



# Pinewood Elementary School

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**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

October 23, 2019

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parents and Guardians:

It's hard to believe that October is almost behind us. It has been a very busy month. We have many primary classes off to the pumpkin patch and we thank the PAC and community for providing the funds for field trips such as that. Our Grade 6 and 7 volleyball teams have begun their games against our neighbouring schools. All the kids are building their volleyball skills, teamwork, and sportsmanship and have been great ambassadors for our school. Thanks to all the coaches and to the parents who have come out to support our Pinewood Panthers!

With the dark and rainy days we have been experiencing, I remind everyone of the importance of following the traffic laws and school parking expectations. Delta Police and Community Police volunteers have been out helping me provide reminders to our community that it takes to all of us working together to keep our kids safe. Speeding in the area, parking illegally even if it's 'just for a second' is not worth the potential injury and harm it can cause a child. I appreciate all of those who are respecting the rules of the road, respecting our neighbours' driveways, and working with me by keeping their children on the sidewalks, in the crosswalks, and out of the centre of the traffic circle.

We encourage people to continue to check our website and Twitter feed for up to date information about the school. We have some significant upcoming events for Halloween and Remembrance Day.

Mr. J. Hope  
Principal

## SCHOOL INFO & REMINDERS

### Halloween Parade and Costumes



Classroom teachers will outline their expectations for their own students about Halloween costumes. Some will be wearing them all day while others, particularly the younger students, will be asked to wear them only in the afternoon to avoid unintentional wear and tear to the costumes they work hard to create. Please remember that costumes should be school-appropriate and not cause safety concerns while being worn (including but not limited to masks restricting vision, no guns or weapons, exaggerated gore, cultural insensitivity).

Our Halloween costume Parade will be held Thursday, October 31 at 1:15 pm. Thanks to the children who are planning on participating! Students will have a fun time walking through each other's classrooms then through the Gym to show off their costumes and showing appreciation for others. Parents are welcome to join us **in the Gym** and may snap a few photos of their own children as they walk by. This is a continued change from previous years where parents lined the hallways. We ask that parents not pause the parade to take photos *with* their children please.

### Remembrance Day Assembly

On Friday, November 8 at 10:45 am we will be holding our annual Remembrance Day Assembly (parents and other family members are welcome - doors open at 10:30 – please enter and exit via the gym doors off the playground). As this is a solemn occasion, there should be no applause, photography, or unnecessary noise during the ceremony. Over the years, I have always been very proud of how students have shown respect and honor to the many Canadians, past and present, who serve our country. We will be collecting donations at the door for the Poppy Fund.



Thank you to all the teachers and their students who are performing or providing artwork and an extra thank you to our Music teacher, Mrs. Kato, for working with many of the performers. Each student will receive a poppy to wear at this assembly **and we will be collecting donations for the Poppy Fund** starting November 5.

The annual **Remembrance Day Ceremony at the North Delta Social Heart (11415 84 Ave.)** will take place on Sunday, November 11 at 10:40 am. Two of our students will be representing Pinewood by laying a wreath during the proceedings.

## PAC Meeting



Our next PAC meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 29 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!

## Field Trips

Students have had some amazing field trips already this year, largely funded by the fundraising efforts of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). These funds are used for students to access venues that further enhance the learning of the classroom. We thank parents who help out by providing transportation for classes; those who can transport more than their own child will have their admission covered should they wish to partake in the trip. Please remember to provide a booster seat to your child should they require one in a car. Please note that drivers assisting with field trips are required to go from the school to the venue and back again without making any unscheduled stops. It is instructional time, and if there is another person's child in the car there would be no consent in place for that child to be at an alternate location. Teachers put a lot of effort into planning the time, location, associated learning, and assigning students to a vehicle for transport. We understand people are trying to be helpful by making pre-arrangements, but it is best left to the teachers to plan.



## Arrival at School

It is important for students to arrive on time to school. For the safety of students, supervision is provided beginning at 8:40 am. Please do not send students to the school before this time unless there is a school event they are arriving for. On occasion a student may be late. If that is the case, the students will sign in at the office and take a late slip to their classroom. Please do not escort your children to the classrooms as it causes additional disruption to the teaching. In the case of a high number of lates to school, the principal will contact the family to work on a support plan to ensure children arrive on time and ready to learn.



## Library News



Thank you to everyone who supported our Scholastic Book Fair whether as customers or as volunteers. From this event, Pinewood earns credit from Scholastic to purchase books and other library supplies to enhance our library. Thank you to Ms. Neilsen for putting the time and effort into planning and organizing the fair.

