

Pinecrest School

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

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 6, 2017-18 – Wednesday November 8, 2017

Growing Our School

The latest updates were sent by email from Nick Wakeman on November 1. The email is in hard copy in everyone's Wednesday Envelope today too (orange paper). We got our [occupancy permit](#) on November 1!!!!!!

To say there is a lot going on is an understatement! It is a very exciting time for us with many moving parts (no pun intended).

CARE: We are offering care in place of school at no cost to families during the days we are closed for the move. Care is free for school hours. Before-care and after-care are still available too at the regular costs and you will be billed after use as usual. **You must sign up by or on Thursday, November 9, by 12 noon.** We need to finalize supervision and location and need accurate numbers to do that. Thank you in advance for signing up by this deadline and to everyone who already has.

The sign-up links are here:

- Monday, November 20 and Tuesday, November 21 (Thanksgiving week) - scroll down the page to see all of the dates (no tabs on this one): <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/movingcarenov2021>
- Monday, November 27- Friday, December 1 (the week after Thanksgiving) - scroll down the page to see all of the dates (no tabs on this one): <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/movingcarenov27dec1>

If you are not sure if you have signed up or not, I encourage you to look at the above links to check. After 12 noon tomorrow, we will not allow any additional sign-ups.

MOVING HELP: We are still in need of moving help and are so thankful to everyone who has signed up so far! Please consider signing up for a shift (or another shift) this weekend or next weekend. The sign-up link is here: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/moving>

OTHER NEEDS: We are looking for moving boxes – please let us know if you have some or know where we can get them! We are also looking for a parent volunteer to take some electronics recycling to the county location where these things are dropped.

RIBBON CUTTING: Our Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be Sunday afternoon, December 3. We hope to have an enthusiastic turn-out. Please RSVP: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ribboncutting>

Thanks to those who have already signed up. I have to tell you I loved seeing so many sign-ups come through right after the email was sent. It was a great uplift. :)

There are still some punchlist items that ModSpace is in the process of addressing and there are a few other items we are working through but we have all of this planned to be completed by or on Friday, November 17.

Thank you to the families that made generous donations towards furniture purchases this week – we so appreciate this! It is not too late to make a capital campaign contribution, all of which will be recognized on our donor wall that will be installed in January (we are waiting until the calendar year ends for the last of the donations to come in). You can contribute [online](#) or by check to the school.

And, now, everything that is not relating to the building!! Still a lot going on! :)

News and Notes

We are very excited and honored to be featured in the Nov. 2017 issue of [Northern Virginia Magazine](#) in a piece called "Independent Schools Foster Critical Thinking, Creativity & Calm." The magazine should be on sale wherever magazines are sold. You can see photos of our part of the article at this [link](#).

Whether you are attending the Wine Tasting event or not, we hope you may consider participating in the Pinecrest Raffle. You do not need to be present to win and there are some great prizes. The cost is 10 raffle tickets for \$25 – purchase here: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/raffletickets/index.html>. Win one of these awesome prizes: \$50 Amazon Gift Card, \$100 Elizabeth Arden Gift Card, Apple TV, Amazon Tap & Nintendo Switch! Raffle Ticket sales will end tomorrow – Thursday, November 9, at 2 p.m.

Friday, November 10 is a regular day of school for all students.

On Friday, November 10, from 12:30-2:30 p.m., we have our first 2017-18 open house for prospective families. We look forward to welcoming prospective families to our school and showing off our new campus! Please consider sharing this with friends, family or neighbors who may be interested. The best form of promotion is word-of-mouth. If you have Facebook, please also consider clicking SHARE on [this image](#) to get the word out. (As I type this, the open house promotion has already been seen by 675 people and we would love to grow that number! Thanks to those who have already shared it!)

We are excited for our Celebrate Pinecrest Wine Tasting event this Saturday night, November 11, from 6:30-9 p.m., at Total Wine on Little River Turnpike in Alexandria. This is an adults-only night of fun and fundraising for our school. Tickets are still available and can be purchased [here](#)! (This does not replace our Celebrate Pinecrest Auction which will take place at the end of April; this is an additional social event for parents. When it's your 60th anniversary, we feel it makes sense to Celebrate Pinecrest as much as we can!) ;) Thanks to those who have already purchased tickets and are making plans to join us!

If you have leftover Halloween candy you want out of your house, send it in to us. We will donate it to the Ronald McDonald House in Merrifield. You can read more [here](#). We will accept candy between now and Monday, November 13. Thanks to Sarah S. for sharing this with me!

Tuesday, November 14, is Pinecrest's next fundraising night at Ledo Pizza in Falls Church. We hope you'll consider joining us on the dining room side or for take-out anytime from 5-10 p.m. Pinecrest will receive a percentage of the profits from that evening (from both dine-in and take-out); please mention Pinecrest School to your server or the cashier. The Ledo atmosphere is very kid-friendly, the prices are affordable, and our Pinecrest evenings there are usually a lot of fun!

The last day fourth, fifth and sixth grade students will be going to Peace for school is Friday, November 17.

