

# Pinecrest School

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

## PINECREST HEADLINES

**Communication from the Head of School – Issue 15, 2017-18 – Wednesday May 2, 2018**

### News and Notes

We are hitting a very busy time in the school year and I want to acknowledge that I know it is not easy when so many things happen at the same time, and I recognize it is not an ideal schedule. Next year, the school calendar will be very different with events more spread out over the entire school year. It is easy to forget (even for me!) how challenging our logistics were when we began this school year in two locations. With the K-6 Color Run in particular, we originally had it scheduled for October 2017 but felt bringing everyone back from Peace and with the construction would be too challenging so we changed the date. Then, when rescheduling it, we had to wait until we were all back together and finally consider the weather as we did not want to do it when it was too hot or too cold. As you can see, we were very limited. If we had done it too much sooner than now, it would have been quite chilly. As it is now, it will be quite warm and we will have plenty of water available. All this said, please know how much everyone's participation and involvement is valued whenever it's possible for you. This is community – even if it feels a little hectic sometimes. :)

The next Pinecrest Pizza Friday (PPF) is this Friday, May 4. Remember, the sign-up link closes at 2PM the day before: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html>

Our K-6 Color Run is also taking place on Friday, May 4. This is our third annual run and it is a very fun event: it gets our students moving and provides them an opportunity to do good for their school. Donations can be made online at [this link](#) or by cash or check payable to Pinecrest School. All check and cash donations should come in first thing on Friday morning so we can count the participation and donations prior to the event starting at 2 p.m. Thank you to the parent volunteers who signed up to help and there's still time to join us if you wish – sign up [here](#). Currently, a little more than \$2000 has been raised by 18 K-6 students – thanks to the families who have gotten involved!

Some K-6 Color Run logistics for Friday: All K-6 children should wear a plain white t-shirt on the day of the event so we can spray them with color while participating. :) The color is non-permanent, non-toxic colored water. Colored Water Ingredients: vinegar, water, food coloring. (If your child wants to wear a white t-shirt that has printing on it, that is fine and completely up to you.) I encourage casual bottoms that you don't mind if they get dirty or some color on them. You may want to consider a change of clothes for your child to go home and/or a towel or two for your child to sit on in your car.

THANK YOU to everyone who came to Celebrate Pinecrest for our in-person auction party on April 28 - what a GREAT night of fun and fundraising for our school!! A little more than \$12,000 was raised and we are so grateful for everyone's generosity. This is community. :)

We have a lot of event photos (the ones Uncle Albert was taking that night and the step-and-repeat photos upon arrival) and we will share those ASAP.

If you did not attend the auction, but want to make a donation, you can still do so at [this link](#).

Also if you did not attend the auction: Beautiful 5x7 photos of your child(ren) taken by Ms. Sambro (see link to her photography business below) were available for sale at our auction event. They were part of our decor and then got taken off the wall by parents to purchase for \$25/photo before the night ended. We have your child's photo in the office and you can purchase it with us in the office for cash or check for \$25.

Our online auction raised about \$4,000! Thanks to everyone who was bidding and who shared the online auction link with others. We appreciate the support very much. It was fun to see so many from our community bidding - current parents and staff, alumni families, camp families and friends -- and even a few names we did not recognize!

We have a few items that received no bids in the online auction and we are trying one more time. The list is below and they are all available for bid now at <http://www.auctria.com/auction/Pinecrest2018> - you can read descriptions of the items at that link as well. The online auction for these remaining items will close at 12 noon EST on Saturday, May 5. I want to call particular attention to the golfing at Congressional. The minimum bid is high but this is a once-in-a-lifetime experience for any local golfer.

We're celebrating Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week the week of May 7 – thank you to all who contributed and are working hard to help make it a special week!

