



Pine Grove Elementary School May Newsletter, 2017

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday, May 1—Friday, May 5
Teacher Appreciation Week

Thursday, May 4
Very Special Arts Festival
Ms. Kenny's and Mrs. Fitzgerald's Classes

Friday, May 5
Grade 1 Trip to MD Science Center
O's Game, 7:05 p.m.

Monday, May 8
Pre-K and Kindergarten Conference Day
No School for Pre-K or Kindergarten Students

Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.
Grade 4 Chorus & Grades 4 & 5 Recorder Club

Tuesday, May 9
Pre-K Conference Day—No School for Pre-K

Thursday, May 18
Spring Concert, 7:00 p.m.
Grade 5 Instrumental Music

Monday, May 29
Memorial Day—Schools and Offices Closed

Wednesday, May 31
Young Authors' Tea, 2:15 p.m.

Field Days and Class Picnics

Tuesday, June 6
Grade 3 and Ms. Kenny's Class
10:15 – 12:00 Field Day; 12:30 – 3:00 Class Picnic

Grade 1 and Mrs. Fitzgerald's Class
11:00 – 1:00 Class Picnic; 1:15 - 3:00 Field Day

Wednesday, June 7
Grade 4
10:15 - 12:00 Field Day; 12:30 – 3:00 Class Picnic

Kindergarten
11:30 – 1:00 Class Picnic; 1:15 - 3:00 Field Day

Thursday, June 8
Grade 5
10:15 - 12:00 Field Day; 12:30 – 2:00 Class Picnic
2:00 – 3:00 Yearbook Signing

Grade 2
11:00 – 1:00 Class Picnic; 1:15 - 3:00 Field Day

Friday, June 9
Grade 5 Farewell Ceremony, 9:30 a.m.
Last Day of Classes for Pre-K Students

Monday, June 12
3 Hour Early Dismissal, 12:45 p.m.

Tuesday, June 13
3 Hour Early Dismissal, 12:45 p.m.—Last Day!

RESIDENCY RE-VERIFICATION FOR GRADE 5 STUDENTS

Baltimore County Public Schools' policy requires that all students transitioning from Grade 5 to Grade 6 and Grade 8 to Grade 9 verify residency prior to the start of the school year. Provisions for student enrollment and attendance are outlined in Board of Education Policy and Superintendent's Rule 5150, *STUDENTS: Enrollment and Attendance*. A copy of Policy and Rule 5150 can be obtained by accessing the link: http://www.bcps.org/system/policies_rules/5000toc.htm or by requesting a copy from the school.



Verification of residency requires at least five (5) documents from the parent/guardian: (1) photo identification; (2) one of the following documents providing proof of domicile: deed or lease, title, mortgage coupon book, real estate tax bill or receipt; **AND** three (3) pieces of business mail or documentation dated within sixty (60) days of the date submitted. All documents must reflect the same address.

For your convenience, PGE school personnel are available daily to verify residency. **All paperwork is due at Pine Grove Elementary by June 2, 2017. Please be advised that failure to provide transition year residency verification will result in the withdrawal of your child.** Thank you for your cooperation in updating your residency to ensure compliance with Board Policy and Superintendent's Rule 5150 and a smooth transition to middle school.

SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT REMINDERS

To help promote a safe environment conducive to learning, we remind parents and students that certain items should be kept safely at home:

- Toys, spinners, and Pokemon cards are distracting to learning and should not be brought to school.
- Cell phones are not permitted to be on or in sight at any time during the school day (including dismissal and bus rides). All cell phones must stay inside backpacks, inside lockers. We are not responsible for the loss of electronic equipment that students bring to school. Any cell phones out during the school day will be kept in the office until picked-up by a parent.

