



Pinewood Elementary School

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School website : pw.deltasd.bc.ca

Principal: Mr. J. Hope

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May 1, 2017



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Once again, this is the time of year when schools are looking at the amount of staffing required and planning for the next school year. As a District, Delta is expecting a slight increase in the number of students and this will impact schools throughout the District. At Pinewood Elementary, our numbers look very stable and may even go up as a result of a variety of factors including but not limited to new students moving in, change to class size and composition, and students coming from outside our catchment. This is only a projection at this time and things can change between now and September. It is extremely important that our numbers be as accurate as possible and, therefore, I would ask again for families who will be moving out of our area to contact the school as soon as possible with this information. Similarly, if you know of a family moving into our area, please encourage them to register their children by **Friday, June 2** to secure their placement at Pinewood Elementary.



As we plan for the 2017-18 school year I would like to make families aware of some of the many factors that are important in organizing classes for next year.

STAFFING AND CLASS SIZE:

The number of staff members assigned to Pinewood is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment estimates and class size guidelines affect the configuration of classes. The class size limit for next year is 20 for Kindergarten, 22 for Grades 1-3, 24 for combined 3/4 and 29 for Grades 4-7. Combined (split) classes are an organizational necessity based on student numbers. Research indicates that multi-age groupings provide very positive learning environments for children. Studies show that children in multi-age classes learn to become more independent, responsible learners and develop a greater degree of social responsibility. Achievement levels of these students are as good as, or better than, the achievement levels of students placed in single grade classrooms. The diversity of abilities and interests of students in straight classes can be equally as great as the range in combined classes; not all kids of the same chronological age are at the same stage of development or of their learning.

CRITERIA FOR STUDENT PLACEMENT:

Assigning students to particular classes is a very complex task that takes into consideration a variety of factors including: learning styles and strengths, what a student is able to achieve in relation to the goals of the curriculum, degree of independence in work habits, social and personal needs, age and physical maturity, previous placements, gender, number of ELL and Special Needs students, and parental insight. The professional staff, including teachers, support staff, and administrators are in contact with the children in the school setting for 30 hours a week. Therefore, the classroom placement of students must be determined through school-based professional evaluations. Our objective is to create balanced classes based on intellectual and social/emotional/behavioural development as well as gender, peer support, and other needs. I fully trust that our Pinewood teachers have an excellent understanding of the academic, behavioural, and social needs of the children in our school and therefore can best determine where individual children should be placed.

PARENT INPUT:

As our partners, we recognize that parents have important information that may assist with the placement of students. Parents are welcome to provide insight to the school about personal, educational, or social needs that could affect a child's placement. Our staff will keep in mind this information where possible, along with the above considerations, when building classes. This information should not include a request for placement with a particular teacher. Any requests received that request a specific teacher will not be considered. To offer this input, a downloadable form is available on the front page of the Pinewood website. When completed the form must be emailed to the principal at jhope@deltasd.bc.ca by May 31, 2017. **Input received after this date cannot be accommodated.**

Many factors, such as maternity leaves, retirements, and lay-offs, combine to make school staffing a changing and ongoing process. Also, staff members may change grade levels due to school needs or further professional growth. This may mean that your child could be placed with the same teacher for a second year or that your child could be in a combined class for two consecutive years. Whatever the scenario, we strive to place your child in a warm, caring environment that will maximize their learning

SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

PAC Fun Night – Friday, May 5

Our PAC-sponsored Family Fun Night is coming up on Friday, May 5. Wear your best superhero costume and join in the fun! Doors open at 4:30 pm and Bingo begins at 6:00 pm. There will be a cake walk, concession, bouncy castles, and many other fun activities for families and friends. Thanks to everyone who has committed their time to planning and running the event and a big thanks to our community for helping with donations and selling raffle tickets. It is a huge undertaking that provides many benefits to the students at Pinewood Elementary. See you there!



PAC Meeting – Tuesday, May 16



Our next PAC meeting will be on Tuesday, May 16 at 6:30 pm in the Library. Babysitting will be provided. It is the last PAC meeting for this school year and will incorporate the AGM (Annual General Meeting).

