



Pine Grove Elementary School

HERITAGE

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

Mr. Richard Weber, Principal

Dr. Rosanne Reimer, Asst. Principal

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May 21, 2008

HOME OF THE PANDA CALENDAR

May

- 23** Volunteer Tea (9:30-11 a.m.)
Weber Brothers (2:15 p.m.)
- 26** **Schools closed for Memorial Day**
- 27** Art Show/Social (7-9 p.m.)
- 28** Author Bobbie Hinman at PGES
Pine Grove Middle School parents
orientation (6:30-8:30 p.m.)
- 29** Author Bobbie Hinman at PGES
Kindergarten Farewell (2:30 p.m.)
- 30** Awards Assembly (9:30 a.m.)

June

- 2** Vocal music concert rehearsal
(2 p.m.)
Concert at LRHS (7 p.m.)
- 3** Field day—grade 5 (10:15 a.m.-
12:15 p.m.), grade 2 (1:15-
3:15 p.m.)
- 5** Field day—grade 3 (10:15 a.m.-
12:15 p.m.), grade 1 (1:15-
3:15 p.m.)
Grade 5 Yearbook Signing Party
(2-3:30 p.m.)
- 6** Field day—grade 4 (10:15 a.m. -
12:15 p.m.), KG (1:15-3:15 p.m.)
- 9** Last day of school for PK
- 10** **Schools dismiss 3 hours early**
- 11** Grade 5 Farewell (9:30 a.m.)
**Last day of school—schools
dismiss 3 hours early**

From the Principal's Desk

Every Pine Grove Elementary School parent is invited to attend our Art Show/Social on Tuesday, May 27, from 7-9 p.m. We are really impressed with the projects our students have completed this year, and we are looking forward to this opportunity to showcase our students' outstanding work.

I would like to thank each member of our school community who helped to continue Pine Grove Elementary's tradition of excellence this year. Pine Grove is a wonderful school because of the collaborative efforts of wonderful students, supportive parents, and dedicated teachers and staff members. I consider it a privilege to have the opportunity to be principal of Pine Grove Elementary School.

Thank you to everyone who responded to our parent survey. We sincerely value your input, and we will use your feedback to refine our instructional programs and school policies.

Pine Grove Middle Orientation

Pine Grove Middle School is having Parent Orientation for incoming sixth-graders on May 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Please note that this is for parents only.

Spring Concert

All Pine Grove Elementary students in grades 3-5 and the Madrigals will be singing stars in our exciting upcoming spring concert! Please mark your calendars for this concert on Monday evening, June 2, at Loch Raven High School. All third, fourth, and fifth grade students and Madrigals need to arrive at 6:30 p.m., dressed in concert attire. The concert will begin at 7 p.m.

Attire for performers: Girls will wear dressy dresses or skirts and blouses. Boys will wear dress pants, dress shirts, and neckties. Madrigals will wear their black and white concert outfits.

Field Day

Following is the Field Day schedule for each grade level. Please note that there **is no rain date**.

Grade 5—Tuesday, June 3,
10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Grade 2—Tuesday, June 3,
1:15-3:15 p.m.

Grade 3—Thursday, June 5,
10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Grade 1—Thursday, June 5,
1:15-3:15 p.m.

Grade 4—Friday, June 6,
10:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

KG—Friday, June 5, 1:15-
3:15 p.m.

Back-to-School Dates and Events

In looking toward next year, we would like to announce some important dates. Our annual Open House/PTA Back-to-School Picnic will be held on Thursday, August 21, at 5:15 p.m. A meeting for full day kindergarten parents will begin at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 21. The first day of school for students will be Monday, August 25. Back-to-School Night will be held on Tuesday, September 2, at 7 p.m.

Special Events for Pine Grove Students

We have scheduled several special events for students in June. The spring choral concert will be held on June 2 at Loch Raven High School. The Kindergarten Farewell will be held on Thursday, May 29, at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The Awards Assembly is on Friday, May 30, at 9:30 a.m. The Grade 5 Farewell is on Wednesday, June 11, at 9:30 a.m.

New Opening Time for 2008-2009

During the 2008-2009 school year, breakfast students will enter the building at 9 a.m. The bell for general admission will ring at 9:07 a.m. Announcements will begin at 9:15 a.m., as usual.



Pine Grove Student News

Prekindergarten students are ending the year by learning about changes and reviewing skills to get them ready for kindergarten next year.

Even though the school year is winding down, the **boys and girls in K-1** are still flying high! No coasting for them! It's business as usual in the classroom as they are becoming Junior First Graders practicing speed drills and taking spelling tests. The students are reviewing the Shared Reading Big Books that they read throughout the year as they practice for their Kindergarten Farewell Program (May 29). The children are designing special shirts inspired by Gary Gator to wear at the performance.

The boys and girls in Mrs. Shanahan's class are ending the year with a research report on a Chesapeake Bay or rain forest animal. They are using information from books, as well as

websites in their computer lab class. Their reports are sure to be interesting!

The **“Sunny Side Up” Safe Racer Team** represented Pine Grove Elementary at the STEM Fair on Saturday, May 17. **Alex A., Ian K., Alison M., and Emily S.** received an Honorable Mention for their safe racer.

Attention Panda Partners

The last day for the after school homework club is Thursday, May 29.

