



Pinewood Elementary School

11777 Pinewood Drive Delta BC V4E 3E9
Phone: 604-590-3357 / Absentee Phone: 604-597-8557 / Fax: 604-497-4881

Office Hours: 8:30 am -3:30 pm

School website: pw.deltasd.bc.ca

Principal: Mr. J. Hope

Twitter @PinewoodDelta

September 1, 2017



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable summer. We at Pinewood look forward to reconnecting with our students and their families and hearing about the adventures they've had over the last two months. The kids are usually buzzing with excitement about seeing all their friends again and the prospect of learning new things. Some children may be feeling a little anxious about the return to school as there is a lot of uncertainty. If that is the case, remind your child about focusing on what is familiar and that they have learned the skills necessary to adapt to a new situation. To ease the students back into school they will reunite with their previous teachers and classmates while we settle our class configurations, placements, and staffing.

This process can take several days so please be patient while we ensure we set up the school to help our learners be as successful as possible. Because circumstances are changing daily, we are unable to provide any information at this point about where students may be placed. Be assured that many factors are considered by the teachers as they place their students in the next grade including, but not limited to, age, social connections, personality styles, learning styles, and interests. We will make every effort to get into our classes as soon as possible so that we can settle into another successful year of learning at Pinewood!

I look forward to seeing everyone on the 5th.

Sincerely,

Mr. J. Hope

SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

September 2017 Start-Up

School will re-open on Tuesday, September 5, 2017. The first days of a new school year are always an exciting time. Students and parents are anxious to find out which teacher(s) their child will work with and teachers are anxious to meet their students and begin teaching. Because of the uncertain nature of enrollment for September, students will remain in their last-year class groups and return to their last-year teacher for the first few days. This will give students and teachers an opportunity to reconnect with their classmates and teachers. **Parent input into class placement was received in the spring and additional requests cannot be accommodated at this time.** Thanks for your patience as we work through these initial days.



FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL: TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

Kindergarten: All new K students attend from 9:45 – 10:30 only. Line up at the front of the school by the Kindergarten doors.

Incoming Gr. 1: 8:52 am: Go to last year's Kindergarten class at the front of the school to re-connect with their last year's teacher. After 30 minutes they will move as a class to a different classroom with other staff members as our Kindergarten rooms will be used for incoming K students. Dismissal will be from the playground doors at 12:00.

Incoming Gr. 2-7: 8:52 am: Go to last year's teacher for the morning's instruction and the important task of determining our enrollment.

"New to Pinewood" students in Grades 1-7 will report to the Multi-Purpose Room at the front of the school before joining peers. All students will be dismissed at 12:00 from classroom doors or onto the back playground. Please make a meeting point outside of the building so students know where to find their families at dismissal.

DISMISSAL TIME IS 12:00 NOON **THERE WILL BE NO AFTERNOON CLASSES**

All school supplies will be required on the first day that children are moved to their permanent classroom – hopefully by the end of the first week. Students can bring a pen, pencil, and some paper for the first day or two. **Please label all of your child's belongings with their name, including clothing and footwear** (unless otherwise instructed by the teacher not to do so). It will be very important to label all of your child's clothing so that we are able to identify who it belongs to before it ends up in the Lost and Found. If your child has ordered Pharmasave school supplies they will be delivered the last week of August and distributed when students move to their new classrooms.

SECOND DAY OF SCHOOL: WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2017

Kindergarten: Follow the schedule given to you in June regarding what hours you will attend each day.

Grades 1 - 7: We resume our normal schedule with our bell schedule as follows:

8:52 am	First bell - students move to class
8:57 - 10:25	Instructional period
10:25 - 10:40	Recess
10:40 - 12:05	Instructional period
12:05 - 1:00	Lunch
1:00 - 3:00	Instructional period
3:00 pm	Dismissal



Staff Changes For September

We welcome the following staff members to our school:

Ms. A. Quan	- Kindergarten Teacher
Mrs. J. Sidhu	- Primary Teacher
Ms. S. Pheasey	- Intermediate Teacher
Ms. G. Grant	- Teacher-Librarian
Mrs. J. Kato	- Music/Band
Mr. K. Crawley	- Relief/Student Support



