

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

Monday, October 23 - PAC meeting 6:00pm

Tuesday, October 24 - Photo retakes

Wednesday, October 25 - Cross Country Challenge: 3:30pm

Friday, October 27 - Trunk or Treat: (PAC event)

October Updates

October has gone by very quickly! We have had a very busy month, with several opportunities. We are pleased to have enjoyed the start of Grade 6 and 7 volleyball practices and we look forward to the Cross Country Challenge this week. We have had Hot Lunches, and many primary and intermediate classes have taken part in buddy experiences, which provides connection and leadership to those involved.

With typical fall and winter weather expected, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of following the traffic laws and school parking expectations. It takes all of us working together to keep our students and families safe. Speeding in the area and 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 helping to keep children on the sidewalks. Additionally, I would like to remind all of our community to be mindful of our accessible parking spots, as they are used by several families who require these spaces.

Sincerely,
Ms. T. Doukas Ms. S. Hodgins

Cross Country Challenge

On Wednesday, 45 Pinewood students will be taking part in the Cross Country Challenge at Sunshine Hills Elementary after school. This is a wonderful opportunity for grade 2-7 students who love to run to take part in a fun run and to connect with students from across Delta. We look forward to this great event!

Halloween at Pinewood

On Tuesday the 31st, Students are invited to come to school already dressed in costume in the morning. They can remain in costume all day. Please consider those individuals for whom Halloween is very scary. Scary

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, October 31 - 1:15pm:
Halloween Parade

Wednesday, November 1 - Fire
Safety Presentation (Grade 1-3)

Thursday, November 9 -
11:00am: Remembrance Day
Assembly

Friday, November 10 - District
Closure (School Closed)

Monday, November 13 -
Statutory Holiday in lieu of
Remembrance Day (School
Closed)

Monday, November 27 - Non-
Instructional Day (School
Closed)

Thank you!

To our Hot Lunch
committee for another well-
organized and delicious
Hot Lunch event!

masks are not permitted. Costumes are very welcome, but weapons, replica weapons or objects that can be mistaken as such must be left at home. For costumes worn to school, please ensure your child's face is visible at all times. Masks and any other items that prevent students from being identified will not be permitted at school. Costumes must not contain any words or images that could be offensive to others, and students must dress in a manner that is appropriate for and respects the learning environment of the school.

Please be sure any costume worn is easy to manage for your child, and comfortable enough to take part in school activities. Classes will be planning a variety of activities, that may or may not include snacks and treats. Please consider the children that have food allergies, and refrain from sending items that include nuts or other allergens. For more specific information, please contact your child's teacher.

At 1:15 pm, we will be having a Halloween Parade. All students will have the opportunity to parade through classrooms and through the gym. Parents are invited to join in the fun, and are welcome to come watch the parade in the gym. Parents will enter through the gym doors, and can line the perimeter of the gym. Doors will open at 1:15pm

**Please note, parents are asked to only take photos or video of their own child(ren)*

Halloween Evening Safety

We encourage all students to celebrate Halloween safely with the following hints and tips:

- Practice costume safety: Make sure all costumes, wigs and accessories are fire resistant. Make sure the costume is comfortable and doesn't pose a tripping hazard for your child.
- If using makeup, choose non-toxic cosmetic products and test on a small area first to see if any irritation occurs. Many kids have sensitive skin.
- Give kids a refresher on traffic safety.
- Increase your child's visibility – use reflective tape or give them flashlights or glow sticks to carry to ensure they are visible to motorists.
- Encourage kids to stay together and have them stick to familiar, well-lit areas.
- Reiterate that they should never enter a stranger's

house or accept a ride from someone they don't know.

- Inspect your child's candy before they indulge and make sure to remove any treats that aren't age appropriate (e.g., gum or jawbreakers) or that contain food items they are allergic to.

For additional helpful hints, please visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/home-safety/halloween-safety.html>

The Great BC Shake Out

Last week, schools across the province took part in the Great BC Shake Out earthquake drill. At Pinewood, students learned about what could happen during an earthquake and how to keep themselves safe should one ever occur. In addition, our students practiced the "Duck, Cover, Hold" procedure too. This procedure involves ducking under a desk, covering our heads and backs, and holding on to the legs of the desk. Students then counted to 60 and awaited further instructions from their teacher. This was the first of three Earthquake drills that we will complete as part of our Emergency preparedness plan.

Walk your Wheels

In order to ensure student safety, we are asking all students and families to 'Walk your Wheels' on school property from 8:30-9:15am, and after school until 3:15pm. This includes bikes, scooters, skateboards, in-line skates and any other wheeled devices. Additionally, students who ride or roll to school are also required to wear a helmet. Thanks for encouraging safe practices at home.

Remembrance Day Assembly

On Thursday, November 9, we will be hosting our annual Remembrance Day assembly. Families are invited to join us in the gym for this special event at 11:00. Seating will be limited and available on a first come, first served basis. For families with accessibility needs, please contact the school office for assistance.

Dressing for the Weather

Although we have enjoyed some wonderful fall weather and many warm sunny days, last week was much more rainy and wet. As the temperature continues to dip, it is important that 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 is essential in the event of an emergency or unexpected situation requiring a building evacuation. 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.

PAC

The next PAC meeting will be Monday, October 23 at 6:00 pm in the school Learning Commons.

International Programs - Homestay Recruitment

Please see the information below and the letter accompanying this newsletter for more information about becoming a homestay family for an international student.

do something great

Welcome an international student into your home.



- Be a Canadian ambassador and global citizen
- Have a lifelong impact on a child from across the world
- Homestay remuneration of \$1,100 per month
- Choose from hosting for 2 weeks to 5 months or longer
- Benefit from our team's support



Contact us to find out more!

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