Walk of Fame

The Safe/Orderly Action Team wishes to thank all the children for making Pine Grove Elementary a safe place to learn. The Walk of Fame banner is filled with the stars of students who practice safety in our school every day. The newest stars are: Jonavon M., Chris R., Tori H., Julianna M., Chan P., Madison T., Colin B., Carly O., Nadia S., A.J. H., Sam R., Lindsey L., Kryssa M., Corbin P., Dustin R., Jenna R., Alex P., Joshua G., Ruth B., Paige A., Chelece C., Jordan H., Andy J., Michele Z., and Katie C..

Our safety trophy is awarded to two classes who have the best safety record in school for a 2-week period. This trophy has recently been awarded to Mrs. Berkey and Mrs. Heckscher’s classes. The trophy was also awarded to Mrs. Andrzejewski and Mrs. Stagge’s classes and Ms. Simpkins and Mrs. Atabek Gabriel’s classes. Thank you to everyone for doing such a great job!

Volunteers

Pine Grove Elementary School would like to thank all of our volunteers for their efforts throughout the school year!

Catch the Reading Bug at the Baltimore County Public Library (BCPL)

The summer reading program at the public library is a great way to motivate your child to read throughout the summer. We would like all Pine Grove Elementary students to participate! The Parkville branch on Harford Road has extended a special invitation for our students to pre-register before schools close for the summer. The date is Thursday, June 5, from 6-8 p.m. This would be a great night to take the family to the public library, sign up for summer reading, get special attention from the BCPL staff, and see lots of other Pine Grove families. See you there!

Summer Health Tips

Practice sun safety whenever you go outside. Use sunscreen with SPF 15 or higher, 30 minutes before you go outside. Don’t forget to reapply it according to the manufacturer’s directions. The sun does most of its damage between the hours of 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Wear wide-brimmed hats outdoors to protect your face and ears. Don’t forget your sunglasses! For additional information, go to <http://www.bcps.org/offices/sss/health/>

Reduce your risk of contracting poison ivy, sumac or oak—stay away from high grass or weedy areas. When you come inside from play, clean your face, hands, and all exposed areas well with soap and water to wash away the oils from these plants. Wear long sleeves and pants when playing in wooded areas.

Travel safely! Always follow the Child Passenger Safety laws when in any vehicle. Children younger than 6 years old **and** weighing 40 pounds or less must be secured in an approved child safety seat. Children under the age of 16, in any seating position, must be secured in a child seat or seat belt during transport. This means that both the shoulder strap and the lap strap must be used! **Do not** place a

rear facing infant restraint in the front seat. The law does not forbid children riding in the front seat of a car, provided they are using proper restraints. However, the front passenger seat is the least safe seat in the car and provides less protection for the passenger than any other seat.

Be healthy and safe. Have a wonderful summer!

Cartridge Recycling

The recycling program is underway!! Thank you to everyone who has donated their used cartridges and cell phones. There is a box on the table in the lobby for smaller cartridges and a larger box under the table for the bigger cartridges. Please continue to send in your used cartridges and cell phones to raise money for our school and keep our planet green!

Any questions may be directed to Mrs. Greco at 410-887-5267.

Lost and Found

Please have your child check our lost and found, which is located in the hallway right outside the cafeteria. We have many coats, sweaters, hats, etc., that will be donated at the end of the school year if not claimed.

Office Depot

Every time parents, students, and school supporters give our 5% Back to Schools ID number when buying qualifying school supplies at Office Depot, Pine Grove Elementary receives credits equal to 5% of the qualifying purchases to use for free supplies. Our ID number is 70046120.

Target

Remember, your purchases at Target can help donate money to our

school! When you shop at Target, ask how you can donate money to Pine Grove Elementary.

Pine Grove Tiny Tots

Pine Grove Tiny Tots is a cooperative play program for 3 and 4 year olds. They are now accepting applications for the 2008-2009 school year. For more information, contact Vanessa Clark at 410-663-3175 or JoAnn Raynor at 410-661-3262. The website is www.prcparkvillerec.org.

Open Door Registration for Fall

Open Door before and after school program provides students with breakfast before school, after school snacks and, in both sessions, offers choices, puzzles, games, toys, crafts, outdoor play, and a quiet homework area. Hours are 7 a.m. until school begins and after school until 6 p.m. Call 410-825-6300 for more information.

Annual Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey

All Baltimore County Public Schools' stakeholders—families, students, staff, and community members—are invited to participate in the BCPS annual Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey. The survey will be offered online and available via a link from the main page of the BCPS website, www.bcps.org, from noon on Friday, May 9, through midnight on Sunday, June 8, 2008.

The Stakeholder Satisfaction Survey is just one of many ways the school system monitors the quality of education we provide as we continue to improve its

delivery, value, and meaning and fulfill the objectives of our *Blueprint for Progress*. More information about the *Blueprint for*

Progress and our Annual Report of Results can be found on the BCPS website.

School Nurse Vacancies

BCPS has openings for school nurses for the 2008-2009 school year. Registered nurses with a Bachelor's degree are encouraged to apply. Positions are full-time for the school year (10 months) and are paid on the same salary scale as teachers. A complete vacancy announcement can be viewed on the BCPS website at http://www.bcps.org/jobs/Full_listing.aspx or by contacting the Office of Personnel at 410-887-4146. Questions regarding this information should be directed to Debbie Somerville, Coordinator, at 410-887-6368.