

Pinecrest School

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

PINECREST HEADLINES

Communication from the Head of School – Issue 16, 2017-18 – Wednesday May 9, 2018

News and Notes

Pinecrest School is now on Instagram! Follow us at @Pinecrest1957.

On Monday, we welcomed Coach Henry Torres as our PE teacher for the remainder of the school year.

We're celebrating Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week this week – thank you to all who contributed and are working hard to help make it a special week! We all LOVED our flowers and the cards and notes with both beautiful student artwork and wonderful words from parents and students. (My office smells so good because of the pretty flowers!) Thank you!! :)

Our K-6 Color Run was awesome!!! We raised more than \$4000 for our school and everyone had a great time! Donations can still be made online at [this link](#) or by cash or check payable to Pinecrest School. A link to photos is below.

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 last week 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)

The next Pinecrest Pizza Friday (PPF) is this Friday, May 18. Remember, the sign-up link closes at 2PM the day before: <https://fs9.formsite.com/pinecrest/PPF/index.html>

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 21st 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 annual author showcase afternoons will be as follows in the classrooms:

- Monday, May 21 – Grade 1 – 3-3:35 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 22 – Grade 2/3 – 3-3:35 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 23 – Grade 4 – 3-3:35 p.m.
- Thursday, May 24 – Grade 5/6 – 3-3:35 p.m.

The teachers look forward to the opportunity for the children to share their writing from throughout the school year with parents and we look forward to seeing you there!

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 went home last week with the specifics of what is needed. K-Kids chose a goal of 75 packs and, together, we can hit that. You can also find the list of suggested items on page 6 (it says Suggested Foods at the top) of [this PDF](#). 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 and thanks to those who have already brought in donations!. 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.

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 recently in 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 Pinecrest Run Club will be running as a group at a local 5K in June. A couple of families have asked us which one so they can also participate. Here are all of the details: Sun., June 10, 8AM start time, at the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, VA 22035. Each family is responsible for registering its own participants at [this link](#) - it is \$30/person **through May 18**. Additional race details can be found [here](#). More details will follow about the Pinecrest plan to meet up etc. If you register, please let me know.

Thanks to everyone who designed their Giant Bonus Card to benefit Pinecrest – we got a notification that we will receive \$919.24 from the Giant A+ Bonus Bucks program for 2017-18 - yay! The program will begin again in the fall and usually you do not need to re-register your cards.

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!

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.

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.

Photos

From Facebook:

- [Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week - Card Day 5/8](#)
- [Video - 6th grader reading her Pinecrest "found poem" 5/8](#)
- [Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week - Flower Day 5/7](#)
- [Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week 5/7](#)
- [K-6 Color Run 5/4](#)
- [Video - K-6 Color Run 5/4](#)
- [4th Grade Jamestown Field Trip 5/2](#)

- [Glory Days Flyer](#)

Upcoming Dates

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

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 – 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 here

Saturday, May 19	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Ferrier! :)
Saturday, May 19	Family Bingo Night – 6-8:30 p.m. – multipurpose room – sign up here
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	Happy Birthday, Mrs. Elhardt! :)
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 here
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: Sixth Grade Challenge Form

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 here

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 here (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 here

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 celebrating our dedicated and talented teachers and staff this week. THANK YOU, Mrs. Cullen, Ms. Marble, Mrs. Ferrier, Mrs. Vogus, Mrs. Salisbury, Mrs. Elhardt, Ms. Bleggi, Ms. Pence, Ms. Mitlo, Mrs. Giacomani, Ms. Haden, Mrs. Edwards, Coach Torres, Mrs. Tibbetts, Mrs. Hartzler, Ms. Hartzler, Ms. Purtill, Ms. Sambro, Ms. Serven and Mrs. Stevens!!! These people make our school shine every day.

60 Reasons We Love Pinecrest

#14: "Students engage in learning with joy and enthusiasm." –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:

Truck and Bus Day at Columbia Pike Branch Library in Arlington

Saturday, May 19, 9 -11 a.m.

Children of all ages are invited to come and see (and even touch) all sorts of vehicles including construction trucks, fire trucks, a recycling truck, an ART bus, and more! *Presented in partnership with [Arlington Transit](#), [Arlington County Police Department](#), [Arlington County Fire Department](#), and many more.* Learn more on the [Library calendar](#).

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.

[15 Things Kids or Teens Say That Could Mean 'I'm Anxious' – Where They Come From And How to Respond](#)