The week of May 14 will be Annual Spirit Week at Pinecrest School! During Spirit Week, students, faculty, and staff can choose to participate by wearing different attire to school, depending on the day's theme. An orange flyer was sent home today with the same details as below:

- Monday, May 14: Class Dress-Alike Day – teachers and students decide their own class theme and dress accordingly (Note: 2nd/3rd grade on a field trip this day and will be dressed in their theme and not in Pinecrest shirts)
- Tuesday, May 15: Pajama Day – appropriate pajamas/slippers welcome; shoes must be worn to/from school and for recess
- Wednesday, May 16: Wacky Wednesday – Dress wacky (mismatched clothing, crazy hair, et cetera)
- Thursday, May 17: Sports Attire/Team Day – represent your favorite sport(s) and/or team(s) (Note: 4th-6th grade on a field trip this day and can dress in sports theme not in Pinecrest shirts)
- Friday, May 18: Pinecrest Spirit Day – wear your Pinecrest spirit attire (Note: 2nd/3rd grade on a field trip this day and are being asked to wear Pinecrest 60 blue shirts)

Saturday, May 19 is our second Family Bingo Night of the school year. It will take place from 6:30-8:30 p.m. The original hope when planning was that this one may draw a few more preschool families with the earlier start time. Bingo Nights are very fun and family-friendly. You can sign up to attend [here](#).

Save the date! We have added a Chipotle fundraiser to our calendar for Monday, May 21, from 5-9 p.m. at the Chipotle in Mosaic - 8191 Strawberry Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042. We will be sending out a flyer in advance of the 21<sup>st</sup> that must be shown in hard copy or on a smartphone to the cashier when you check out. If we hit \$300 in sales, Pinecrest will receive 50 percent of that. Online orders will not count towards our total, and gift purchases also do not count.

Our K-Kids Club has been selected by Kiwanis International to be featured in some print and media campaigns for a new initiative called Read and Lead. The idea is that the children would read children's books that focus on different themes and then organize and complete a related service project. Our K-Kids members have chosen to do a big food drive – particularly collecting food for what Food for Others calls Power Packs. These are Ziploc bags of various food items that are sent home with local children who do not have enough food to eat on the weekends or during school breaks. This kind of project is one of my favorite: kids truly helping kids,

and I hope everyone in our school community will participate. A teal flyer is going home today with the specifics of what is needed. K-Kids chose a goal of 75 packs and, together, we can hit that. K-Kids members will put together the packs on Wednesday afternoon, May 30, so all donations should come in before then. Please think about what you can contribute. Every gift no matter how small will help our K-Kids reach their goal and more importantly will help local children eat. Thank you for your consideration.

Thanks to everyone who came to Ledo Pizza on April 23 for our fundraising night! We raised \$64.55.

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.

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 15. 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.

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 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 (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.

### Photos

From Facebook:

Scenes From Our Classrooms [4/17](#)

- [As seen on a white board... :\) 5/2](#)
- [Preschool 3/4 & 4 Field Trip 5/1](#)
- [Preschool Show 4/26 \(post 4/30\)](#)
- [Celebrate Pinecrest Auction 4/28](#)
- [Ready to Celebrate Pinecrest 4/28](#)
- [K-Kids with Ellie's Hats donations 4/25](#)
- [Ledo Pizza Fundraising Night 4/23](#)
- [Rising K-6 Movie Night 4/21](#)
- [Grade 4 Field Trip - National Archives 4/21](#)
- [Video - K Class Presentation 4/21](#)
- [Glory Days Flyer](#)

### Upcoming Dates

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

Wednesday, May 2- Saturday, May 5 at 12 noon	Online Auction of Remaining Items – click <a href="#">here</a>
Wednesday, May 2	Grade 4 Field Trip – Jamestown
Friday, May 4	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Friday, May 4	K-6 Color Run – 2 p.m. – see above details
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 <a href="#">here</a>
Monday-Friday, May 14-18	Spirit Week – see above details
Monday, May 14	Grade 2/3 Field Trip – George Mason Center for the Arts
Thursday, May 17	Grade 4 and 5/6 Field Trip – STEAM program at National Museum of the American Indian in DC
Friday, May 18	Grade 2/3 Field Trip – Kennedy Center
Friday, May 18	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Saturday, May 19	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Ferrier! :)
Saturday, May 19	Family Bingo Night – 6-8:30 p.m. – multipurpose room – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Monday, May 21	Grade 1 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Monday, May 21	Chipotle Fundraiser – 5-9 p.m. –Chipotle in Mosaic, 8191 Strawberry Lane, Falls Church, VA 22042
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. – taking place at Glory Days Grill, 6341 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041 – more details will be available in next week's Wednesday Envelopes
Thursday, May 24	Grade 5/6 Authors' Showcase – 3-3:35 p.m. – classroom
Friday, May 25	Preschool Color Day – Rainbow
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 (putting together Power Packs for local hungry kids) – 4-5 p.m. – K-Kids parents, please return white waivers as soon as possible if you have not yet / thanks to those who have! – sign up to attend <a href="#">here</a>
Thursday, May 31	Class of 2018 Challenge Trip with Ms. Mitlo & Ms. McDermott – Aerial Forest Adventure Park at Sandy Spring, Maryland – Use this link to register and pay: <a href="#">Sixth Grade Challenge Form</a>