Parent Appreciation Tea – Thursday, May 25

Please book your calendars now for our Parent Appreciation Tea scheduled for Thursday, May 25 from 8:15 – 9:00 on the playground and Multi-Purpose Rm. Baked goods and drinks will be available for all. Have you helped out in the classroom? Driven on field trips? Or just been very supportive of Pinewood and your child's education? If so, we would love to have you attend!

Delta Parks & Rec - \$20 Pass

It's back! The \$20 Unlimited Child/Youth (up to 18 years of age) Summer Drop-In Pass is on sale at all Delta Rec Centres. Get your pass now for unlimited access all summer long for only \$20. Pass is valid June 29-Sept. 4, 2017. Visit Delta.ca for more info.



Dress Code



The school's Dress Code supports the general Code of Conduct but is more specific. When students come to school, they spend their day engaged in learning activities and should consider school as their place of work. Students should come to school appropriately dressed for their day. Students may not come to school wearing clothing with obscene, suggestive, or insulting words, pictures, or slogans on them. Hats are not to be worn inside the building, and students are asked to dress so that no underwear is visible. Strapless, low-cut, spaghetti straps, midriff-baring, or otherwise revealing outfits are not appropriate for school. Also, some clothing is more appropriate for recreational activities outside of school. For example, in warmer weather, students are often tempted to wear clothing that is better suited for the beach or pool deck. Students should come to school wearing safe, play-appropriate footwear (this is especially important on days they have P.E. class or are participating in athletic activities) but is practical for everyday because students play outside at recess and lunch times. Students who come to school wearing clothing that detracts from the learning environment will be asked to change or, if necessary, will be given clothing supplied by the school.

Track & Field Season

The Regional track meet will be held on Wednesday, May 10, rain or shine. We hope to have an excellent showing at the meet and be able to send a number of our students to the District track meet which will be held at SDSS on Thursday, May 18. Please come and cheer on our students. Congratulations to all the track and field athletes who have trained hard and will do a great job representing Pinewood Elementary at the track meets. A huge thank you to all the coaches who have made this year's track season a success: Mrs. Warnock, Ms. Furland, Ms. Haughian, Ms. Lachance, Mrs. Weger, Mrs. Buis, Mrs. Melan, Mrs. Roche, Mrs. Bains, Mrs. Loyla, Ms. Narwan, and Mr. Hope.



May Day Princess



We are pleased to announce Ellie B. in Grade 6 will represent Pinewood Elementary in Delta's 121st Annual Pioneer May Days Festivities. The celebrations will take place the evening of Tuesday, May 23. All of the Princesses are invited to participate in the May Days Parade on Sunday, May 28, followed by festivities held in Ladner Memorial Park.

Math Celebrations

Students from Grades 4 to 7 did a fantastic job representing Pinewood Elementary at the recent District Math Celebration. They were challenged to work as a team and solve math problems and puzzles. The following teams represented Pinewood: **Team Gr 4/5** – Jayla, Areeba, Jacqueline, and Veer; **Teams Gr 6/7** Aiden, Avery, Cam, Simran, Kelly, Soumil, Jovyn, and Katelyn. The students felt that it was a very exciting and successful day!



Building Security

Thank you for observing the expectations for visitors to enter the school during the school hours only via the front door and only after checking in at the office. It is imperative to school security that we know who is in the hallway during regular school hours.

ALL VISITORS
PLEASE
CHECK IN AT
FRONT OFFICE

SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION

The Indigenous Education Department would like to hear the voices of the families with Indigenous ancestry to hear your thoughts for the future of Indigenous Education in the Delta School District. This survey has 16 questions and should take approximately 10 minutes of your time. Your comments will be used to help us develop the Aboriginal Education Enhancement Agreement (AEEA) for the next 5 years.

If you complete the survey, your name will be entered into a draw for a mini Ipad to be drawn on May 31, 2017. More information on this will follow.

If you would prefer to answer the survey questions over the phone instead of electronically, we will be conducting phone surveys during the month of April after dinner. Someone from the Indigenous Advisory Committee will be calling for this purpose.

