



# Pine Grove Elementary School

# HERITAGE

*All Children... Reach... Achieve... Celebrate*

*Mr. Richard Weber, Principal*

*Ms. Severson, Asst. Principal*

2701 Summit Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21234

410-887-5267

**March 29, 2007**

## HOME OF THE PANDA CALENDAR

### April

- 2** Market Day pickup (4-6 p.m.)
- 4** Carrabba's Night (5-8 p.m.)
- 5** **Schools close 3 hours early**  
(end of third marking period)
- 6-15** **Schools closed for spring break**
- 16** Schools reopen  
Joe Romano magic show
- 17** PTA Board meeting (7 p.m.)
- 18** Kindergarten registration  
Grade 5 MSA testing—science
- 19** Kindergarten and prekindergarten  
registration  
STEM Fair/Night of 1,000 Stars
- 20** Grade 3 field trip to Exchange City
- 23** PTA Scholarship Committee  
meeting (10:30 a.m.)
- 24** Grade 2 Breadbake assembly  
(9:30-11:30 p.m.)
- 25** Secretaries' Day  
Job Fair (3:30-7 p.m.)
- 26** Barnes and Noble Night (6-8 p.m.)  
Report cards go home

### From The Principal's Desk

We are planning many special activities for the fourth quarter, including: the Art Show/Ice Cream Social, spring

choral concert, spring instrumental music concert, orchestra festival, grade 5 swim trip, yearbook signing party, kindergarten farewell program, fifth grade farewell awards assembly, field days, and several field trips. The next few months will be busy and exciting at Pine Grove Elementary. In the meantime, I hope that all of the members of the Pine Grove Elementary School community have a wonderful spring break. I hope you can take a break from your busy schedules and spend lots of time with your family and friends.

Our MSA testing occurred from March 12-27. All of our third, fourth, and fifth grader students did their very best. We anxiously await the results that should be available in early June.

### Pine Grove Student News



**Prekindergarten students** went on a field trip to the Baltimore Museum of Art this month. The students have worked very hard to learn about six pieces of artwork and identified shapes, colors, and patterns in different kinds of art! Check out our own artwork outside of room 1.

**The boys and girls in K-1** have completed a wonderful unit of study: Exploring Language and Literacy Through the Arts. The children learned about paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures, photographs, textiles, and decorative arts. The students experienced an in-depth exploration of five works of art from the Baltimore Museum of Art. As a culminating activity of the unit, the class visited the museum on March 23. The lead docent said our Pine Grove students were the best-prepared, well-behaved groups she had ever taken on a tour!

### **Kindergarten Registration**

Please mark your calendars for our kindergarten registration, which will be held on Wednesday, April 18, and pre-kindergarten registration, which will be held on Thursday, April 19. If your child will be attending first grade at Pine Grove Elementary but did not attend Pine Grove Elementary for kindergarten, you will also need to register your child at this time. Call the school office at 410-887-5267 to arrange a registration time.

Kindergarten students must be 5 years old by September 1, 2007. Prekindergarten students must be 4 years old by September 1, 2007. We will have a limited number of openings for prekindergarten students next year. The openings will be reserved for students who meet the automatic eligibility requirements for prekindergarten. An eligible prekindergarten child is defined as a child who meets one or more of the following criteria:

- ✓ is eligible for free or reduced meal program
- ✓ is eligible for ESL services as a result of screening by the Office of World Languages
- ✓ has been referred by an IEP Team with an IEP that specifies a service

delivery model of regular prekindergarten education. We will screen additional children for prekindergarten eligibility after students who meet the automatic criteria have been registered.

### **School Attire**

It is spring and a good time to revisit appropriate school attire:

- **no flip-flops**
- **no spaghetti straps**
- **no tank tops**
- **no short shorts**

If you have any questions about appropriate attire, please call the school office at 410-887-5267.

### **Math Facts Wall of Fame**

The following students have been added to the Math Facts Wall of Fame for February:

Grade 3—Ambrosia C., Aaliyah D., and Tommy M.

### **Vision/Hearing Screening**

If you received a notice that child failed either the vision or hearing screening in February, please have the doctor fill out the bottom portion when you take your child for follow-up. That completed form needs to be returned to the nurse within 6 to 7 weeks. I will send out a second notice to all families who have not completed the follow-up by 7 weeks. This is a change in procedure from the past, when all forms were given to the Health Department. According to the new protocol, the school nurse is now responsible for all follow-ups. If you have questions, please give Mrs. Knauer a call at 410-887-5449.

### **1,000-Hour Volunteer Recognition**

Pine Grove Elementary is proud to announce that Vicki Muir and Lisa Whiteford are being recognized as

volunteers who have given 1,000 hours or more of volunteer service. They will be recognized at a tea reception on April 30 at the Holiday Inn Select in Timonium.

### **Math Homework Helpers**

Math Homework Helpers is on The Education Channel, Comcast Cable channel 73, every Wednesday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. Call in and WIN!

### **Special Days Book Club**

Looking for a unique way to honor your child on a special day? For \$15, you may select a book for our library that will have a personalized bookplate placed in the front. What a great way to honor your child and add to our library at the same time! Mrs. Ambridge, our librarian, has lots of books for you to choose from. Send a note with your child and a check payable to Pine Grove Elementary School whenever a special day is near.

### **Lost and Found**

Please check our lost and found area (located in front of the cafeteria) for any items your child may have lost. We have many coats, hats, gloves, etc. Putting your child's name in these items will make it easier to return them to the right student.

### **Summer Programs for Students**

The Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) recently announced the schedule of upcoming Maryland Summer Centers for students entering grades 4 through 12. Summer Centers programs offer unique instructional experiences for gifted and talented students and gives them the opportunity to work in settings and with resources not available during the regular school year.

Centers are located throughout the state and offer 1- to 3-week residential and nonresidential programs with a focus on the arts, sciences, mathematics, technology, creative writing, Chinese language and culture, engineering, law and government, and history. Activities are designed to encourage critical thinking, creativity, and problem solving, while challenging students academically. Tuition ranges from \$100 to \$700. Financial assistance is available.

The 2007 Maryland Summer Centers brochures and application forms are available from local gifted and talented education coordinators. Brochures, application forms, and a video featuring the Summer Centers may also be found on the website of MSDE at [www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters](http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/summercenters). Applications must be postmarked by Sunday, April 15, except for Fine Arts Centers, which have earlier deadlines and may require an audition. Materials are available in Korean and Spanish translation upon request. For more information, call Stephanie Zenker at 410-767-0821.

### **Northeast Advisory Council Meeting**

The next Northeast Advisory Council meeting will be held on May 16, 2007, at Harford Hills Elementary School at 7 p.m.

### **Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee**

The Special Education Citizens' Advisory Committee (SECAC) meeting will be held on April 23 at 7 p.m. in room 114 of the ESS Building, Greenwood.