

# Pinecrest School

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

## PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 8, 2017-18 – Wednesday January 17, 2018

### News and Notes

Registration for our winter session of after-school activities is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/form29/index.html>. For preschool, we are offering Science Seed (different themes from the fall session, but same teacher) on Wednesdays and Let's Get Moving with Mrs. Gallagher on Fridays. For K-6, we are offering Sport & Fitness with Coach Botchway/Royal Athletes on Tuesdays, Yoga with Mrs. Burke/Evolve Yoga on Wednesdays, Art: Painting Like the Masters with Ms. Sambro on Thursdays and Pinecrest Olympics with Mrs. Gallagher on Fridays. All details are included in the email I sent yesterday afternoon. Although it is not indicated there, each activity has minimum and maximum participation numbers associated with it. (Therefore, if the minimum number of students is not met, the activity may not run. Similarly, once a class hits the maximum number of students, registration is closed.) Updates on the status of classes will be provided during the registration period. The online registration system will automatically close a class once the maximum number of students for that class has been reached, and you will no longer be able to register for this class. If this happens to you, you can send me an email and I will add you to the wait list for that class. **Space permitting, class fees will increase by \$20/student/class on Tuesday, January 23, 10AM. Registration will close on Thursday, January 25, 10AM, and no further registrations will be accepted after this time.**

Family Bingo Night will take place this Friday, January 19. This is always such a fun family event! You can sign up to attend [here](#). Registration is also accepted at the door but we prefer to know in advance for planning. Hope to see many families there. (This is the first of two Family Bingo Nights we are having this school year; the second one is in May.) Thanks to those who have signed up already!

K-6 Quarter 2 ends this Friday, January 19. K-6 report cards will be distributed in Wednesday Envelopes on Wednesday, January 24.

Preschool mid-year narratives will be distributed in Wednesday Envelopes on Wednesday, January 24.

Our next open house for prospective families is this Saturday, January 20, from 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. We look forward to welcoming more 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. We have a Facebook graphic [here](#) and ask that you share it with your family and friends on your Facebook page. The more likes and views, the more exposure we receive. Thank you to those who have already done so (the image has already reached 1,520 people!!)

Monday, January 22, 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! I'll be there with my friends around 6:15 p.m. so hope to see you there! :)

Monday, January 29 is a no school day/ this is a faculty professional development day. We are offering care and advance sign-up is required at this link: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/jan29care>. Space is limited and the sign-up will close one week from today.

Remember: As a courtesy to families, a 2017-18 (current school year) tuition payment is not due in February 2018 because your child's first tuition installment for 2018-19 (next school year) will be due that month with the 2018-19 registration contract. The following tuition installments remain due for the current school year (unless you prepaid) on March 1, April 1, May 1 and June 1, 2018.

Re-enrollment materials for the 2018-19 school year will be distributed on Wednesday, January 31.

If there are siblings of current students who hope to join the Pinecrest community next school year, please contact us sooner rather than later so we can get you in the admissions queue of prospective students.

The Pinecrest Board made a decision last week to increase the number of Pinecrest Pizza Fridays (PPFs) for this school year. New dates have been added on: Fridays February 16, March 16, April 20 and May 18. This means February through May there will be 2 PPFs each month. The new dates are on the form and you can sign your children up for them here and the next PPF is on Friday, February 2: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html>

We are now looking for 3 more monetary sponsors for these new dates. Monetary sponsors are making a tax-deductible donation to the school as a sponsor. The sponsor link is open here: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPFsponsor/index.html>.

Thank you to the families that signed up already to be a dessert or monetary sponsor – we appreciate your generosity very much and you help us maximize profits for this fundraiser.

**We also are looking for more volunteers for the new dates -- as well as already-scheduled dates where we don't have any volunteers signed up yet. You can sign up here: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/ppfhelp> -- when you help us at a PPF, it is less than an hour's worth of volunteering but it truly makes a big difference.**

We received a check for our most recent submission of Box Tops for Education for \$277! Thank you to all who save and send these to us – it makes a difference. I also still have Box Tops stickers for children who bring them to us. The stickers have seemed to be a hit so far. :)

As I have said many times, Mason District Supervisor Gross was extremely important to our Growing Our School effort. Without her, I surely would not be typing this newsletter from my new pink office in our new lower school building! If you are so inclined, please consider sending her a brief note of thanks and sharing in a sentence or two what the Pinecrest community means to you. I know it would be appreciated and it is always good for her to realize the impact of our school. You can do this by email at [mason@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:mason@fairfaxcounty.gov) or by mail to Supervisor Penny Gross, Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003. (And, if you live in the Mason District, please be sure to let her know; she values her constituents very much.)

I've been meaning to write about school car magnets since we moved into the building. As many know, these were packed and inaccessible to us while we were Growing Our School but now we have them back!! They are on the front desk, and we encourage you to take one (whether new or a refresher – they do tend to fade over time) for your car. Your child(ren) will feel proud it's on your car and it helps promote us (as long as you are a good driver, haha!). If you want us to send any home to you, just let us know and we can easily do that.

