

Pine Grove Elementary School Newsletter

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November 2018

Dates to Remember

Tuesday, November 6

Election Day – Schools and Offices Closed

Wednesday, November 7

Picture Day Makeups and Retakes

Grade 2 Field Trip to Herr's Snack Factory, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 8

Kindergarten Field Trip to Maryland Zoo, 9:30 a.m. – 1:45 p.m.

Friday, November 9

End of First Marking Period – Schools Close 3 Hours Early – PGE Dismisses at 12:50 p.m.

Monday, November 12 – Friday, November 16

American Education Week

Monday, November 12

PTA Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 14

Grade 4 Trip to Camp Puh'tok, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 22 – Friday, November 23

Thanksgiving Holiday – Schools and Offices Closed

Monday, November 26

Report Cards Distributed

Thursday, November 29

Pre-Kindergarten Conference Day – No Pre-Kindergarten Classes

Grade 5 Bio Blitz/Cromwell Valley Field Trip, 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Friday, November 30

Elementary Conference Day – Elementary Schools Closed

OPEN DOOR™
Before and After School Care

Open Door is **Closed**
Monday, November 5 both
BEFORE and **AFTER**
school. Also closed
Tuesday, November 6.



American Education Week

The students, teachers, and staff of Pine Grove Elementary School invite you to visit during American Education Week. The times below are designated for each grade with lessons that will highlight your child’s instructional program. If these times are inconvenient, you may join us at any time during the week. Due to limited space in the cafeteria, we ask that parents and grandparents do not join their students for lunch.

On Friday, November 16 during the Grandparents’ visit, the PTA is preparing gift bags with pencils and school store items for sale, just \$3. Kindly bring cash if interested in purchasing for your student.

Come see why PGE is a great place to learn!

Monday, November 12	Tuesday, November 13	Wednesday, November 14	Thursday, November 15	Friday, November 16
9:30-11:00 Mrs. Fitzgerald Morning PreK	9:30 – 11:00 Grades 1 and 5	9:30 – 11:00 Mrs. Kenny Kindergarten	9:30 – 11:00 Grade 4	9:45 – 10:15 Grandparents’ Welcome in Cafeteria
1:30 – 3:00 Grade 2 Afternoon PreK		1:30 - 3:00 Grade 3		10:15 – 11:15 Grandparent Class Visits

How We Teach and Learn

The [How We Teach and Learn](http://www.bcps.org) section of the BCPS website can be accessed from <http://www.bcps.org> under *Academic Focus*. *How We Teach and Learn* begins with our “why,” which is preparing every student to graduate with not only a diploma, but also a resume.

- *Our “Gift with Purchase”* points parents to information about resume-building opportunities during high school, including earning college credits, an industry credential, and work experiences.
- What we mean by *Literacy and Climate* is explained through a show and tell approach.
- *What Learning Looks Like* shares our expectations about engaging learning experiences both inside and outside of the classroom.
- The sidebar highlights the information that parents can access through BCPS One.
- The *Devices* section explains how we keep students safe online, our supports for technology, the process for secondary students to take their device home, and how the new devices were chosen. The sidebar in this section highlights the resources in *Growing Up Digital*.
- *How We Began with Student Devices* includes our Lighthouse blog, which is now an archive of reflections from 2014-2018, and the S.T.A.T. evaluation page.



Nurse’s Notes

This year, like most years, several cases of head lice have been found in school. Having head lice is not a sign of poor hygiene or uncleanliness, anyone can get head lice.

The most common ways of getting head lice are by sharing hats, brushes, combs, sleeping bags, and from contact with upholstered furniture.

Head lice are parasitic insects found on human heads. Adult head lice are hard to see as they shy away from lights and move quickly. They are gray or brown in color about the size of a sesame seed. Their eggs are called nits and are much easier to see as they are tan or off white and firmly attached to hair shafts. The life cycle of head lice starts with the nit, they hatch in 7-10 days, are mature 8-14 days after hatching and live about one month. Head lice do not fly or jump, they do not come from or live on animals.

If live head lice are found, the child should be treated. If one person in a family has head lice, it is possible that others have it as well. Remove all nits and clean all things the person with lice has used or worn the past two days. Talk with your doctor or pharmacist for treatment options. Some treatments need to be repeated in 10 days. Do not treat a child more than twice without your doctor's advice.

If your student gets head lice, notify the parents of your child's close friends so they can be screened. Remove all nits. Teach your child to avoid behaviors that increase the risk of contracting head lice, such as head to head contact during play and sharing clothing, brushes, combs and towels. Any questions feel free to contact the Baltimore County Department of Health at 410-887-2718 or the school nurse, Kelly Franker RN at 410-887-5449.