Absentees at the Beginning of September



If your child is going to be absent or arriving late, please send a note to the teacher via a sibling or friend informing the teacher of the absence or phone the school (604-597-8557). Please leave a message on the machine outside of school hours or with Ms. Van Camp after 9:00 am. Each morning our 'Safe Arrivals' parent verifies all unaccounted student absences, so to avoid being phoned about your child's absence please make your call before 9:00 a.m. When reporting an absence please give your child's name, teacher's name, the expected length of absence and the reason for absence. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

Pick-Up, Drop-off of Students and Changes to Our Parking Lot

Traffic can be very busy at the front of our school. Several buses drop off and pick up groups of children. We also have a drop off lane at the front of the school next to the Multi-Purpose Room – it is only for a quick exit of the vehicle and pick up if the student is there and all ready to enter the car.

Please do not park and leave your car in this lane. You can also leave your car on neighbouring streets and walk onto the school grounds. *The parking lot is for staff only between 8:00am and 5:00pm.*



School Wide Medical Alert



Several of our students have life-threatening allergies to peanuts, nuts (cashews, almonds, walnuts, pistachios, brazil nuts, pecans, macadamias), sesame seeds, fish, and shellfish.

Exposure to even tiny amounts of these items – residue on a desk, a book, a door handle, computer keyboard, or a drinking fountain - may be enough to trigger a reaction. Please help us create a safe environment for them by keeping foods containing these food products at home. Several companies are now making nut-free snacks and we encourage

you to look for these new products when shopping. Other names for peanuts and other nuts include: Arachide, Arachis Oil, Beer Nuts, Goober Nuts, Goober Peas, Ground Nuts, Kernels, Mandelonas, Nut Meats, Valencias, Anacardium Nuts, Calisson, Marzipan, Pinon, Queensland Nut (macadamia). Label reading is the key to sending safe, nut-free foods to school. Please do your part to ensure our school environment is a safe one for all of our students. THANK YOU!

Staff and Student Safety

Whether you are a long time Pinewood community member or a newcomer all people including parents, guardians, and other visitors are asked to enter the school using **the main entrance and to sign in** at the office on the VISITOR clipboard and wear a Visitor badge while in the school.

This is for the safety of our students, staff, and visitors and identifies our visitors as belonging to our school community. If you are picking up your child for an appointment please ask the office to page them down from their classroom. You will have to sign them out on the STUDENT clipboard on the front counter. If you are dropping off lunches, please label them and put them on the "lunch table" in the front hallway. We ask that people not wait around after dropping a lunch as the front hall becomes crowded and noisy which affects the functioning of the school.



I am sure you would agree that our students' safety is of the utmost importance. It is important that students, parents, and staff feel safe in our building and the school is not readily accessible to strangers. Aside from the daily security of our building, we are required to account for each and every child and adult who is in our school during a fire drill, emergency preparation drill, earthquake drill and lockdowns (for this reason, it is also important that you sign-out when leaving). Your cooperation with this matter is greatly appreciated.

Lost and Found Procedures



Items of clothing will be hung on a clothes rack inside the front door of the school. Smaller items (jewellery, etc.) will be in a drawer in the office – please ask to see these items if your child has lost something!

Organics Recycling in Delta Schools!

In all schools in the Delta School District we are recycling organics – this means food waste and food-soiled paper products. In addition to the recycling bins already in place in all schools for mixed recyclables and refundable recyclables, there will now also be bins for organics.

Why do we need to recycle organics?



Because more than 35% of all non-recycled waste disposed in the Metro Vancouver region is actually compostable organics!

By undertaking organics recycling in our schools we can help to divert 35% of waste away from landfills to instead be composted into rich soil that can be used for valuable purposes such as local farming. Overall, Metro Vancouver's Zero Waste Challenge is a mandated goal of diverting 80% of waste from landfills by 2020 via recycling, including organics recycling. In the Delta School District we have embraced this challenge because it not only upholds our District Vision that includes a commitment to environmental sustainability, but we also believe in proper stewardship of all of our resources.

As parents and students we need your help!

Starting on January 1, 2015, Metro Vancouver will be imposing a 50% surcharge on contaminated loads going to the landfill – this includes organics waste. We need everyone's help to ensure all waste in our schools is put into the proper bin for disposal. No longer will it be acceptable to just throw everything into the waste bin. Anything that can be recycled needs to be sorted and put into the correct bins.