## Panther Paws



We continue to catch kids being Kind, Safe, and Fair in and around Pinewood Elementary. For those kids caught doing the right thing, they are given a panther paw print which is put into a draw for an individual prize. As the year goes on, we will shift from individual acknowledgements to school wide recognition for efforts.

## Lost and Found

Our Lost and Found rack is quite full. If your child is missing a jacket, shoes etc., please feel free to stop by the school and have a look. Our Lost and Found is located at the foyer next to the front doors. Smaller items (eyeglasses, jewellery) are in a drawer in the Office. All unclaimed articles will be bagged and donated to charity at the end of December.



## Pinewood Panther Spirit Wear



We received many orders for Pinewood spirit wear T-shirts and long sleeve shirts featuring a panther logo and the school name. Sample sizes are available near the school office. The orders are due back to the school by Wednesday, October 30. We will have a very limited number of extras ordered for later purchase if the deadline is missed.

## Parent Connect



Parent Connect

Powered by CIMS

**Even if you think you have already completed these steps, please log on and double-check ...**

Thank you to everyone who logged onto Parent Connect to update your contact information and approve your annual permissions (if these are not complete your child will not be able to go on walking field trips, have their photos taken at school, etc.!) Please take some time to ensure all of these are done by following the steps below. Parents can now use the email address the school has on file for you to log in. You can access it via a link on the school webpage or from this link: (Please ensure that your browser allows for pop ups on this site).

<https://cimsweb.deltasd.bc.ca/schoolconnect/parentsignore.aspx>

Please log onto Parent Connect using your email address and **password** (if you have forgotten your password click on **Forgot My Password** and your password will be emailed to you). You will need to do this for each of your children attending Pinewood Elementary School.

Under the **Basic** tab you should update Demographic Information (phone numbers, email addresses and emergency contacts). Click on the **Edit** button to the left of the line you need to update and make updates on the right side of the screen.

To add **Emergency Release** information click on the blue button **Emergency/Out of Prov/Other Contacts**. Click on the **Edit** button on the left side of the screen and add contact info on the right side of the screen. Add no more than 3 names (grandparents, etc. residing at the same address can be put on the same line) using type **ER - Emergency Release** and add 1 name using type **OP - Out Of Province Contact**. Don't forget to hit **SAVE** after you make each change/addition.

**IMPORTANT:** Please note that an **ER - Emergency Release** is different than an Emergency Contact. **In the event of a catastrophic emergency, we are only permitted to release students to people who are listed in the ER - Emergency Release section of Parent Connect.** You may want to have the same people under your **Emergency Contacts** as you have in your **ER - Emergency Release**, it's up to you.

Click on the **Forms** tab and give your consent/permission to **ALL** of the following:

- ❖ Demographic Information up-to-date
- ❖ Emergency Release Information up-to-date
- ❖ Google Docs Consent (Gr. 2-7 only)
- ❖ Photographs/Video/Website Consent
- Walking Field Trip Consent
- Fruit and Veggie Consent
- Outside Media Consent form

Don't forget to **SAVE** all the changes you are making. Repeat for all children attending Pinewood Elementary.

When you log on to Parent Connect, please read the rules about outside media in schools. If you do **NOT** want your child involved with outside media activities, please print off the form to fill out.

**Please take a few minutes to complete all of these important forms as soon as possible. Thanks!**

### Dressing for the Weather



Although we enjoyed some wonderful fall weather and many warm sunny days, cooler days are now upon us. As the temperature continues to dip, it is important that the students come dressed in outerwear appropriate for the cold, wet, and wind. Here on the West Coast, rain is just a fact of life. On most days, students will be going outside at recess and lunchtime. It is only in the case of **extremely poor** weather, that we designate the recess and/or lunch hour as an "in day" which means that students are to stay inside and play quietly in their classrooms rather than venture outdoors. We refrain from doing this unless absolutely necessary, as the children need the opportunity to get out in the fresh air and be physically active before heading back into the classroom.

Not only do students need to be dressed warmly to enjoy themselves outside but it's essential in the event of an emergency or unexpected situation requiring a building evacuation. Many students are still coming to school without jackets and wearing shorts and hoodies ... even on the coldest, rainiest of days. Please ensure your children come to school dressed accordingly to be outside at recess and lunchtime (e.g. boots, coat, and umbrella). Because our field also gets quite mucky and wet at this time of year, packing an extra set of clothes into your child's backpack, no matter what grade they are in, is also suggested.



### Fragrance-Free Environment



We remind you that Pinewood Elementary is a fragrance-free zone. We have a number of people here who have severe reactions to fragrances. Please, for the safety of our school community, refrain from wearing scents when visiting the school or from sending your children to school wearing products that are heavily scented. Thank you so much for your cooperation!

