

Pinecrest School

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

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 14, 2017-18 – Thursday April 19, 2018

News and Notes

Please wear this year's blue This is community / Pinecrest 60 t-shirt tomorrow on Friday, March 20, for Pinecrest Spirit Day.

The next Pinecrest Pizza Friday (PPF) is this Friday, April 20.

Rising K-6 Movie Night is this Friday, April 20! Movie Nights are always great fun, and this is our only Movie Night of this school year. The registration form is [here](#) and there is still space available if anyone wants to add on. Movie Night is a time when parents drop off and pick up; parents do not stay at Movie Night. Parents of those already signed up will receive an email today with more specific details.

Our next school open house for prospective school families is this Saturday, April 21, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Please share with local friends, neighbors or family. [This graphic](#) can be shared with neighborhood groups, neighborhood list serves, scouting friends and similar.

Monday, April 23, 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 6-6:15 p.m. so hope to see you there! :)

Many expressed disappointment that they could not attend the recent Jessica Lahey (author of [The Gift of Failure: How the Best Parents Learn to Let Go So Their Children Can Succeed](#)) talk. Good news! This is a recent other talk she gave that is quite comparable to the one she gave on April 5. You can listen to it [here](#) or watch and listen together [here](#). A bibliography of all the works she cited was emailed to the Pinecrest Google Groups on April 5, but I can resend it to you if you would like it, just let me know.

Thanks to all who participated in the K-Kids Hat Drive to benefit [Ellie's Hats](#), which is a local organization that serves local children affected by cancer and their families.

We appreciate all the parents who had recent conferences with the teachers – thank you for your collaboration, time and support!

Yesterday's filming day with [Sapling Pictures](#) went very well for our new Pinecrest School promotional videos. I want to thank you all again for taking heed to our message about no logos or characters. Every single student was dressed in "plain clothes" (as the preschoolers described it the day before when I spoke with them about it, haha) and this is really appreciated. This is community! We will definitely share the video links with all as soon as they are completed.

Our annual Celebrate Pinecrest auction is approaching on Saturday night, April 28. This is an adults-only night of fun and fundraising for our school, and we hope to see everyone there! Please RSVP and buy tickets [here](#).

Part of our Celebrate Pinecrest auction fundraising includes an online auction, which will take place Wednesday, April 25 – Sunday, April 29. You can preview the online auction at [charityauction.bid/Pinecrest2018](#). More specifics have been emailed out recently by Katrina H. We appreciate you spreading the word to family and friends when the time comes.

Thank you to our Celebrate Pinecrest event sponsors: [Out of the Bubble Bakery](#), [Burke & Herbert Bank](#), [Pink Boots Travel](#), [TJ Walter & the Tim Pierson Sales Team with Pierson Real Estate](#), [Cynthia Sambro-Rier](#)

[Photography](#) and the [Kiwanis Club of Tysons](#)! We appreciate the support so much and encourage you to support them whenever possible.

Our annual K-6 Color Run will take place on Friday afternoon, May 4, during the school day. This is a very fun event that raises a lot of money for our school and gets everyone involved. Information went home on orange paper in yesterday's Wednesday Envelopes, and information will be forthcoming by email too from Manisha B. Parent volunteers are needed and you can sign up to help [here](#).

Pinecrest is celebrating Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week the week of May 7. I know room parents are communicating with parents and I think many parents have already made generous donations – thank you!!!

We would love your support in these 4 subcategories of the Education & Activities section of [Washington Family Magazine](#) survey before it closes on Tuesday, May 1. 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.

We also are looking for more volunteers for only one more PPF – Friday, June 1. 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.

When you dine at any Glory Days Grill location between now and June 6, 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 a new one that just opened [on Columbia Pike in Falls Church](#)! A flyer on this went home in last week's Wednesday Envelopes. 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](#).

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!

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](#). 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 (Next Door sites, neighborhood Facebook groups and similar) – in particular [this graphic](#). Word-of-mouth is always our best form of promotion. Thank you in advance.

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.

2018-19 Update

I announced some changes in the last newsletter about the upcoming school year and a communication will go out very soon to families returning next year with more information. Your patience is appreciated (I was hoping to be able to provide an update on the PE teacher in the letter, which is what is delaying it).