DRESSING FOR SUCCESS

As warm weather arrives, it is a good idea to review appropriate school attire with students. It is important that students select clothes that are appropriate for an academic learning environment. Clothing should be modest and not reveal any undergarments. Midriffs may not be exposed. **Flip flops and slides without a back strap are not allowed because they are not safe.** Athletic shorts are fine if they are long enough to appropriately cover the student when sitting or bending. Spaghetti strap tank tops, low cut shirts, and shirts with inappropriate language or images are not allowed. Clothing should not be a distraction to students' learning. Thank you for helping students select appropriate warm weather attire.



SPRING CONCERTS

The **Grade 4 Chorus and Grades 4 and 5 Recorder Club** Concert is May 8 at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. Students should arrive at 6:30 p.m.

The **Grade 5 Instrumental Concert** is May 18 at 7:00 p.m. Band and Orchestra students should arrive at 6:30 p.m. Students should dress nicely (no jeans, t-shirts or sneakers). Additional information will be provided to students by Ms. Arnold, vocal music, and Mr. Messinger, instrumental music.



STACEY CROWL GREEN SCHOOL CLUB

Earth Day Recap: Wow, our Earth Day celebrations were a big hit! We kicked it off with a waste-free Wednesday lunch. Tuesday we had 179.5 lbs. of trash and Wednesday we only had 137.75 lbs. And yes, we know kindergarten was out on a field trip Wednesday, but Tuesday's average per class was about 30 lbs. and Wednesday's average was 27.6 lbs. So while not a huge difference, this is a celebration for our first time! Maybe if we have more of these days, we can have a bigger impact. The Stacey Crawl PGE Green School Club logo contest brought in over 75 entries. Students and staff will soon be voting on their favorite! Mrs. Berkey filled her van with recycled grocery bags to drop off for proper recycling. Then, the week came to an end with students and teachers wearing blue and green. Thank you for celebrating our earth! We look forward to continuing our Green School initiatives year round.



YOUNG AUTHORS' TEA

We are privileged to have some very talented writers at Pine Grove Elementary. This year we had thirty-seven students submit short stories and poems to the Baltimore County Young Author's Contest. Congratulations to Newell G., Angel I., and Ellie A. All three girls won in the poetry category at their prospective grade levels. What a great accomplishment! In addition, all grade levels were encouraged to participate in the Pine Grove Writing Project. This is an at-home creative writing assignment. Two students from each classroom were selected to share their work on the morning announcements.

On Tuesday, May 31, 2017 from 2:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. all students who participated in the Young Author's contest as well as selected students who participated in the Pine Grove Writing project will be honored for their work. Invitations will be sent home for this event and each student is encouraged to bring one adult guest.

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

May 1 - 7 is Children's Mental Health Awareness Week in Maryland. The term *mental health* refers to a person's overall behavioral, emotional, and psychological well-being. Mental health impacts how we think, feel, and act, including how a child feels about himself/herself, relates to other children and adults, and handles change, stress and other life situations. One in five children may experience a mental, emotional or behavioral health problem before age 18. These problems affect children of all demographic groups, regardless of education, income, race or culture.

This week students will be learning things to help themselves and others feel better when they are sad, worried, angry, or scared. To learn more about the signs and symptoms of mental health problems and resources for help, contact your Children's Mental Health Matters School Coordinator, Tina Kubala, your pediatrician, or go to www.ChildrensMentalHealthMatters.org.

SCREENAGERS SCREENING—GROWING UP IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Parents, students, and staff are invited to attend a free showing of the critically-acclaimed documentary "Screenagers – Growing Up in the Digital Age" at one of three locations around the county. The film examines the amount of time young people spend on their digital devices and what they are doing on the devices. The film also looks at topics including social media, video games, academics, and internet addiction. More information about the film can be found at <https://www.screenagersmovie.com/>. **When-** Tuesday, May 2, 2017, starting at 6:30 p.m. **Where-** The movie will be shown at three locations:

- Catonsville High School, 421 Bloomsbury Ave., Catonsville 21228
- Dundalk/Sollers Point Technical High Schools, 1901 Delvale Ave., Dundalk 21222
- Towson High School, 69 Cedar Ave., Towson 21286

PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR

Are you planning to move? Will your child go to a different school for the 2017—2018 school year? If the answer is yes, please contact the office at 410-887-5267 as soon as possible. This information will assist us as we plan next year's grade level organizations. Teachers and administrators are working together to form class groupings for next year. Students' current teachers know them best and provide input into creating classes that best meet students' academic and developmental needs. Balanced classes are formed based on a variety of factors including classroom performance, achievement data, learning styles, and social and emotional characteristics. We also try to balance the number of boys and girls in classes. Due to the number of factors that are involved in creating class groupings, we are unable to place students based on parent requests. Thank you for understanding and honoring the many factors that are considered when assigning students to homeroom classes.

APPRECIATION

We would like to thank all of our parent volunteers this year who have enriched our school year and made it memorable for students. The Volunteer Tea held in April was merely a small gesture of appreciation for sharing your time and talent so generously. Special honors go out to our fifth grade parent volunteers, Christina Pumphrey and Dawn Gregory, who have donated hundreds of volunteer hours over the years that their children spent at PGE. You have had a positive impact on all of us. Thank you!

We celebrate *Teacher Appreciate Week* in May and we would like to thank ALL of our teachers and staff! We appreciate their hard work and effort as they willingly go above and beyond and are truly dedicated to our students and families! We also send out a very special thank you to our wonderful PTA for supporting our teachers and planning special teacher treats. Your efforts are truly enjoyed by all!

Finally, Happy Mother's Day to all of our PGE moms who send us their wonderful children each day. Thank you!

VISUAL ARTS CAMP

The Baltimore County Summer Visual Arts Enrichment Program will be held on Monday, July 10, 2017, through Friday, July 21, 2017, from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Perry Hall High School. The cost to attend camp is \$375 per student. This two-week camp provides opportunities for students in Grades 3 through 12 to build their personal art skills and add to their art portfolios. The theme of the 2017 camp is *Inside/Outside*. A variety of courses will be offered to meet the varied needs and interests of students, whether seeking to improve their art skills or preparing a portfolio for acceptance into a magnet program, entrance into a college program, or preparation for an advanced placement exam. The brochure and application are located at http://www.bcps.org/academics/va/summer_art_EP.html.

BCPS SUMMER ENRICHMENT MUSIC AND DANCE CAMP

Registration for the Summer Music Camp will continue through Friday, May 12, 2017. This day camp is designed for BCPS students currently in Grades 5 through 12 who are enrolled in their school's music programs. At camp, students will participate in a band, chorus, guitar, or orchestra at the appropriate grade level. In addition to large group rehearsals, students will participate in enrichment classes and receive instruction to enhance their music performance skills. All of the musical ensembles will perform at a public concert in the outdoor amphitheater at Oregon Ridge Park on the evening of Thursday, June 29, 2017. All BCPS students currently enrolled in their school's band, chorus, guitar, or orchestra are invited to participate. The fee for this unique summer musical experience is \$200. Transportation to and from Perry Hall High School will be provided at no additional charge to students who do not reside in the host school community. See the attached [registration form](#). For more information or a registration form, contact your music teachers in Grades 5 through 12, or visit the Office of Music and Dance Education's Web page at http://www.bcps.org/offices/elem_music/default.html.

UPCOMING PTA EVENTS

PGE NIGHT AT THE YARD

When: Friday, May 5

Time: 7:05 p.m.

Where: Oriole Park at
Camden Yards



Why: Cheer on the O's vs. the White Sox

Buy your tickets online now at:

http://purchase.tickets.com/buy/MLBEventInfo?pid=8389481&agency=ORLV_B2B67

QUARTER AUCTION

When: Saturday, May 13

Time: Starts at 7:00 p.m.
Doors Open at 6:30 p.m.

Where: Parkville Rec Center
8601 Harford Road,
Parkville, MD 21234

Why: Support the PTA and Have
Fun Bidding on Great Theme
Baskets!