Empowering with Audacity

PRINCIPAL’S MESSAGE

Happy November, Pine Grove Pandas!

It’s hard to believe that we are already through the first quarter of school. This month, we will celebrate American Education Week (AEW)…and in-person! American Education Week is November 14th – 18th. We are very excited to have parents visit their children in school and observe our rigorous instructional program. Grandparents are welcome as well, but please keep in mind that non-school aged children are discouraged from attending. This year we are asking parents to pre-register for the grade-level session you plan to attend, and stop in prior to AEW to scan your state-issued ID. This will allow us to have a pre-printed badge ready for you on your visitation day. Further information regarding AEW will be forthcoming. While visiting, please check the PGES Lost and Found.

I look forward to seeing you all!

The classroom visitation schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classroom</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Kindergarten</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 15</td>
<td>9:30-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wednesday, November 16</td>
<td>1:30-3:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kindergarten</td>
<td>Tuesday, November 15</td>
<td>9:30-11:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Thursday, November 17</td>
<td>9:30-11:00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PHONE NUMBER CHANGE

Families, please note that our phone number has changed to 443-809-5267. For some time, our old number, 410-887-5267 was being forwarded to the new number. That has since discontinued. Please use the new number when contacting the school.

CARPOOL

Parents, please take note of the Right Turn Only sign at the carpool exit. There are no right turns out of the carpool lane from 8:00-9:30 am and 3:00-4:30 pm. When cars attempt to make left turns during these times, it backs up the carpool line. We appreciate your assistance with helping our carpool to run smoothly.

AVID NEWS

Pine Grove Elementary continues to be an AVID school. AVID stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. Its purpose is to shift schools to a more equitable, student-centered approach and close the opportunity gap, so that all students are prepared for college, careers, and life. Our AVID schoolwide initiatives include color coding, desk organization, and Costa’s Level of Questioning. This year, we are adding focused notetaking.
SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL WELLNESS

During overwhelming times in our life, it is important to find ways to relax and cope. Linked below is a virtual calming room, which is a space for students, families, and staff to find tools and strategies for managing emotions and feelings. Enjoy and take some time for yourself!

https://scs.bcps.org/cms/one.aspx?pageId=69240670

COUNSELOR’S CORNER

As part of our School Counseling Program, your child’s class will have the opportunity to engage in a counseling core curriculum lesson during the month of November. The theme for this month is Relationship Skills. Students in both primary and intermediate grades will identify and reflect upon concrete social and communication skills that will enrich their close relationships with family and friends. Fifth grade will incorporate a discussion around peer pressure and how to respond to being peer pressured.

GRADE-LEVEL NEWS

PRE-K

Thank you to our wonderful PTA for putting together an awesome Fun Run!

Our students are hard at work! We are learning about the importance of letters and words by learning a new Alphabet Song, identifying and counting letters in our name, counting words in a sentence, and learning the names/sounds of letters! The students are learning many valuable reading skills like identifying parts of a book, as well as retelling stories by identifying characters, setting, problem, and solution. In Math, our Pre-K friends are working on counting objects using new strategies and comparing groups of objects to determine more/fewer/equal. Way to go, Pre-K!

KINDERGARTEN

Warm November Greetings from the Kindergarten team! We have had an exciting month as we welcomed Mrs. Webb, the new Kindergarten teacher to our team! She has brightened our school and we are happy to have her as part of our school family!

Our month was filled with exciting learning including our first letter sound, Ss, and introducing many new sight words including the, and, go, had, he, I, see. Our reading was enriched with our essential question which was “What makes a place special?” We explored informational texts as well as realistic fiction texts. Both types of texts were built around our essential question and gave us a deeper meaning on places that we find special. In Math, we continued practice with writing numerals to 10 and identifying and labeling patterns.
October was a busy month not only filled with learning but extracurricular activities as well! We had our first Fun Run where classes raised money for our school. We also had our first family game night which welcomed our Pre-K and K families in the community to meet one another.

We thank you October for bringing us great memories in Kindergarten! Time to look forward to November including American Education week, parent teacher conferences, and Thanksgiving!

1st

This month in Language Arts, first graders will read informational texts, write an informational book, and learn about plants and animals. In Math, they will add, subtract, count and compare. In Science, they will learn about the behaviors and parts of living things.

2nd

Second grade is starting November off by launching the new Reading unit with the essential question: “What patterns do you see in nature?” During this Reading unit, students will read both informational and fictional text. In Math, learners are discussing place value of two- and three-digit numbers and exploring with measurement. We continue to discuss the diversity of the regions of the United States and develop students understanding of our government at the federal, state, and local levels. This learning has perfectly fit with Election Day accruing this month. The second-grade teachers are looking forwarding to seeing parents during American Education week and meeting for conferences later this month.

3rd

The theme of third grade so far has been hard work! In ELA, third graders have started a new unit on animal and plant interactions. Students are reading informational texts and working on the following skills: determining main idea, identifying problem/solution, and studying cause and effect relationships. In Math, third graders have just begun Unit 3 where they are rounding numbers, and also adding and subtracting two- and three-digit numbers. In Science, students are working hard as environmental engineers to help Murray the Mayfly survive in his ecosystem.