The Stacey Crowl PGE Green School Club

Last year, several grade four students made a video request to Engineering and Tech students at Hereford High School to design and build a Little Free Library for PGE. The Hereford students took into consideration our students' design suggestions and used left-over materials from their classroom to construct a library. By the end of the school year, our library was delivered. The library currently sits in our lobby. We encourage students to take a book to enjoy for reading at home. And, to go along with our green initiative, students may drop off an old book to the library for someone else to relish.



Applications for The Stacey Crowl PGE Green School Club are due Wednesday, November 7. Mrs. Berkey and Mrs. Spencer will review applications and invite selected students to join the club. Notifications and club details will be sent home by November 14. Our first session will be held Wednesday, November 21 from 3:50 – 4:50 p.m. BCPS transportation is not offered; therefore, students will need an adult to pick them up from school promptly at 4:50 p.m.

Making the Makerspace

Empathise	Define	Ideate	Prototype	Test	A photograph showing several students in a makerspace. They are gathered around a table, looking at a project. One student is holding a long object, possibly a prototype. There are various materials and tools on the table.
An icon showing two human heads in profile, one overlapping the other, representing empathy.	An icon of a target with an arrow hitting the bullseye, representing defining a goal.	An icon of a lit lightbulb, representing ideation.	An icon of a rolled-up document or blueprint, representing prototyping.	An icon of a clipboard with a checklist, representing testing.	

As shared during Back-to-School Night, PGE was awarded a \$3000 grant from the BCPS Education Foundation and Open Door. The grant focuses on the instructional 21st Century Theme of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM). New this year, we have dedicated a learning area (Cottage #4) to hold maker classes. Makerspace is offered to some classes as a special area resource. Additionally, all kindergarten – fifth grade classes will be invited to explore maker challenges. Using the Design Thinking process, teachers will plan lessons that support core subjects. Highly interactive lessons, with sustainable materials and resources provided through this grant will allow for access to world-class first instruction and high-quality education lessons as outlined in BCPS Blueprint 2.0.



Some of the great, new tools we have added to the maker learning space include Code and Go Robot Mouse sets, Legos, Lego Early Simple Machines, and 3D Doodlers. In addition, we already have Makey Makey, Makedo Cardboard Construction sets, and a 3D printer. We can always use materials listed below from your homes to upcycle in our maker challenges. Please send in the items with a note for Mrs. Spencer and the makerspace.

* Empty toilet paper or paper towel rolls * Tape (masking, duct, electrical, washi, packing) * Play-Doh * Pipe cleaners * Ribbon/yarn/string *

PGE Announced as an Elementary AVID School

Baltimore County Public Schools is expanding its Schoolwide [AVID](#) College Readiness System to 10 additional elementary schools, beginning in the 2019 – 2020 school year. This school year [BCPS offers AVID](#), which stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination, in 22 high schools, three alternative schools, 19 middle schools, and one elementary school (Holabird).

“Through AVID — students throughout a school gain effective academic habits and practice higher-level thinking that will prepare them for later success,” said Interim Superintendent Verletta White. “We are very excited to bring the AVID model to 10 more of our elementary schools located across the county.”



PGE is honored to be selected as an AVID school for the 2019 – 2020 school year. We will begin orientation activities this school year.

According to Dr. Heather Wooldridge, BCPS coordinator of College and Career Readiness, the school system is expanding AVID at the elementary level to provide more students with a stronger foundation for later grades. “Through AVID,” Dr. Wooldridge said, “BCPS elementary students will learn age-appropriate organization, study, and communication skills. They will learn to take structured notes and to ask and answer analytical questions. Elementary schools participating in AVID also will immerse students in opportunities to explore college and career plans.”

In Baltimore County schools, at the secondary level, data indicates that AVID improves attendance, increases student participation in highly rigorous courses (such as gifted and talented, honors, International Baccalaureate, and

Advanced Placement), increases PSAT participation, and increases High School Assessment pass rates – in algebra, biology, government, and English.

Counselor's Corner

In November students will learn conflict resolution strategies in the School Counseling Core Curriculum. Conflicts can happen daily, and it is important that you help your child learn how to problem solve to enhance academic success. See the visual below, *5 Steps to Help Kids Resolve Conflicts*, to review the conflict resolution strategies students are learning in school.

All fifth graders received a Magnet Program Brochure in September. The purpose of Magnet programs is to enhance students' educational experiences and academic performance by providing unique learning environments, innovative instructional programs, and specialized programs of study and/or experiences that extend and enrich the existing BCPS curricula, promote student diversity, and align with evolving community and industry/business needs.

Applications for the 2019 – 2020 school year are available at

https://dci.bcps.org/department/innovative_learning/educational_options/magnet_programs

Applications must be submitted by Friday, November 16, 2018.