School will be closed Monday-Tuesday, November 20-21 and Monday-Friday, November 27-December 1, for the move. Care is being offered and you must sign up by tomorrow (Thursday, November 8), at 12 noon. See above sign-up link and details.

After more than a year, the first day where all of our students will be together at Pinecrest is Monday, December 4. We are counting down the days!

Our next PPF will be on Friday, December 8 AND WE WILL ALL BE TOGETHER IN ONE PLACE FOR IT!! :) :) :) :) This is a change from the original date of Friday, December 1. Everyone who already purchased for the original date of December 1 has been switched to December 8. If you have not signed up yet but wish to order, you can do so here: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html>.

We are looking for parents to volunteer at Pinecrest for the December – June PPFs. Please sign up at this [link](#). All of the PPF dates are there. Thank you to the parents who have already signed up!

We are excited to be part of Minted's Fundraising Program which allows organizations the opportunity to fundraise by shopping with Minted all of November. If you are ordering photo cards for the upcoming December holidays, please consider getting them from Minted.com with our code. Each participating organization receives a unique promo code offering 15% off Minted orders, and 15% of the sales go back to us – a win-win for all of us! Our promo code is *FUNDRAISEPINECREST*. The promo code is valid toward all Minted products with standard exclusions of Minted More, Commissioned Art, Art Styling Service, and Minted Photo Op. Our unique promo code is only valid during the month of November 2017 but can be used an unlimited amount of times throughout the month. You can also share this information with family, friends, neighbors et al who may use this site for any orders; anyone can use our promotional code and the school will benefit. (You can share it directly on Facebook [here](#). Thanks to those who already have!)

Creative Images orders have all been sent in to Creative Images. All items ordered will be here before the winter break. The school gets a portion of each order placed so we thank you for your orders! If you missed today's deadline, you can still order directly from Creative Images but they cannot guarantee delivery before winter break, and you must do it directly with them at 1-800-207-8674, press 2. If you order individual pictures of your child(ren), you will receive a complimentary class group photo when the photos are available. If you do not order individual photos, but wish to buy a class photo, they will be available for sale separately once all of the photos come in. Details to follow at that time.

As part of our 60th anniversary celebration, we are collecting 60 reasons why we love Pinecrest School all throughout this school year! You and/or your child(ren) can submit responses [here](#).

Faculty and staff members engage in regular professional development throughout the year. On Monday, the teachers and I had a book discussion about an excellent book we have been reading called The Gift of Failure by Jessica Lahey. We highly, highly recommend this book for all parents, and there will be a parent book discussion on it in early winter that we hope many parents will attend. Also recently, Ms. Haden attended the Virginia Art Education Annual Conference and Ms. Marble completed the 8-hour Brene Brown/Daring Schools online class.

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!). Congratulations to Anne T. – she was our winner from the last newsletter!

Camp

Registration is now open for Winter Break Camp. **Winter Break Camp will run for 8 days: Monday-Friday, December 18-22, and Wednesday-Friday, December 27-29, from 8:45 a.m.-3:45 p.m. for K-6 (\$78/day prepay now or \$98/day prepay after December 1) and from 8:45 a.m.-12 p.m. for preschool (\$39/day prepay now or \$59/day prepay after December 1).** Before-care is available for all beginning at 7:30 a.m. (\$10/day either prepay or billed after use) and after-care for all is available until 6 p.m. (\$10/hour/billed after use). You may sign up for individual days (full day option only for K-6) or the entire duration. Space is limited for both age groups. When enrollment capacity is reached, the online form will not allow you to register. Online registration with payment required at the time of registration at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/wintercamp/index.html>. Please fill out a separate form for each child. Please select the discount button *only* for sibling registrations *after* the first child. **Registrations without online payments will be deleted after 30 minutes unless you reach out to me directly.** If you wish to register for additional days or items after you have already completed and paid for registration, please contact us directly and do not fill out an additional form. At this time, please direct winter camp questions to me.

FYI

Whenever there are relevant speakers or programs coming to our area (or accessible 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 in attending and/or participating. To that end, I want to share this as FYI:

Free Screening of Angst: Raising Awareness Around Anxiety – On Thursday, November 9 at 6:30pm, Alexandria Country Day School will host a free screening of the film Angst: Raising Awareness Around Anxiety. The documentary looks at anxiety, its causes and effects, and what we can do about it, and the screening will be followed by a question and answer session moderated by Dr. Catherine McCarthy. The event is open to the public. ACDS is located at 2400 Russell Road, Alexandria VA 22301. More information about the movie can be found at <http://angstmovie.com/http://angstmovie.com/>

Photos

From Facebook:

Scenes From Our Classrooms Album – last updated [11/4](#) and [10/27](#)

- [Teachers & Ms. McDermott discussing The Gift of Failure 11/6 – special thanks to the author who sent us personalized book plates!!](#)
- [Please Help Us Spread the Word About Our 11/10 Open House](#)
- [PPF 11/3](#)
- [Northern Virginia Magazine Press 11/1](#)
- [This is community pumpkins made by 6th graders :\)](#)
- [Halloween Parade 10/31](#)
- [Happy Halloween!](#)
- [A 4th grader's after-care art :\) 10/26](#)
- [5th/6th Grade Field Trip to National Cathedral 10/25](#)