As part of our 60<sup>th</sup> 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](#). Thanks to the responses we have already - it is awesome to read through them.

Our Annual Fund Campaign is in progress and will go through August 31, 2018. 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. You can donate online [here](#). 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 and is completely separate from the capital campaign which is for the new lower school building. Thank you to the many families and staff who have already given!

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 Anastasia D and Sarah S for winning the last newsletter contest.

## Camp – Pinecrest Pavilion

Mrs. Perricone is in the process of planning for summer camp! We are running 9 weeks of camp this summer beginning Monday, June 18 and ending Friday, August 17.

Summer information will be distributed by email and on our website towards the end of January. Our registration timeline is as follows:

Monday, February 5 – registration begins for current school families with a special password

Friday, February 9 – registration begins for past camp families with a special password

Wednesday, February 14 – registration begins for the general public (no password needed)

If you have friends or family who are interested in our summer camp (again, word-of-mouth is the best form of promotion, and we always appreciate you talking us up!), please send their email addresses to me. We can add them to our camp Google Groups list so they will get the information when everyone else does.

We will be holding a camp open house for prospective camp families on Sunday, February 4, from 1-4 p.m. at Pinecrest. More details will follow soon as well as an email invitation you can forward to local friends, neighbors and families. We thank you in advance for helping us spread the word!

We will also be offering spring break care from Monday-Friday, March 26-30. More details will follow soon.

## 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:

I've shared before about Dr. Shefali Tsabary (author of [The Conscious Parent](#) and [The Awakened Family](#)). She's part of a FREE online summit taking place January 22-26 about cultivating resilience in children. You can sign up at <https://resilientchildsummit.com>, and you can see a preview of Dr. Shefali's part [here](#).

## Photos

From Facebook:

- Scenes from Our Classrooms [1/17](#) and [1/5](#)
- [MLK Day 1/15](#)
- [PPF 1/12](#)
- [1 of 2 - VIDEO - Wave Machines in 4th-6th Grade Science! 1/9](#)
- [2 of 2 - VIDEO - Wave Machines in 4th-6th Grade Science! 1/9](#)

## Upcoming Dates

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

Wednesday, January 17	K-Kids Service Trip After School – Aarondale Retirement Community
Friday, January 19	K-6 Quarter 2 Ends (42 days)
Friday, January 19	Pinecrest Spirit Day – Pinecrest 60 shirts, please! :)
Friday, January 19	Grade 5/6 Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, January 19	Family Bingo Night – 7-9:30 p.m. – multipurpose room – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Saturday, January 20	Open House for Prospective Families 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Monday, January 22	K-6 Quarter 3 Begins
Monday, January 22	Ledo Pizza Fundraising Night – 5-10 p.m. – 7510 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church

Wednesday, January 24	Grade 1 Field Trip – Post Office
Wednesday, January 24	K-6 Quarter 2 Report Cards Distributed Via Wednesday Envelopes
Wednesday, January 24	Preschool Mid-Year Narratives Distributed Via Wednesday Envelopes
Friday, January 26	Preschool In-house Field Trip – Kaydee Puppets
Monday, January 29	No School / Care Offered – a sign-up link to follow
	Quarter 3 Faculty Development Time
Tuesday, January 30	Preschool Field Trip – Theatreworks Show at George Mason University
Tuesday, January 30	K-Kids Service Project After School – making dog toys for local animal shelter
Wednesday, January 31	2018-19 Re-enrollment Forms Distributed

Friday, February 2	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Saturday, February 4	Camp Open House for Prospective Camp Families – 1-4 p.m.
Tuesday, February 6	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building (this is a date change from 2/15 to 2/6)
Monday, February 5	Summer Camp Registration Begins for Current School Families
Wednesday, February 7	K Field Trip – Theatreworks Show at George Mason University
Friday, February 9	Pinecrest Spirit Day – Pinecrest 60 shirts, please! ☺
Friday, February 9	Grade 4 Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, February 9	K-Kids Service Trip After School – Aarondale Retirement Community
Friday, February 9	Summer Camp Registration Begins for Past Camp Families
Sunday, February 11	Open House for Prospective Families – 1-4 p.m.
Wednesday, February 14	Summer Camp Registration Begins for General Public
Friday, February 16	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Monday, February 19	Presidents’ Day Holiday – No School
Tuesday, February 27	100th Day of School Celebration (date will change again if inclement weather)

### 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**

Kudos to Angela M and Julie B for volunteering at our last PPF – such a big help to us to have you here!

Thank you in advance to the parents who will serve as tour guides for Saturday's open house: Aimee M, Erin J, Liz B and Nick W!

### **60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest**

#4: "It builds happy, confident children who care about their community." (alumni parent and current board member) #60NeverLookedSoGood #ThisIsCommunity :)  
(You and/or your child(ren) can submit responses [here](#).)

### **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.

[10 Magnificent Games to Practice Social and Emotional Skills with Kids — Encourage Play](#)