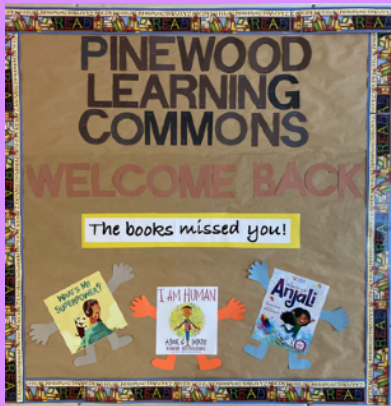


PINEWOOD COMMUNITY POST

Working as a team to guide, support and challenge children within a safe and caring school community.

This Week's Important Dates

Thursday, Sept. 15 -
Individual Photos (AM)



Welcome Back!

Welcome back to a new school year! We were so happy to welcome our students back to school this week. Our staff has worked very hard to be ready for students this year, and they are so happy to have met their new classes today. Today, classes are getting down to work, learning new routines, establishing school and classroom culture, and making new friends. We are very much looking forward to a year full of engaging learning experiences and fun memories with peers.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office or the classroom teacher with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Ms. T. Doukas

Staffing Updates

We are pleased to welcome some new staff to Pinewood this year:

Ms. Samantha Nutley - Education Assistant
Mr. Lomish Bhangu - Intermediate Teacher
Ms. Angela Proszammer - Intermediate Teacher

While we were expecting to have a Vice-Principal in place for the new school year, Sharon Hoffinger has obtained a new position as Principal in the Richmond School District. We wish her every success in her new position! In the meantime, the Delta School District will continue to work on staffing the Vice-Principal vacancy here at Pinewood. Until that time, we are very fortunate that Mrs. Alyson Quan will be taking on some administrative duties in the office.

Class Placements

Today was an exciting day at Pinewood. Soon after the morning bell, students were moved into their classes for the 2022-2023 school year. As this time of transition, we will be supporting the students at school, and we ask for

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Sept. 21 - Open House 5:30-6:30pm

Thursday, Sept. 22 - Terry Fox Run

Friday, Sept. 23 - Non-Instructional Day (School closed for students)

Thursday, Sept. 29 - Orange Shirt Day

Thursday, Sept. 29 - Hot Lunch Day

Friday, Sept. 30 - National Day for Truth and Reconciliation (School closed)

Thank you!

To all of our Pinewood families for supporting our students as they start a new school year!

your support as well. Transitions can sometimes be difficult for students, and we have learned that positive encouragement goes a long way. It's going to be a great year and each of the students were very thoughtfully placed in their new class for the year – it will be fun for them to grow and learn with a new group of classmates. It often takes time for students to adapt to a new learning environment. We appreciate your support during this time of transition and encourage you to reach out to your child's classroom teacher if they need some extra support.

Some background: The number of staff members assigned to Pinewood Elementary is decided by the Delta School District and is based on projected student enrolment. Enrolment numbers and class size guidelines affect the configuration of classes. Combined classes are an organizational necessity based on student numbers. Research also indicates that multi-age groupings (combined classes) 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.

Assigning students to classes is a very complex task that takes into consideration a variety of factors including learning styles and strengths, what a student can 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, diverse learning needs of the students, as well as parental insight. Our objective is to create balanced classes, taking all the above into consideration.

Partners in Health and Safety

We would like to ask families to review the following health and safety routines:

- Wash and sanitize hands often
- Practice good respiratory etiquette by sneezing and coughing into your elbow
- Respect the personal space of others
- Stay home when sick

Be Prepared

Please ensure students come fully prepared for the day:

Clothing & Sunscreen - Please send your child with proper clothing for the weather, as we will spend time outdoors. Sunscreen should be applied at home. Parents are also encouraged to send an extra set of clothes, in a sealed plastic bag in your child's backpack, labelled with your child's name.

Food & Water - Please ensure your child brings snacks, a refillable water bottle and a lunch to school each day. As we will be continuing to limit access to the building, lunches may only be dropped off in urgent situations. Should a student forget his/her lunch, they will not go hungry. We will have some food supplies on hand for emergencies, or families will be contacted by Mrs. Verma.

School Schedule

First Bell: 8:55am

School in Session: 9:00am - 3:00pm

Recess: 10:30am - 10:45am

Lunch: Eat 12:08pm- 12:28pm, play 12:28pm-12:58pm

Office hours: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please make every effort to have students at school on time so they can enter directly through their classroom doors. If students arrive late to school, they may wait outside the front door to be let into the building and sign in at the office.

Student Planners

This year, some teachers have opted to use student planners. Individual classes will be notified if planners will be required and a notice will be sent home outlining how to cover the cost of the planner.

Parking and Drop Offs

Traffic can be very busy at the front of our school. The traffic circle can be used as a drop off and pick up lane – it is only for a quick exit of the vehicle and pick up if the student is there and ready to enter the car. We have 4 visitor parking spots at the end of the traffic circle and three accessible spots as well for those with a permit. You can also leave your car on neighbouring streets and walk onto the school grounds. Please be mindful of our neighbours' driveways and follow all signage. The parking lot is for staff only between 8:00am and 4:00pm and is not to be used for pick up and drop off. More detailed information is available in the attached Parking and Driveway letter.

PAC

By enrolling your child at Pinewood, you are automatically a member of our Parent Advisory Council (PAC). The Pinewood PAC works hard to support parents and students in our school community. Please see the attached information about how to sign up for PAC emails.



SOME TIPS AHEAD OF PHOTO DAY

- Get your hair cut in advance of photo day.
- Medium solid colours look best.
- Wear something you are comfortable in
- Photos will be 3/4 cropping, no shoes will be shown.
- Every student will have two photos taken.
- Please avoid wearing a hat or hoodie over your head on the morning of photo day, you can put on a hat for your second photo if you want.
This will prevent "hat hair" in the first photo!
- Get a solid night's sleep ahead of photo day.