### Snow Days



If it snows, will there be school? The short answer is ... YES! During extreme winter weather conditions, including heavy snowfalls, all schools in the Delta School District will remain OPEN if at all possible. It is very rare that schools would be closed due to weather conditions or other circumstances. Schools may have a delayed opening to allow schools and routes to schools to be made safer for the arrival of students.

**Any closure/delayed opening will be decided by 7:00 am and will be announced on the district website at [www.deltasd.bc.ca](http://www.deltasd.bc.ca) To keep phone lines clear, please refrain from phoning to check that we are open.**

During extreme weather conditions it is also common for police and other authorities to advise citizens to avoid unnecessary travel. Parents should take this advice as well. Parents/Guardians are responsible for their children's safe travel to and from school. If, for any reason, you feel that a child cannot travel safely to school,



then you should make other arrangements. Schools will be kept open except under extreme circumstances to provide the option of attendance for all, but the decision is the responsibility of each family. Should you choose to keep your child home, please call the office and leave a message reporting your child's absence.

Last winter was very unusual in the amount of snowfall we received and the length of time it remained on the ground. Be advised, should we experience similar weather, the school district is responsible for clearing basic safe access to the building which does not include paved play areas, playgrounds, fields, or informal pathways.

**Do You Bring Your Pet to School?**



We know that many families enjoy walking their dog when they accompany their children to and from school. We ask that all pets be kept a far distance away from 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 at the far edges of the field away from students. Please also try and be aware of children who seem nervous or fearful around animals and respond accordingly. Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation. Also just a reminder to please clean up after your dog.

**MESSAGES FROM YOUR PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

The Fraser Health website has a link to issues specifically relating to students such as vaccines, head lice, etc. For more information go to their website at [www.fraserhealth.ca](http://www.fraserhealth.ca) or call them at 604-507-5400.

**PARENT & TOT DROP-IN**

Pinewood Leisure Centre hosts a Parent and Tot drop-in every Wednesday 12:00-2:00pm September – June. You and your child can enjoy playtime, crafts, snack, story time, and lots of fun! For more information please call: 604 946-6622 Ext. 340.

**CALENDAR EVENTS**



**CALENDAR REMINDERS**

Wednesday, October 23	Parent/Teacher Conferences – 2:00 dismissal
Thursday, October 24	Parent/Teacher conferences – 2:00 dismissal
Friday, October 25	Non-Instructional Day – no school for students
Monday, October 28	Divs. 9, 10, 11 & 12 to Hazelmere Pumpkin Patch
Tuesday, October 29	Neufeld Farm orders ready for pick-up at 2:30 Gr.7 Volleyball - Cougar Canyon Gr. 6 Volleyball - Pinewood PAC Meeting – 7:00 – 9:00
Wednesday, October 30	Photo Re-takes – 10:45 – Multi-Purpose Rm.
Thursday, October 31	Hallowe’en Parade – 1:15 in the Gym (please enter via outside Gym doors)
Friday, November 1	Hot Lunch (Opa)
Thursday, November 7	Div. 13 – The Hive – 9:00-3:00 Divs. 2 & 3 - Planetarium - 9:00 – 3:00 Div. 4 - Surrey Museum - 9:30 – 12:00
Friday, November 8	Remembrance Day Assembly – 10:45 – Doors open 10:30 (please enter via outside Gym doors)
Monday, November 11	Remembrance Day Observance – No School
Tuesday, November 12	Gr. 7 Volleyball – Jarvis Gr. 6 Volleyball - Pinewood
Wednesday, November 13	Div. 8 – Surrey Arts Centre – 9:00 – 12:00
Thursday, November 14	Gr. 7 Volleyball – Pinewood Gr. 6 Volleyball - Jarvis
Friday, November 15	Hot Lunch (Italian)
Tuesday, November 19	Kindergarten – Vision & Hearing screening 9:00 Gr. 7 Volleyball – Pinewood Gr. 6 Volleyball - Chalmers
Thursday, November 21	Gr. 7 Volleyball – Chalmers Gr. 6 Volleyball - Pinewood
Friday, November 22	Div.7 – Surrey Arts Centre – 9:00 – 12:00
Monday, November 25	Non-Instructional Day – no school for students
Tuesday, November 26	Divs.13 (K), 14 & 15 – Genesis Theatre – 9:00 – 12:00 Gr. 7 Volleyball – Sunshine Hills Gr. 6 Volleyball - Pinewood PAC Meeting – 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Thursday, November 28	Divs. 9, 10, 11 – Genesis Theatre – 9:00 – 12:00 Grade 7 Volleyball – Pinewood Grade 6 Volleyball – Cougar Canyon
Friday, November 29	Hot Lunch ( Hot Dogs)