If you would prefer to get in touch with the Indigenous Education Department at a time that is more convenient to you, please call Diane Jubinville, District VP, Indigenous Education at 604-952-5058 or email: djubinville@deltasd.bc.ca. Here is the link for the survey: <https://goo.gl/forms/tA4cTiFLdKihHcVo1>

MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Bee Smart

Spring is here and so are the bees and wasps! Prevention of stings is the best approach. “Bee” aware of things that attract these insects and “bee” smart when enjoying the outdoors.

- Avoid bright clothing during bee season
- Wear shoes and long pants when walking through fields.
- Wear gloves when gardening
- Avoid use of perfume, hairspray, cosmetics, and scented soaps
- Avoid eating outdoors
- Wrap garbage to avoid attracting insects
- Close all garbage containers
- Have nests or hives removed
- Screen doors and windows
- When confronted with a stinging insect move away slowly



Move For Health

Making physical activity part of your day is fun AND healthy! Here are some ideas to move with your friends and family.

- Take stairs instead of elevator
- Take a walk after supper – and make the walk an **adventure**
- Play ball, ball hockey, soccer and go swimming
- Ride a bike or scooter
- Do yard work
- Carry the groceries
- Dance, dance, dance
- Leave the car at home when going on short trips



Skin Protection

How do I protect myself, and my children from the sun?

- ◆ Apply sunscreen 30 minutes before going in the sun
- ◆ Use sunscreen with 15 SPF (sun protection factor or higher)
- ◆ Wear a broad brimmed hat & sunglasses
- ◆ Seek shade between 11 am & 3 pm
- ◆ Do not expose babies less than one year of age to any intense direct sunlight

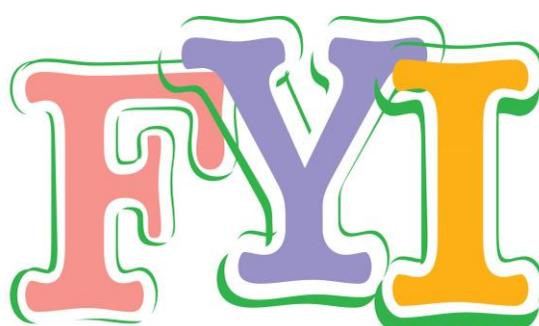


How do I protect myself, and my children from mosquitoes?

- ◆ Wear long pants and long sleeved shirts outdoors, when mosquitoes are most active
- ◆ Use mosquito repellents that are registered in Canada and contain Deet
- ◆ Deet in repellents should not exceed 30% for adults or 10% for children (2-12 years of age)
- ◆ Deet should not be used on children under six months of age
- ◆ Follow the directions on the label

CALENDAR REMINDERS

Monday, May 1	- "Flying Bob" performance – 9:15 - Gr. 7 Parent Info Mtg. re Camp – 6:00
Tuesday, May 2	- Div. 004 – Britannia Mines Museum – 9:00-3:00
Friday, May 5	- Hot Lunch - PW Fun Night!
Tuesday, May 9	- Provincial Election – Gym
Wednesday, May 10	- Regional "B" Track Meet – NDSS
Tuesday, May 16	- "Safeteen" Presentation for Gr 7 – 9:00-12:00 - Gr 6 Immunizations (catch-ups) - Starting With Stories for incoming Ks and their parents – 1:30-2:30
Wednesday, May 17	- Div. 001-002-003 – Playland – 8:30-3:00
Thursday, May 18	- District Track Meet – SDSS
Friday, May 19	- Pro-D Day – No School for Students
Monday, May 22	- Victoria Day – No School
Tuesday, May 23	- Starting With Stories for incoming Ks and their parents – 1:30-2:30
Wednesday, May 24 or Thursday, May 25	- Grade 7 and Hearing Resource Room Class Photos - Div. 011 – Crescent Beach – 11:00-2:45 (Wednesday or Thursday depending on the weather)
Thursday, May 25	- Parent Appreciation Tea – 8:15-9:00
Friday, May 26	- Hot Lunch
Monday, May 29 – Wednesday, May 31	- Camp Summit for Gr. 7s
Tuesday, May 30	- Starting with Stories and Open House for incoming Ks and their parents – 1:30-2:30



• FOR YOUR INFORMATION •