



# Pinewood Elementary School

11777 Pinewood Drive Delta BC V4E 3E9  
Phone: 604-590-3357 / Absentee Phone: 604-597-8557 / Fax: 604-597-4881  
Office Hours: 8:30 am -3:30 pm  
School website: [pw.deltasd.bc.ca](http://pw.deltasd.bc.ca)



Principal: Mr. J. Hope  
Twitter @PinewoodDelta  
September 25, 2019

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

Our school year is well underway. We had a fantastic day for the Terry Fox Run on the 13th. A big thank you to Mrs. Ke's class for spearheading the event and to all the parents who came out to support as well. Pinewood raised \$578.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation!



We hope the Open House gave families an opportunity to meet the teacher and get a sense of the space the kids learn in every day. We invite you to work collaboratively with us to create the best learning environment possible for your child. Research shows that a strong, positive partnership between the home and school allows children to reach their highest potential. Here are some suggestions that will be helpful in establishing school routines and will make this year the most successful one yet for your child.

**Read Together** – Children who read at home with their parents do better in school. Show your children that you see reading as important by keeping lots of reading material around the house and set aside some time each day for reading. Also, model reading yourself.

**Establish a Daily Family Routine** – Set a specific quiet time and place every day for homework or general reading. While you should be actively involved with your child's homework routine, let them do the actual work. Other helpful routines involve assigning responsibilities for household chores, being firm about times to get up and go to bed (most children require about 10 hours of sleep per night), and having dinner together whenever possible. Don't forget about the importance of a healthy breakfast and lunch to ensure that your child has the energy needed to make it through the day productively.



**Talk Together** – Find some time each day to ask your child about school. Ask specific questions that will require explanations. Not only will this provide you with an overview of what your child is learning each day, explaining their learning to you will heighten their understanding of their lessons.

**Use The School** – The importance of strong school-home bridges cannot be overstated. Get to know your child's teacher(s) and what they expect. Let them know you will reinforce at home the importance of learning and will keep them informed of important things happening in your family that may be affecting your child at school. Make sure your child knows of your interest in his/her school. This will send the message that what he/she is doing is important.

**Have High, But Realistic, Goals** – Every student has the ability to learn; they just all have different starting points, interests, and background knowledge. Make sure that you set goals with your child that are achievable, but not too easy, for their age, maturity, and ability. Don't forget to celebrate when these goals are achieved.

Respectfully,

Mr. Jim Hope

## SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

### School Hours

Our bell schedule is:

First Bell: 8:52 a.m. (please be on site by 8:45 a.m.)  
School In Session: 8:57 am - 3:00 pm  
Recess: 10:25 a.m. - 10:40 a.m.  
Lunch: 12:05 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Please make every effort to help students get to school on time. That being said, we understand that on the rare occasion people are late. If students are late, they will be required to sign in at the office and collect a "Welcome to School" Slip. In the event that a child is chronically late, the school will call the family and discuss support plans. Arriving late can cause not only disruption to the class but it also creates a lot of anxiety for a student entering the class as they have missed the instructions for the day.

## Social Responsibility News

### What is “social responsibility”?

At Pinewood Elementary School we use the words **Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair** to remind students how we expect them to behave at school, at home, and in the community. These are the words we live by at Pinewood and we expect all students to show socially responsible behaviour. For the next few months our school will be learning about social responsibility. Students will learn that: they are being **social** when they are playing and working with others, everything they say and do affects the rest of the class, and at school they need to think about others, not just themselves. Students show **responsibility** by doing the right thing, and will learn that what we do is either helpful or hurtful to others. **Being socially responsible is helping the school community.**



*Conversations for home: Ask your child what they are doing to show kindness to others at school. Ask your child what they are doing to show responsibility at school. What ways can they show responsibility at home?*

### The Traffic Light

Students will be learning how to pay attention to their behaviour by using the example of a traffic light. Just as a traffic light is always changing, students need to change their behaviour at different times and locations in the school. They will be introduced to four levels of behaviour:

#### RED

- ‘**Stop**’ Behaviour: hurtful to others, thinks only about self

#### YELLOW

- ‘**Be Careful**’ Behaviour: thinks about self before others, does not notice how actions affect others

#### GREEN

- ‘**Go**’ Behaviour: helpful, kind, friendly, doing the right thing, thinking about others

Teachers will be explaining to students what they expect to see and hear in the classroom, the halls, the gym, the library, and outside.