Friday, June 1	2017-18 Tuition Installment 10 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, June 1	Preschool Last Day of School, Before-care and After-care
Friday, June 1	Preschool Year-End Ceremony 11:15 a.m.-12:05 p.m. – multipurpose room
Friday, June 1	Preschool Year-End Narratives Distributed Via Backpack
Friday, June 1	Pinecrest Pizza Friday – sign up <a href="#">here</a>
Sunday, June 3	Ice Cream Social – 2-4 p.m. – playground
Monday, June 4	Grade 4-6 Science Fair
Tuesday, June 5	K-6 Last Day After-care – After-care ends at 5 p.m.
Tuesday, June 5	K-6 Quarter 4 Ends (49 days) / K-6 Quarter 4 Report Cards Distributed Via Backpack
Tuesday, June 5	Class of 2018 Clap Out – 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, June 5	K-6 Spring Concert & Grade 6 Graduation – 6 p.m. – Annandale United Methodist Church (same location as Winter Concert in December)
Wednesday, June 6	K-6 Last Day of School & Last Day of Before-care K-6 Half Day – 12:05 p.m. Dismissal / No after-care
Wednesday, June 6	K-6 Field Day
Thursday-Friday, June 7-8	Faculty Workdays / no care
Monday-Friday, June 11-15	June Care – sign up <a href="#">here</a> (the price will increase after May 25)
Monday, June 18	Summer Camp Begins and runs until Friday, August 17 (9 weeks) – space still available in many great classes – all details <a href="#">here</a>

## Calendar Changes / Additions

- *New:* Friday afternoon, May 4 – K-6 Color Run
- *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

We're grateful to all the parents and grandparents who have attended recent field trips (last week with kindergarten to Frying Pan Farm, yesterday with preschool to Roer's Zoofari and today with fourth grade to Jamestown) – thank you!

Kudos to the parents who made our Celebrate Auction party and online auction successful: Aimee M, Austin H, Erin J, Katrina H, Kelley C and Victoria T!!

A tip of the hat to all of the parents who assisted with setting up and tearing down the auction – in particular the tear-down crew that was quite small – we appreciate you all!!

Thanks in advance to Amanda T and Lauren M who are volunteering at Friday's PPF!

Thank you again to our Celebrate Pinecrest event sponsors: [Burke & Herbert Bank](#), [Pink Boots Travel](#), [TJ Walter & the Tim Pierson Sales Team with Pierson Real Estate](#), [Kelley Cannon Events](#), [Out of the Bubble Bakery](#), [Cynthia Sambro-Rier Photography](#) and the [Kiwanis Club of Tysons](#)! We appreciate the support so much and encourage you to support them whenever possible.

## 60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest

#13: "The students are fabulous and enjoy coming to school daily." –current teacher

(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:

TONIGHT!

Dr. Wendy Mogel, clinical psychologist, parenting expert and *New York Times* best-selling author, to McLean on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 7 pm at Temple Rodef Shalom. [Buy your tickets now!](#) Dr. Mogel is known for combining cutting-edge psychological research with timeless wisdom in guiding parents through the rough waters of child rearing in today's competitive world. In her new book, [Voice Lessons for Parents: What to Say, How to Say it, and When to Listen](#), Dr. Mogel offers an essential guide to the art of talking with children of all ages, showing us how a change in voice can transform communication and ease the relationship between parents and children.

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](#).

### **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.

[7 Parenting Behaviors That Keep Children From Growing Into Leaders from Forbes.com](#)