Please contact me directly with any questions or concerns at any time.

Photos

From Facebook:

Scenes From Our Classrooms [4/15](#) and [4/7](#)

[Video - Spoiler 13-Second Video From Yesterday's Filming 4/18](#)

[Filming With Sapling Pictures 4/18](#)

[Preschool 3/4 Field Trip 4/13](#)

[First Day of Run Club 4/10](#)

[Glory Days Flyer](#)

Upcoming Dates

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

Friday, April 20	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up here
Friday, April 20	Kindergarten Class Presentation – 9 a.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, April 20	Grade 4 Field Trip – National Archives (leaving 10:15 a.m.)
Friday, April 20	Rising K-6 Movie Night – 6-9:15 p.m. – multipurpose room – sign up here
Saturday, April 21	Open House for Prospective Families – 10:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
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

Wednesday, April 25 – Sunday, April 29	Celebrate Pinecrest Online Auction – preview items here
Thursday, April 26	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) – buy tickets here

Tuesday, May 1	2017-18 Tuition Installment 9 of 10 Due (A \$50 late fee is charged if tuition payment is not received on or by the fifth day of the month.)
Tuesday, May 1	Preschool 3/4 and Preschool 4 Field Trip – Rooer's Zoofari
Wednesday, May 2	Grade 4 Field Trip – Jamestown
Friday, May 4	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up here
Friday, May 4	K-6 Color Run – 2 p.m. – more details to follow soon!
Monday-Friday, May 7-11	Faculty and Staff Appreciation Week
Wednesday, May 9	Board of Directors Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building
Friday, May 11	K-Kids Service Trip after school – space still available – sign up here
Monday-Friday, May 14-18	Spirit Week
Monday, May 14	Grade 2/3 Field Trip – George Mason Center for the Arts
Friday, May 18	Grade 2/3 Field Trip – Kennedy Center
Friday, May 18	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up here
Saturday, May 19	Family Bingo Night – 6-8:30 p.m. – multipurpose room
Monday, May 21	Grade 1 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Tuesday, May 22	Grade 2/3 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Wednesday, May 23	Grade 4 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Wednesday, May 23	Annual Meeting – 7 p.m. – upper school building
Thursday, May 24	Grade 5/6 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Friday, May 25	K-6 Half Day – 12:05 p.m. Dismissal / After-care offered until 6 p.m. Quarter 4 Faculty Development Time
Monday, May 28	Memorial Day – No School
Tuesday, May 29	K-6 In-house Field Trip – Music Concert by Amaris Trio (including Ms. Edwards, daughter of Mrs. Edwards and a former camp teacher!)

Wednesday, May 30

Special K-Kids Service Project at Pinecrest – 4-5 p.m. – more details to follow

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

Thanks in advance to Amanda T and Lauren M who are volunteering at tomorrow's PPF and to Katrina H, Nick W and Victoria T who will be serving as tour guides at Saturday's open house.

60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest

#11: "We love Pinecrest because it is the creative approach to learning that our child needs! Very hands on and interactive! And fun!" –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:

Free Screening of "ANGST: RAISING AWARENESS AROUND ANXIETY" – a new film created to open up the conversation about anxiety and provide tools, resources and hope – Monday, April 23
Monday, April 23, 2018, 7:00PM*, St. Louis School, 2901 Popkins Lane, Alexandria, VA 22306 Appropriate for ages 12 and up. Students must be accompanied by a parent. *The movie is 1 hour in length followed by 30 minutes of Q&A. The Angst project is an IndieFlix Original documentary produced to raise awareness about anxiety with an emphasis on youth and families. The film includes interviews with kids, teens, mental health experts and parents. Launched just four months ago, Angst is being screened in schools, communities and theaters around the world to help people identify and understand the symptoms of anxiety, encourage them to reach out for help, and provide resources and strategies to cope with anxiety when it interferes with everyday life. The film and corresponding materials provide tools, resources and hope. Visit AngstMovie.com to preview the trailer and learn more.

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>.

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.

[Stop Asking Your Kid About Their Day by Alice Bradley](#)