The Delta School District strongly encourages litterless lunches. By packing lunches in re-usable containers and not including items that have disposal packaging we can have a very positive impact on the environment. If an item is not re-usable then it should at least be recyclable. Let's make the lunchbox popular again! We want to see this happening in our all schools throughout our District. Litterless lunches, along with the new organics recycling, means we can reach our Zero Waste Challenge goal!!! We can only reach this goal with your help and we thank you in advance for your support. Here are some suggestions for packing a "Litterless Lunch":



1. Landfill-friendly lunch bags - Forget the paper and plastic bags! Use reusable lunch kits or cloth bags that are eco-friendly.
2. Skip the juice box - Embrace reusable, non-leaching drink containers! The new stainless steel and aluminum bottles are lightweight, unbreakable, and dishwasher friendly.
3. Use reusable food storage containers - plastics leach chemicals into food over time; consider using stainless steel or glass food storage containers for yogurt, veggies, or sandwiches,
4. Remember that not only are prepackaged foods less nutritious and more costly than homemade, but they also contribute more to landfills.
5. Think of purchasing large bulk containers of food rather than prepackaged single servings.
6. Use a cloth napkin versus paper towel.
7. Use a fork and spoon from home versus plastic cutlery.

Communicating To Our Community



Newsletter

Communication with our parent group is a vital aspect of our Successful Learning Community. Our newsletter and school website (<http://pw.deltasd.bc.ca/>) are our two main avenues for sharing information with our families. Newsletters will be posted via this school website. Our administrative assistant, Ms. Van Camp, will send an e-mail notification out to let you know the newsletter has been posted. Please make sure you have updated your email address on Parent Connect. If you are on

Twitter consider following us @PinewoodDelta as this is another way information is shared out.

Parent Connect

Our traditional method of collecting pertinent family information involved families completing forms sent home in September. Over the course of the school year this information often becomes outdated. We want to ensure that we have the most current family information possible.



You can now access Parent Connect using your email address. If you have forgotten the Password press "Forgot My Password" and the system will send you an email with this information. By logging into "Parent Connect", families have the ability to update cell phone numbers, email addresses, medical and emergency contact information, emergency contact names and phone numbers, emergency release and out-of-province contact names, phone numbers, and email addresses.

Through Parent Connect: <https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentssignon.aspx> parents can have access to their child's attendance record, demographic information, emergency contact information, and grades. Parent Connect allows communication with teachers and the office and is used to book Parent-Teacher Interviews and Student-led Conferences. Parents can also print an Info Form (Elem) or an Absence Profile. Students currently in grade 7 will use Parent Connect to select courses in high school for next year.

Student Planners



Student Planners will be issued to students from grades 1-7. The book is an excellent tool to help students take responsibility for their learning and to develop good time management skills. The books are used for recording homework and communicating between home and school.

Each student in grades 1 to 7 will be bringing home a notice regarding the cost of their Student Planner. They will be distributed once the students have been placed into their classes.

Lunch-Time Reminders

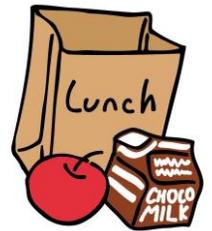
Students are reminded to make sure they have proper utensils for their lunch. If you do not send your child with their lunch and you intend to bring it before 12:00 pm, please let your child know that he/she can pick it up on the lunch table in the hallway.



Lunch in a Pinch!

It's another busy school year, which leaves little time for making lunches. Here are some tips to help you save time:

- ❑ Plan lunches with your children a week in advance and do the shopping together
- ❑ Let your children choose a variety of healthy items, but allow them a treat as well
- ❑ Make lunch the night before
- ❑ Include 3 of the 4 food groups from Canada's Food Guide in every lunch
- ❑ Make extra at meals so you have left-overs for lunches
- ❑ Portion food into containers so they are ready to go
- ❑ Have cut-up vegetables, yogurt cups, and juice packs handy because they are quick and easy to pack
- ❑ Remember that pre-packed lunch items such as granola bars and cheese and crackers can be more expensive and less nutritious



Lunch-Time Supervision



Lunchtime supervision of students is provided by our team of noon hour supervisors: Mrs. Pearcey, Mrs. Neumann, Mrs. Brugger, and Mrs. Chong. Students planning to leave the grounds who normally eat lunch at school must bring a dated and signed note from home giving the student permission to leave the grounds. **For safety, students will be required to leave by the main entrance and sign out at the office and immediately return through the main entrance and sign back in upon their return.** Parents should meet their children outside the main entrance for mid-day pick-ups, not their classroom door. Adult supervisors are on duty throughout the school. If you become aware of problems, please contact your child's teacher or call the office.