Upcoming Dates

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

Wednesday, November 8	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building
Friday, November 10	Open House for Prospective Families – 12:30-2:30 p.m.
Saturday, November 11 & Sunday, November 12	Moving Weekend #1 – sign up to help at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/moving
Saturday, November 11	Celebrate Pinecrest Wine Tasting – adults only – 6:30-9 p.m. – Total Wine, 6240 Little River Turnpike, Alexandria, VA 22312 / space is limited – buy tickets here: https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/WineTasting/index.html
Tuesday, November 14	Ledo Pizza Fundraising Night – 5-10 p.m. – 7510 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church
Thursday, November 16	K Field Trip – Hidden Oaks Nature Center
Saturday, November 18 & Sunday, November 19	Moving Weekend #2 – sign up to help at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/moving
Saturday, November 18	RunFit Kidz 5K – Mrs. Vogus will send out details to our fall runners!
Mon., Nov. 20-Tues., Nov. 21	Moving – No School / Care Offered (must sign up by Thursday, November 8, at 12 noon: http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/movingcarenov2021)
Wed.-Fri., November 22-24	Thanksgiving Holiday – No School
Mon.-Fri., Nov. 27-Dec. 1	Moving – No School / Care Offered (must sign up by Thursday, November 8, at 12 noon: http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/movingcarenov27dec1)

Friday, December 1	2017-18 Tuition Installment 5 of 10 Due (A \$50 late fee is charged if tuition payment is not received on or by the fifth day of the month.)
Sunday, December 3	Lower School Building Ribbon Cutting – 2 p.m. – please RSVP at http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ribboncutting
Thursday, December 7	Grade 5/6 Medieval Times Field Trip
Friday, December 8	Grade 2/3 Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, December 8	Pinecrest Pizza Friday https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html
Wednesday, December 13	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building
Friday, December 15	No School – Winter Concert – 9:15 a.m. – Annandale United Methodist Church on Columbia Pike in Annandale
Monday-Monday, Dec. 18-Jan. 1	Winter Break – No School
Monday-Thursday, Dec. 18-21 and Wednesday-Friday, Dec. 27-29	Winter Break Camp https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/wintercamp/index.html (price goes up December 1)

Calendar Changes / Additions

- *Change:* Friday, December 8 – Grade 2/3 Class Presentation (will not take place Friday, December 1 as originally planned)
- *Change:* Friday, December 8 – December Pinecrest Pizza Friday (will not take place Friday, December 1 as originally planned)
- *New:* Sunday, December 3 – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony at Pinecrest, 2 p.m.
- *New:* Monday, November 27-Friday, December 1– No School for the move / care offered
- *Change:* Tuesday, November 21 – Thanksgiving Feasts canceled / will not be rescheduled
- *New:* Monday, November 20 – Tuesday, November 21 – No School for the move / care offered
- *New:* Saturday, November 11 – Celebrate Pinecrest Wine Tasting – this is a new event that has been added to the calendar – an adults-only night of fun and fundraising for our school at Total Wine in Alexandria
- *Change:* Friday, October 13 – K-6 Color Run will not take place on October 13; this is going to be rescheduled once we are all back together on one campus; new date TBA

Celebrations/Appreciations

Thanks for joining us for the Halloween Parade. It was fun and cute as always, and very special to have this first one with the backdrop of our new campus!!! Special thanks to Ms. Sambro for taking such beautiful photos (link above) of our students that morning! :)

We had 100 percent participation for parent conferences yesterday! Thank you for being here and for your collaboration and conversation.

Thank you to Amy M., Angela M. and Nick W. for driving students to Peace after the Halloween Parade!

I am so grateful to the parents who have been assisting consistently with transport to Peace in the mornings and/or to Pinecrest in the afternoons with Peace students. Thank you, Aimee M., Elizabeth C., Erin J., Katrina H. and Nick W!

Three cheers in advance to Katrina H., Liz B., Steve D. and Victoria T. who will be the board parents giving tours at our open house for prospective families this Friday!

We so appreciate the many parents who have volunteered for recent field trips! We can't do field trips without you – thank you!!

A tip of the hat to Anastasia D., Katrina H. and Ross S. for volunteering at our last PPF – such a big help to us to have you here!

60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest

#2: “We have been part of the Pinecrest community for nine years. Not surprisingly, there have been many changes during that period but not one of them has made us question whether there was a better place. The quality of education, the care our kids have received, the friendships we've developed and the people we have become as a result of it all are hallmarks of the Pinecrest experience. We are so grateful to be part of it.” (current parent) #60NeverLookedSoGood #ThisIsCommunity :)

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.

I am re-using one I've shared before because I need something that's warm and comfortable today, and I *really* love this. It definitely does not have an expiration date - definitely worth rewatching or watching for the first time.

[1.5-Minute Video Clip - Brene Brown reads her Parenting Manifesto - "The greatest gift we share with our children is to see them for who they are"](#)

(from *Super Soul Sunday* on The Oprah Winfrey Network, March 2013)

A printable version of what's she reading is [here](#) . :)