists, educators, and communities, who are using cutting-edge brain science to disrupt cycles of violence, addiction, and disease. "The child may not remember, but the body remembers." The event is free but advance registration is required. Call 571-423-4121 to register.

### **Celebrations/Appreciations**

Three cheers for Pinecrest Parents Elizabeth, Jaime, Steve D. and Victoria for being our tour guides at the March open house for prospective families!

Thank you to Pinecrest Parents Lauren and Rondeesha for being our most recent PPF volunteers!

### **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.

[Kids Who Do Chores Are More Successful Adults](#)