

# Pinecrest School

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

## PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 11, 2017-18 – Wednesday February 28, 2018

### News and Notes

Our 100<sup>th</sup> Day of School is today – yay for 100! :) K-6 students are celebrating together this afternoon with our annual 100 penny relay and everyone got the official "100 days smarter" hand stamp. :)

Re-enrollment materials for the 2018-19 school year were distributed January 31 in the Wednesday Envelope to preschool through fifth grade families and the first 2018-19 deadline is today. After today's date, we cannot guarantee space for anyone from whom we haven't heard. Please let us know if you have any questions.

On Friday, March 2, we are celebrating Dr. Seuss' birthday. All students will be reading together in the multipurpose room that morning.

The next Pinecrest Pizza Friday (PPF) is this Friday, March 2. Remember, the sign-up link closes at 2PM the day before: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html>

**We also are looking for more volunteers for the March and April PPFs. 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.**

The next K-Kids trip to the local retirement home is on Friday afternoon, March 9. Right now, there are only 2 children signed up so many spaces are still available. The sign-up link is here: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/kkidsseniorvisits2018> (There is still space available for the April and May trips.)

Our next school open house for prospective school families is Sunday, March 18, from 1-4 p.m. Please share with local friends, neighbors or family.

School is closed for spring break Monday-Friday, March 26-30 and also on Monday, April 2. School resumes on Tuesday, April 3.

We are offering spring break care from Monday-Friday, March 26-30. The registration link is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/springbreakcare2018/index.html>. You can sign up for all 5 days or pick and choose what you need per day. **The price will increase after March 5.**

Monday, April 16 is a no-school day for all students because it is our Parent Conference Day. Care is available at the regular after-care rate for anyone who is here all day or here only during a conference. Sign up for a parent conference here: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/conferencesapril2018> - note each teacher has a different tab

Care is being offered on Monday, April 16, which is a no-school day for all students because of parent conferences. Regular after-care rates apply for anyone in care that day regardless of the length of time. You can sign up for care here – note different tabs for preschool and K-6: <http://pinecrestschool.ivolunteer.com/april16care>. If you are only going to use care for the duration of your conference(s), please do not sign up online. We will be able to accommodate anyone who needs care that day but please only sign up online if your care need is more than just your conference(s). Please let me know if there are any questions.

Save the date and reserve your baby-sitters now: Our annual Celebrate Pinecrest auction is on Saturday, April 28. This is an adults-only night of fun and fundraising for our school, and we hope to see everyone there!

We would love your support in these 4 subcategories of the Education & Activities section of Washington Family Magazine survey. The survey link is <http://va.secondstreetapp.com/Best-for-FAMILIES-2018-2/> and the four votes you can enter for Pinecrest are:

- Best Private School (overall) - Pinecrest School
- Best Day Camp - Pinecrest Pavilion
- Best Preschool - Pinecrest School
- Best Private Elementary School - Pinecrest School

Thank you in advance! I have already voted and the process is very quick and easy.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent K-Kids Charity Hat Day. \$258.85 was raised for the Make-a-Wish Foundation!

Thank you to everyone who has linked their Amazon accounts to our school through AmazonSmile. We received a donation of \$63.48 for purchases made through October 1-December 31, 2017. Every little bit helps! The instructions to link your account are here: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/54-1055578>.

I wrote this in an email last week, but want to officially welcome again Mrs. Stevens, our new finance associate! She has taken over the [business@pinecrestschool.org](mailto:business@pinecrestschool.org) email address and is working on a part-time schedule that has her at Pinecrest 3-4 days a week right now.

Our recent experience with moving inspired us to create an [Amazon Wish List](#) for anyone who is so inclined. Any items purchased from the list would be tax-deductible donations to our school. The list will be updated regularly as different needs and wants arise. Thank you to those who have already sent us gifts!

Faculty and staff members engage in regular professional development throughout the year. Recently, Mrs. Ferrier attended a Fairfax County Office for Children science session.

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.) Thanks to those who have already done it. I have loved reading some of the notes I've seen.

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!

## Summer Camp – Pinecrest Pavilion

Thanks to everyone who has signed up for camp! Current students attending camp this summer do not need to fill out a new medical emergency form for camp. The one you filled out in August 2017 is good through the end of August 2018. (If there are any changes to your information, please let us know promptly.)

We are running 9 weeks of camp beginning Monday, June 18 and ending Friday, August 17, and all details are on the website [here](#). Registration is now open to the public with no password needed. The registration link is <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/summer2018/index.html>.

Please continue to share the information with local friends, family and neighbors. Word-of-mouth is always our best form of promotion.

## Spring Break Care

We are offering spring break care from Monday-Friday, March 26-30. The registration link is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/springbreakcare2018/index.html>. You can sign up for all 5 days or pick and choose what you need per day. **The price will increase after March 5.**

## June Care

We are offering June care from Monday-Friday, June 11-15. 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 June 1 and June Care does not begin until June 11. All of these dates were on our original calendar.) The June Care registration link is now open at <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/junecare2018/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 25.