Pets on the Playground



NO PETS

We know that many families enjoy walking the family dog when they accompany their children to and from school. At Pinewood Elementary, we request that all pets are kept well away from the students. If you walk your dog to the school, please arrange to meet your child either off the grounds at the front of the school or on the grass field well away from the entrances and exits.

MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

Head Lice

HEAD LICE ARE NOT FUNNY! but as children return to school in September, head lice are sure to follow. Just a reminder to parents...**please check your child's head weekly** for signs of head lice and encourage your children **NOT** to share combs, brushes or head gear. Let's work together to make your school a "Head Lice-Free Zone".



Don't know what you are looking for?

Head lice sample book available, as well as information sheets, at the school office. Feel free to call the Health Unit at 604-507-5408 if you have additional questions or concerns.



CALENDAR REMINDERS

Tuesday, September 5	Schools Re-open – 12:00 Dismissal for Gr. 1-7 Students K students attend 9:45-10:30 only
Wednesday, September 6	Regular School Day (8:57-3:00) for Gr. 1-7 Students K students follow schedule given to them in June
Friday, September 15	Terry Fox Run
Thursday, September 21	Open House – More details to come
Friday, September 22	Non-Instructional Day
Monday, September 25	Individual Student Photos!
Friday, September 29	Drumming Workshops
Monday, October 9	Thanksgiving – No School
Wednesday, October 18	Grade 6 Immunizations
Wednesday/Thursday, October 18/19	Parent-Teacher Interviews
Friday, October 20	Non-Instructional Day
Monday, October 23	Non-Instructional Day
Tuesday, October 31	Hallowe'en Parade – More details to come

PINWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- 2017-2018 SCHOOL CALENDAR -

Days in Session	188
Hours of Instruction in School Week	Kindergarten - Grade 7: 24.42 hrs.
Number of Days of Instruction Minutes of Instruction in School Day	180 Kindergarten – Grade 7: 293 min.
Number of Non-Instructional Days	7 (District-Wide)
Schools Open	Tuesday, September 5 - 9:00 am -12:00 pm for Gr. 1-7; Gr. K has graduated schedule for first 3 weeks
Open House	Thursday, September 21
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, September 22
Thanksgiving Day – Statutory Holiday	Monday, October 9
Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Conferences	Wednesday, October 18 - 2:00 pm
Early Dismissal for Parent/Teacher Conferences	Thursday, October 19 - 2:00 pm
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, October 20
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Monday, October 23
Hallowe'en Parade	Tuesday, October 31 - 1:15 pm
Remembrance Day Assembly	Friday, November 10 - 10:50 am
Remembrance Day - Statutory Holiday	Monday, November 13
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, November 24
Report Cards sent home	Thursday, December 14
Christmas Concert	Wednesday, December 20 (Tentative)
Last day of School before Winter Vacation	Thursday, December 21
Winter Vacation Period	December 22 – January 5
Schools Reopen after Winter Vacation	Monday, January 8
Family Day	Monday, February 12
Early Dismissal for Student-Led Conferences	Wednesday, February 21 - 2:00 pm
Early Dismissal for Student-Led Conferences	Thursday, February 22 - 2:00 pm
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, February 23
Report Cards sent home	Thursday, March 15
Spring Break Vacation <i>(includes Good Friday and Easter Monday)</i>	Monday, March 19 - Monday, April 2
First day of School after Spring Break	Tuesday, April 3
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, April 20
Regional Track Meet	Wednesday, May 9
District Track Meet	Thursday, May 17
Non-Instructional Day (District-Wide)	Friday, May 18 (in lieu of August 29 Pro-D)
Victoria Day	Monday, May 21
Sports Day	Friday, June 8
Year-End Celebration Assembly	Tuesday, June 26 - 10:45 - 12:00 pm
Last Day for Students - Report Cards sent home	Thursday, June 28 - 8:57 - 10:20 am
Schools Closed - Administration Day	Friday, June 29