



# 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

**May 24, 2007**

## HOME OF THE PANDA CALENDAR

**May**

**28** Schools closed for Memorial Day

**29** Art Show/Ice Cream Social  
(7-9 p.m.)

**31** Grade 5 yearbook signing  
(2-3:45 p.m.)

**June**

**1** Grade 5 pool party

**4** Vocal music concert dress rehearsal  
(2 p.m.)

Vocal music concert at Loch Raven  
High School (7 p.m.)

Market Day pickup (4-6 p.m.)

**5** Grade 5 pool party rain date  
Field day, grade 4 (10 a.m.-  
12:15 p.m.)

Field day, KG (1-3:15 p.m.)

**6** Field day, grade 5 (10 a.m.-  
12:15 p.m.)

Field day, grade 2 (1:10-3:25 p.m.)

**7** Field day, grade 3 (10 a.m.-  
12:15 p.m.)

Field day, grade 1 (1-3:15 p.m.)

**8** PTA family movie night  
(7:30 p.m.)

**11** Awards assembly (9:30-11 a.m.)

**13** Grade 2 picnic (12:30-3 p.m.)  
Kindergarten farewell (2:30 p.m.)

**15** Grade 1 picnic

Grade 3 picnic

Grade 4 picnic

**18** Schools dismiss 3 hours early

**19** Grade 5 Farewell (9:30 a.m.)

**Last day of school—schools  
dismiss 3 hours early**

### From The Principal's Desk

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.

I would like to thank 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.

### 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 23, at 5:15 p.m. A meeting for full-day kindergarten parents will begin at 4:45 p.m. on Thursday, August 23. The first day of school for students will be

Monday, August 27. Back-to-School Night will be held on Tuesday, September 18, at 7 p.m.

### **Special Events for Pine Grove Students**

We have scheduled several special events for students in June. The grade 5 swim trip will be held on Friday, June 1, at Pine Ridge Swim Club. The rain date is Tuesday, June 5. The spring choral concert will be held on June 4 at Loch Raven High School. The Kindergarten Farewell will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at 2:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. The Awards Assembly is on Monday, June 11, at 9:30 a.m. The Grade 5 Farewell is on Tuesday, June 19, at 9:30 a.m.

### **Spring Concert**

**When:** Monday, June 4, 2007  
6:30 p.m.—students arrive  
7 p.m.—concert begins

**Where:** Loch Raven High School auditorium

**Who:** Every student in grades 3, 4, and 5 and Madrigals and their families

**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. Third graders will bring straw hats!

The pleasure of your company is requested for an evening of beautiful choral music on Monday, June 4, at Loch Raven High School at 7 p.m. All of the students in grades 3, 4, and 5 and Madrigals have been working very hard to prepare for this exciting event! They are ready to entertain and amaze you as they perform challenging choral literature in two- part and three-part harmony and sing in foreign languages. Our musical stars will sing songs that are happy, sad, funny,

inspiring, beautiful, and powerful. We can't wait to share them with you. Concert letters and permission slips have been sent home. We'll see you there!

### **Vocal Music Notes**

Congratulations are in order for Pine Grove Elementary students who recently performed as members of select choral groups:

Jocelyn C., Jack M., Tyler G., and Rita H. performed in the Baltimore County Elementary Choral and Recorder Festival at Loch Raven High School on Saturday, April 21. Their performance was recorded and broadcast on the Education Channel (cable 73).

The Pine Grove Madrigals performed at a Choral Methods & Materials professional workshop for Maryland music educators on Saturday, May 12, and at a choral festival at Loch Raven High School on Tuesday evening, May 22. They received high praise for their challenging repertoire and musical artistry.

All of the students involved dedicated many hours to practicing before school with Mrs. Huggins in order to learn their parts, and all of them turned in magnificent performances. Bravo!

### **Pine Grove Student News**



The **prekindergarten students** are gearing up for the end of the school year and are very excited to become kindergartners! During our Changes unit, we are discussing how much we've changed since the beginning of the 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 their classroom; but they have been "Junior" First Graders as they practice speed drills and take 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 (June 13). They are designing special shirts inspired by Gary Gator to wear at the performance.

The **kindergarten students in K-3** have truly blossomed this spring! We have been reading and writing about life cycles. We planted sunflower seeds and are observing their growth. We made caterpillars and butterflies as we learned about metamorphosis. We are impatiently watching and observing our tadpoles as we wait for hind legs to grow! We visited the Baltimore Museum of Art and truly impressed museum staff with our knowledge and our Pine Grove behavior! We had great fun singing at the Volunteer Tea and can't wait to perform at the Kindergarten Farewell.

The "Extreme Tornado Mix" safe racer team from **Mrs. Shanahan's class** competed in the STEM Fair on Saturday, May 19. They showed great teamwork and problem solving at the Fair. The team received honorable mention at the awards assembly.

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

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

Grade 1: Brandon Smith, Mateo Ndoci, and Carolyn Bosley

Grade 3: Mary Busha, Carly Okeson, Nick Retti, and Ally Trageser

### **Lunchtime Book Clubs**

Congratulations to the boys and girls who have participated in book clubs this year. These third and fourth graders read at home and came to school prepared to discuss a book during their lunch period each week. They have displayed a great deal of responsibility and a love of reading by participating in this optional, extra credit activity.

Third Grade Book Club Members:  
Dustin R., Danielle A., Holly F., Ryan P., Alex H., Alyssa D., Amber W., Mina L., Victoria K., Carly O., Morgan S., Eleni P., August L., Brett S., Katie L., Minji P., Justin B., Allison T., Mikaela R., Mary B., and Elaina T.

Fourth Grade Book Club Members:  
Matt S., Chris J., Alison B., Paige A., Noah J., Bethany M., Ruth B., Casey G., Connor B., Madison G., Shawn B., Emilie F., Sophia M., Natalie P., Allison K., Ola A., Hannah G., Thea N., Seihee J., Ambriel B., Yelee K., Emily T., Samuel R., Michael R., Alan J., Na'im K., and Katie C.

A special note of thanks is extended to our parent volunteers in this program: Mrs. Garcia, Mrs. Hamel, Mrs. Fitch, Mrs. Landry, Mrs. Riefner, Mrs. Burton, Mrs. Brennan, Mrs. Goonan, and Mrs. Patrick. These mothers have enthusiastically facilitated book club discussions this year. Mrs. Semesky, Reading Specialist

### **Field Day**

Field day is fast approaching. We are in need of volunteers for each grade level. Please send in your yellow paper today! See Mrs. Davis if you need another paper or to answer any questions you might have.

### **Awards for Excellence**

We would like to congratulate Joanna Ambridge, our school librarian, for winning an Award of Excellence in Education from Baltimore County Public Schools and the Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce.

### **School Attire**

As we get closer to the last day of school, the weather should be getting warmer. Please remember our school dress code:

- **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.

### **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. Any

items not claimed by the last week of school will be donated.

### **Free Supplies from Office Depot**

Office Depot is Taking Care of Education in 2007 by providing the essential tools and supplies that students need to be successful in the classroom, plus programs and services that benefit our school and teachers. Every time parents, students, and school supporters give Pine Grove Elementary's 5% Back to Schools ID number when buying qualifying school supplies at Office Depot, Pine Grove Elementary receives credits equal to 5 percent of the qualifying purchases to use for free supplies. The 5% Back to Schools ID number for Pine Grove Elementary is 70046120.