4th

We had a fantastic field trip to Camp Puh’Tok! Students participated in hands-on stations to learn all about Native American culture. Students played Native American games, listened to and created Native American stories, used Native American tools, and learned all about Native American life. It was an amazing trip, and we are so grateful for the support of the 4th grade families who were station leaders and chaperones. We would not have been able to have such a successful and fun day without you!
We are beginning our second unit in ELA which is an author study of Kate DiCamillo. Be sure to ask your student what they are reading in school to hear all about the amazing novels we will be exploring over the next several weeks.

5th

Fifth graders continue to get prepared for middle school. We are encouraging students to take responsibility for their learning by checking planners and Schoology grades regularly. This will help them stay on top of homework and classwork assignments.

As we enter the second quarter, in ELA students will begin the American Revolution unit. They also will study the American Revolution in Social Studies. The next unit in standard Math will be on place value and decimals. In advanced Math, students will study unit rates and percentages.

Parents should monitor their email for information on the virtual parent pre-view session of the puberty lessons taught as part of fifth grade health which will be held Dec 8th at 4:20 pm.

Ms. O’Keefe’s CLS Class-

In Ms. O'Keefe's class, we have been working on a unit called "Taking Care of Me" during life skills. Throughout this unit, we have discussed topics such as healthy habits, washing our hands and how to brush our teeth. The students have also been working on a space unit and being a kind friend in class.

Mrs. Ryan’s CLS Class-

The students have been working on being mindful and thankful for this month. The students are working on a space unit as well.

Mrs. Bittner KCLS Class-

The students have been working on prepositional words and talking about fairy tale stories. Mrs. Bittner has been reviewing classroom routines as well as social skills.

All three classes are consistently reviewing classroom routines and social skills each day.
LIBRARY

This month in the Library, students in Kindergarten and First Grade learned about their digital world and how to interact safely when using the internet. Second graders evaluated BCPS Databases and websites to see if they were a just right fit for them. Third through fifth graders completed their Digital Citizenship units with designing a fun and friendly game, writing a short comic to help prevent cyberbullying, and making a schedule to balance their media, hobby, sports, family, and friend time. Many students had an opportunity to experience Makerspace during Library class this past week. We read a story and visited stations to create or build with items on hand in the library. Please continue to read with your child and encourage them to locate “just right” books for them while visiting the Library. All the students are doing an amazing job taking care of their books and returning them on time.

VOCAL MUSIC

In Mr. Pugh's Music class, students have been using movement and Music to sing songs about events in November. As they learn songs, they also learn sign language to go with the words we are singing! Ask your child to show some signs they have learned such as "apple," "tree," "leaves," and the colors of the falling leaves. Get ready for them to learn signs for their favorite Thanksgiving dinner foods as we sing our November songs! Students are also learning how to organize notes on a Music staff by using the time signature to figure out where bar lines are placed!

DATES TO REMEMBER

Friday, November 4 – Magnet Application Deadline, First Marking Period Ends, School Closes at 1 pm
Tuesday, November 8 – Schools Closed for Election Day
Monday, November 14 - Friday, November 18 – American Education Week
Tuesday, November 15 – PTA Meeting 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Friday, November 18 – PTA Sponsored Panda Pajama Jam (Intermediate Grades)
Monday, November 21 – Pre-K and Elementary Conference Day, No School for Students
Tuesday, November 22 – Pre-K Conference Day, No School for Pre-K Students
Wednesday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Holiday Begins – Schools and Offices Close 3 Hours Early – PGES Closes at 1 pm
Thursday, November 24 - Friday, November 25 – Schools and Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday
FOOD AND NUTRITION
Would you like to be more involved with your student’s spending in the Cafeteria? Would you like to pay off your negative balance and prevent future ones? Sign up for www.MySchoolBucks.com! By creating your free MySchoolBucks account, you can conveniently view your student’s Cafeteria purchases, check their balance, limit their spending, set automatic notifications, set up automatic payments, and make secure payments! There is a fee to fund the account online. However, you can take advantage of all these features, and fund your account for free, with cash or a check at your student’s school.

If you haven’t already, please complete the Free and Reduced Meal Application, to qualify for free meals. MySchoolApps - Getting Started
School Payments Simplified

Pay for Meals and Snacks!
www.MySchoolBucks.com

OFFICE OF
FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICES
BALTIMORE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Travel with Pine Grove Elementary as we invite you to...

**Reading is a Journey**

Open House Family Night

Join us for a night full of literacy and fun!

This evening will provide you with great ideas, tools, and ways to promote reading at home for your child.

**When:** Tuesday, December 6, 2022

**Where:** Pine Grove Elementary

**Time:** 5:30pm-6:30pm

**Additional Information:** BOOK FAIR will be open for shopping 5:00pm-7:00pm

Scan the QR code and it will lead you to the sign up form to reserve your spot at this event!