

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, Feb. 5 - 8:30am:
Non-District and Non-Catchment Registration opens

Thursday, Feb. 8 - Hot Lunch Day

Friday, Feb. 9 - Panther Friday



Pinewood Updates

In February, our focus is always on kindness, families and friendship, and we are looking forward to a great month ahead. This month, classes will be engaging in learning in a variety of age appropriate ways, recognizing diversity and kindness through our 'Sharing our Stories' project, as well as Lunar New Year, Black History Month, Valentines Day, Family Day and Pink Shirt Day. We are anticipating a wonderful month of learning and friendship.

Sincerely,

Ms. T. Doukas

Ms. S. Hodgins

Student Illness/Reporting Absences

Just a reminder to check student wellness before coming to school. If symptoms of illness are present, please assess whether students are better off staying home. Also, please be sure to call or email our office to notify the school if your child will be absent for any reason.

Drop-off/Safe Arrival

Our morning drop-off time is very busy in the driveway and around the school. All students should strive to be on the school grounds by 8:50 to be on time. Students arriving after the warning bell at 8:55 are still expected to go to their class lineup. When students arrive after 9:00, they must enter through the front doors in order to sign in and pick up a late slip. We appreciate the support of families in getting students to school on time.

Additionally, it is important to note that staff supervision of the school grounds begins at 8:45am.

Keeping Kids Safe Online and In School

We welcome the [BC Government's announcement last Friday](#) aimed at keeping kids and young adults safe from online threats, restrict the use of cellphones in schools and hold social media companies accountable.

Upcoming Events

Monday, Feb. 12- Friday, Feb. 23
- Online Kindergarten
Registration

Tuesday, Feb. 13- 9:00-12:08pm
Delta Fastpitch classes for Grade
1-3 students

**Wednesday, Feb. 14- 9:00am-
12:00pm:** Kindergarten
Registration In Person at PW

**Thursday, Feb. 15 - Lockdown
Drill**

**Friday, Feb. 16 - Pro-D Day -
School Closed**

**Monday, Feb. 19 - Family Day -
School Closed**

**Thursday, Feb. 22 - Grade 7 Treat
Day (fundraiser)**

Friday, Feb. 23 - Panther Friday

**Wednesday, Feb. 28 - Pink Shirt
Day**

Friday, Mar. 1 - PAC Movie Night

Thank you!

To all families for having
ongoing conversations at home
about kindness and friendship!

To all parents for supporting our
motto: Be Kind, Be Safe, Be Fair,
and for reminding students to
make positive behaviour
choices!

The Delta School District already has an administrative procedure in place to cover the use of Personal Communication Devices ([Admin Procedure 145](#)) that provides guidance for schools and educators. In the coming months, the district expects to receive more detailed guidelines from the government regarding the restriction of students' cellphone use in schools. Once that information is received, the district will look at making any necessary changes for implementation at the start of the new school year in September.

At Pinewood, our student planner includes our student handbook where we have shared procedures for cell phones and other electronics. This can also be found on the school website. For your reference:

CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONICS:

*We understand that some students have cell phones for reasons determined by their parents when walking to and from school. However, these **phones MUST BE TURNED OFF once on the school grounds and NOT USED at school** unless being used under direction of the teacher. **Students must go through the school staff for a phone pass, to use the office phone if they require assistance.** It is important that the office is kept aware of any emergency need.*

- Teachers will be in touch with families if devices are going to be used to support education and learning in the classroom
- Students will bring home a user agreement to be signed and returned to the school.
- When students bring their electronics (iPads, smartphones, etc.) to school without prompting from the staff, they will not be given permission to use the device and are required to keep it in their backpack.
- The school is not responsible for the device's safe keeping.
- We are concerned about the safety and privacy of our students. Smartphone cameras or other recording devices are not to be used around the school without the permission of the classroom teacher and the subjects in the photo.
- Parents will be notified if their child is not following our guidelines on electronic use. Students may be asked to keep their devices at home.
- It is important for parents to closely monitor all their child's online activities.

Kindergarten Registration - 2024-2025

A reminder that Kindergarten registration for the 2024/2025 school year will be held from February 12-23, 2024. Please register online for your **catchment** area school during this period of time. In-person registration at Pinewood will be available on Wednesday, February 14. For verification of your catchment area school, please

check the School Locator. Instructions on how to register can be found on the district website: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/student-registration/kindergarten/>

Please refer to the district website for information about procedures for non-catchment and non-district kindergarten applications: <https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/student-registration/kindergarten/>

Non-District and Non-Catchment Applications - 2024-2025

On Monday, February 5, 2024 at 8:30am, the Delta School District will begin to accept applications for Non-District and Non-Catchment students through our district website. Please see the information at the following link for more information.

<https://www.deltasd.bc.ca/schools/student-registration/>

Lockdown Drill

On Thursday, Feb. 15, we will be conducting a Lockdown Drill. During this drill, we will be joined by Vanessa Heal, our District Emergency Preparedness officer, and the Delta Police. Just as we prepare our students to properly respond to a fire drill, they also need to be aware of the proper response during a "lockdown" and "hold and secure". We encourage you to discuss how you expect your child to behave and respond during an emergency or disaster situation.

All schools in the District are required to hold Lockdown and Hold & Secure drills. The purpose of the drills is to provide training for students and staff, so everyone knows what to do in the event of a safety threat.

We realize that the mention of a "lockdown" may raise some questions and concerns. While the incidents of threatening behaviours in our schools is very, very low, we hope that you find this knowledge of our procedures reassuring.

During the Lockdown Drill, an announcement will signal the start. Students and staff will secure in the nearest classroom or office. All classroom doors will be locked and blinds will be closed by supervising adults. Students will be instructed to move out of sight of windows and doors, and will be asked to remain silent. No one will be permitted to leave the room until the drill is over. An announcement will again signal the end of the drill. This will all be complete in about 7 -8 minutes.

Parents and members in our community may notice a police presence in front of our school before, during and after our Lockdown Drill. We partner with the Delta Police in drills like this as they will be taking over and coordinating the response in such a situation. Their practice in navigating our halls and communicating with our staff is vital in their response preparedness as well.

Drinks at School

At Pinewood, students are encouraged to bring a full water bottle to school each day. The water bottle can be kept with the student at their desk or in an easily accessible location that the classroom teacher has identified. During the lunch eating time, students may drink juice boxes or other such drink choices that parents have chosen to provide. At the end of the eating time, it is expected that these 'other' drinks are finished or put away according

to teacher instructions. Such drinks must be easily resealed. This is to avoid sticky spillage which can damage student work. Additionally, parents are asked to refrain from delivering drinks other than water during the school day.

PAC

The next PAC meeting will be Monday, February 26 at 6:00 pm in the school Learning Commons. All Pinewood parents are automatically members of the PAC, and all are welcome to come to these meetings. The PAC can be reached at PinewoodConnect@gmail.com