*Conversations for home: Ask your child what they are learning about **Green Behaviour** in different locations of the school. Talk about what green/expected behaviour looks like at school, at home, at other places you visit.*

## Administration of Medication



Schools are required to maintain a safe procedure for dispensing medications. We would like to have had information regarding medication administration within the first two weeks of school. If your child is required to take medication at school, please request a Medical Alert Card and Request for Administration of Medication at School form from the office (if you have not already done so). These forms must be completed each year and are required to be signed by your physician.

## Allergy Aware Building



Several of our students have life-threatening allergies to food such as **seafoods** and **nuts** including peanuts, cashews, almonds, walnuts, pistachios, Brazil nuts, pecans, macadamias, and sesame seeds. With that, our school is a Nut and Seafood Aware building. A notice has gone home with information about this. Exposure to even tiny amounts of these food particles – 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 allergens 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!**

## Lost and Found Procedures

Please have your children’s clothing labeled with their names where possible. In the event something is misplaced, clothes will be hung on a rack near the office. The rack will often be on display at the back or front of the school during drop-off and pick-up to facilitate the return of lost articles. Small items (i.e. eyeglasses, keys) will be kept in a drawer at the office.



## Staff and Student Safety

**Visitor Sign-in** – While we begin to get to know you, parents, guardians and all other visitors are asked to **enter the school using the main entrance and sign in** at the office. Please do not proceed directly to a classroom. All visitors must wear a “visitor” identification badge while in the school for the safety of our students and staff as it identifies you 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.



Staff in all Delta Schools will be required to wear new identification badges moving forward to add the extra level of reassurance for students who may not know who all the staff in a building are.

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.

## Library News

We are pleased to welcome Ms. Nielsen to our library. Mrs. Nielsen will teach classes in the library during the day and open it outside of instructional time as well. It will be open daily in the mornings from 8:30-8:55 (enter through library door), at lunch 12:25-12:55 (no in/out privileges), and after school until 3:30. These are extra opportunities for students to come in and read, finish homework, or exchange books. In the event the library is unavailable, Ms. Nielsen will announce it during the morning announcements so students can make alternate arrangements.

Ms. Nielsen is offering a **voluntary** Birthday Book Club as well. It is an opportunity for a family to donate a book, between \$5 and \$20 pre-selected by Ms. Nielsen, in recognition of a child’s birthday. There will be a sticker put inside the front cover to acknowledge who it came from and that child will have the opportunity to sign it out first. Ms. Nielsen will send forms home with interested students near their birthday.

## Homework Club

This year we are able to expand on a program that started last year which provided Education Assistant time outside of instructional time to run a Homework Club. Mrs. Rempel will be available to assist students with outstanding assignments, reviewing concepts, or just supervising while kids complete things they didn’t have time for the night before. Please make plans with your child prior to them attending so you know their whereabouts before and after school. Sessions take place in the Story Studio except the lunch session which takes place in Room 104. Students can access the morning sessions through the front door.

The times it is available are:

Monday: 3:00-3:30

Tuesday: 8:25-8:55 and 3:00-3:30

Wednesday: 8:25-8:55 and 12:25 to 12:55

Thursday: 8:25-8:55 and 3:00-3:30

Friday: 8:25

## Parent Connect

Parent Connect is the school district’s online student information management system for parents. It can be accessed using a link on the top right corner of the school website. The login is done with the email address currently on file with the school. If you have forgotten your Password press “Forgot My Password” and the system will send you an email with this information.



We ask that all families log into each child’s account to check off the permissions for walking field trips, fruit and veggie program, and other important functions. Please do so as soon as possible so that students don’t miss out on valuable opportunities.

By logging into “Parent Connect” families also have the ability to update phone numbers and email addresses, emergency **contact** names (people who can get your child if they are sick at school) and phone numbers, and emergency **release** (people who can sign your child out in a catastrophe and look after them for an extended period of time) and out of province contact names.

This system also gives access to a child's attendance record, demographic information, emergency contact information, grades, and report card history. Students currently in grade 7 will use Parent Connect to select courses in high school for next year.

### A Change of Clothes

Teachers often ask our younger students to have a labelled and complete change of clothes at school. We suggest all students, no matter their age, have a change of clothes for the days they get wet or have an accidental slip in the mud. Keeping a pair of boots at the school if possible would also be beneficial. Being prepared in advance will reduce the number of phone calls coming home, particularly as the season turns to fall and the rain increases.