## Photos

From Facebook:

- Scenes From Our Classrooms [2/20](#) and [2/15](#)
- [Hat Day 2/23](#)
- [4th and 5th/6th Grade Field Trip 2/23](#)
- [1st Grade Field Trip 2/22](#)
- **Upcoming Dates**

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

Wednesday, February 28	100th Day of School Celebration
Wednesday, February 28	2018-19 Registration Contract, Registration Fee, 1 <sup>st</sup> Tuition Installment Due

Thursday, March 1	2017-18 Tuition Installment 7 of 10 Due (A \$50 late fee is charged if tuition payment is not received on or by the fifth day of the month.)
Friday, March 2	Dr. Seuss' Birthday Celebration of Reading
Friday, March 2	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Sunday, March 4	Happy Birthday, Coach Botchway! :)
Thursday, March 8	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Hartzler! :)
Friday, March 9	Happy Birthday, Ms. Haden! :)
Friday, March 9	K-Kids Service Trip after school – space still available – sign up <a href="#">here</a>

Wednesday, March 14	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – conference room
Friday, March 16	K-6 Quarter 3 Ends (38 days)
Friday, March 16	Grade 1 Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, March 16	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Sunday, March 18	Open House for Prospective Families – 1-4 p.m.
Monday, March 19	K-6 Quarter 4 Begins
Tuesday, March 20	Preschool 4 Field Trip – Children’s Science Center Lab in Fairfax
Wednesday, March 21	K-6 Quarter 3 Report Cards Distributed Via Wednesday Envelopes
Thursday, March 22	Preschool 3/4 Field Trip – Children’s Science Center Lab in Fairfax
Saturday, March 24	Happy Birthday, Miss Hartzler! :)
Mon.-Mon., March 26-April 2	Spring Break – No School
Monday-Friday, March 26-30	Spring Break Care

Sunday, April 1	2017-18 Tuition Installment 8 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, April 1	Happy Birthday, Ms. Sambro! :)
Tuesday, April 3	School Resumes
Friday, April 6	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Tuesday-Thursday, April 10-12	Grade 2 Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) – mornings – no make-ups
Tuesday-Thursday, April 10-12	Grade 4 Stanford 10 Achievement Test – mornings – no make-ups
Wednesday, April 11	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building
Friday, April 13	Grade 6 Iowa Algebra Aptitude Test (IAAT) – morning – no make-ups
Friday, April 13	K-Kids Service Trip after school – space still available – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Monday, April 16	Parent/Teacher Conferences – No School / Care Offered
Tuesday, April 17	Grade 1 Field Trip – Hylton Performing Arts Center in Manassas
Friday, April 20	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Friday, April 20	Kindergarten Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, April 20	Rising K-6 Movie Night – 6-9:15 p.m. – multipurpose room – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Saturday, April 21	Open House for Prospective Families – 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 22	Spruce Up Day – 9-11:30 a.m. – front lawn
Monday, April 23	Ledo Pizza Fundraising Night – 5-10 p.m. – 7510 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church
Wednesday, April 25	K Field Trip – Frying Pan Park

Thursday, April 16	Preschool In-house Field Trip – Barbara Efron Storytime
Saturday, April 28	Celebrate Pinecrest Auction / Drinks and Dessert Evening – 7 p.m. – multipurpose room (adults only)

### Calendar Changes / Additions

- *New:* Friday afternoon, May 4 – K-6 Color Run – more details will follow when it gets closer!
- *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

Thank you to our February PPF volunteers: Angela M, Erin J and Katrina & Thad H – your help is so appreciated!

### 60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest

#8: “Each year I feel like my kids have the best teacher at the school and each year it gets better. It is exciting to see the kids grow and mature and develop a real love of learning.” – current parent

(You and/or your child(ren) can submit responses [here](#).)

### FYI – Upcoming Parent Programs

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 two upcoming events as FYI:

#### TJ Experiences – Moderated Panel Discussion

Panelists: Several Current Thomas Jefferson HS for Science and Technology (TJHSST) Students

Date: This Thursday, March 1, 7:00 - 8:30 pm

Place: Pender Professional Center, Room # 254, 3901 Fair Ridge Drive, Fairfax, VA 22033

Come get your questions answered about TJ from a panel of experts -- the kids themselves! Students and parents are all invited. This event is free and open to the public. It is hosted by the Fairfax County Association for the Gifted. FCAG is a non-profit, parent and student volunteer organization of families in Fairfax County. We support advanced academic students in the area. For more information, please visit us at [www.fcag.org](http://www.fcag.org).

There are many upcoming programs by Dr. Rene/Parenting Playgroups on relevant topics such as talking to children about school shootings, children’s anxiety, physical and social aggression, positive discipline and more. All details are at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/o/parenting-by-dr-rene-parenting-playgroups-283710166?s=1328924>.

“Why Is My Kid Acting Like This?: Unraveling the Mysteries of Sensory Processing Disorder”

The featured speaker for the event will be occupational therapist Michele Dausman, OTR/L who practices in Annandale, VA and is the occupational therapist at Oakwood School. Event topics related to sensory processing and the difficulties that some face related to it:

- Identifying factors of sensory processing difficulty...what does it look like?
- Understanding the brain and sensory processing...what’s going on?
- Knowing one’s child and oneself...are we a good match?
- Developing strategies to deal with life’s requirements...it’s all about function

Event details: Thursday, March 8, at 7:30 p.m. at Oakwood School, 7210 Braddock Rd., Annandale, VA 22003.

Free and open to the public with reservation. Bring a friend! Space is limited / [click here](#) to register.

## **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.

[There’s Never a Bad Time To Do Good – 4 Actions To Make The World Safer for our Children](#)