Pinewood students are outside every day, even in the rain. Please make sure they have proper footwear and outerwear to stay dry and reduce the likelihood that they will need to use their spare clothing.

### Grade 6/7 Band



At Pinewood Elementary our grade sixes and sevens will be taking band and our other grades will be taking general music instruction with our music teacher, Mrs. Kato. We look forward to seeing their progress over the course of the year.

### Student Planners

Student Planners were 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. A notice went home outlining how to cover the cost of the planner.



### 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. Parents are asked to kindly leave their child's lunch on the table in the front hall and then clear the front foyer. Thank you for your cooperation on this.

### 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. A reminder: students planning to leave the grounds who normally eat lunch at school must bring a dated, signed note from home giving permission to leave the grounds. **For safety reasons, 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 by the main entrance for mid-day pick-ups, not their classroom door. Intermediate student monitors are used in the primary classrooms while our younger students are eating their lunch to ensure that help is available with lunch kits, lids etc. If you become aware of problems, please contact your child's teacher or call the office.



### Absentees



If your child is going to be absent from school or arriving late, please send a note to the teacher via a sibling or friend informing the teacher of the absence **and** phone the school (604-597-8557). Please leave a message on the machine outside of school hours, or if after 9:00 am with Mrs. Sim. Each morning our 'Pinewood Safe Arrivals Program' volunteer 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 a brief reason for absence. Your cooperation is much appreciated.

### Pets on the Playground

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.



### PAC NEWS

#### PAC Meeting



The next PAC meeting will be Tuesday, October 16 at 7:00 pm in the Library. Babysitting will be provided. This is a terrific group of parents who work hard to support school activities. In addition, they are a nice group of people to get to know. Please join us, even if you have never been to a PAC meeting before!



# CALENDAR REMINDERS

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Friday, September 27                            | Orange Shirt Day   |
| Friday, September 27                            | Hot Lunch - Pizza  |
| Monday, September 30                            | Individual student photo day   |
| Tuesday, October 1                              | Div. 13 (K) 14&15 – Richmond Nature Park – 9:00-11:30                |
| Tuesday, October 1                              | Div. 12 & 13 (Gr.1) – Surrey Nature Park - 9:15 – 12:15              |
| Thursday, October 3                             | Div. 11 – The Hive – 9:00 – 12:00                                    |
| Tuesday, October 8                              | Gr. 6 Immunizations  |
| Wednesday, October 9                            | ArtStarts performance – 3 Crows – 1:00                               |
| Friday, October 11                              | Hot Lunch – Chopped Leaf   |
| Monday, October 14                              | Thanksgiving – No School   |
| Wednesday, October 16                           | Sunshine Hills Cross-Country Run – 3:30-5:15                         |
| Tuesday, October 16                             | Div. 14-15 – Port Kells Pumpkin Patch – 9:10 – 11:45                 |
| Saturday, October 19                            | PAC Pub Night – One20 – 7:00   |
| Tuesday, October 22                             | Gr. 7 Volleyball game at Pinewood                                    |
| Tuesday, October 22                             | Gr. 6 Volleyball game at Sunshine Hills                              |
| Tuesday, Wednesday/Thursday<br>October 22/23/24 | Scholastic Book Fair – hours still to come                           |
| Wednesday, October 23                           | Parent-Teacher Interviews – 2:15-5:45 – <b><u>2:00 DISMISSAL</u></b> |
| Thursday, October 24                            | Parent-Teacher Interviews – 2:15-3:45 – <b><u>2:00 DISMISSAL</u></b> |
| Tuesday, October 23                             | Div.11-12 – Westham Island Pumpkin Patch – 10:00-12:30               |
| Tuesday, October 23                             | Div. 13 – Hazelmere Pumpkin Patch – 9:15 – 1:30                      |
| Friday, October 25                              | Non-Instructional Day – No school for students                       |
| Monday, October 28                              | Div. 9,10,11, 12 – Hazelmere Pumpkin Patch – 11:00 – 3:00            |
| Tuesday, October 29                             | Gr. 7 Volleyball game at Cougar Canyon                               |
| Tuesday, October 29                             | Gr. 6 Volleyball game at Pinewood                                    |
| Tuesday, October 29                             | PAC meeting – 7:00   |
| Wednesday, October 30                           | Photo Retakes – 10:45  |
| Wednesday, October 31                           | Hallowe'en Parade – Gym – 1:15                                       |
|   |  |