



PINE GROVE SCHOOL

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www.dsb.edu.on.ca/schools/pinegrove



Newsletter

October 2009



A Message from Mrs. Smith

We are off to a great start at Pine Grove Public School for the 2009-2010 school year. The students have

settled nicely into their new classrooms and have been working hard and achieving success with the tasks that have been required of them in their new grades. The next time you visit Pine Grove, take a look at the work that is on display in our hallways. Accompanying your child's work is a curriculum expectation to show you what the task was that was required of him/her.

We had a tremendous turn out of Pine Grove families and friends who attended our Meet the Teacher Night BBQ last month. Thank you to our School Council for providing the BBQ for our families.

School Council Meeting

Please join us for our next School Council Meeting on **Monday, October 5th** at 6:00 p.m. in our staff room. We will be holding elections for our new council officers. Everyone is welcome to attend our meeting!!

Students of the Month for September 2009

This year we are recognizing up to four students from each class who represent the Character Education Trait that has been selected for that month.

September's trait was REPSECT. The following students have been selected as our Students of the Month for September for their classes:

Mrs. Nowell- Jordan, Olivia

Mrs. Dyck- Aidan M., Chelsea, Kira

Mrs. Shepard- Abby, Rheagan, Lilly

Ms. Delahunt- Samantha, Dylan, Ryan, Emma, Riley, Favour, Payton

Mrs. McConnell - Ethan M., Sarah

Mrs. Meleskie- Kira, Samia, Karan

Ms. Whitesell- Hailey, Dahabo, Rachel

Ms. Kond- Ajah, Harry, Olivia K., Jacob

Mr. Leighton- Angelo, Hailey, Mackenzie



Harvest Lunch



Please remember not to send lunch with your child on **Thursday, October 8th**. We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with our Annual Harvest Lunch. Parents are welcome to help serve food at our luncheon. Please let your child's teacher know if you will be available to help.

School Pictures

Your child/ren's individual and class picture were taken by Edge Imaging on September 16th. **Picture proofs were sent home earlier this week with an order return date of Tuesday, October 6th.**

Retakes of individual student pictures will be done on October 16th. If you wish a retake, please indicate on the original proof package and return to your child's teacher. All proof packages must be returned to the school regardless of whether you are ordering.



Professional Activity Day

Friday, October 9th is a Professional Activity Day with the District School Board of Niagara. There will be no classes for the children on this day due to staff involvement in workshops and meetings on data and developing our school growth plan.

Pizza Lunches



Once again we will be having pizza lunches every Friday (excluding holidays and PA days). Monies raised from these lunches help subsidize class trips, transportation and purchase learning resources for your child's classroom.

Please complete the order form and return it to school by the due date. If paying by cheque, please make cheques payable to Pine Grove School. Orders will only be accepted on Tuesdays for the following week's pizza lunch. We thank you for your continued support!!

Thank you to our parents who come in to help tally our pizza and milk count for these days and to the parents who come in and help out on pizza Fridays.

Fruit Kabobs/Hot Lunches



Our School Council will once again be offering their fruit kabobs for first nutrition break on Wednesdays and hot lunches every Wednesday starting **October 7th**. Information and an October order form have been sent

home with your child.

Character Education Trait for October

Citizenship is our Character Education Trait for October. When we are a good citizen, we do our share to make our school, our community, and the world a better place to live.

Ms. Kond's class will be hosting this month's Student Recognition Assembly in the gym on Wednesday, October 28th at 9:45 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend our assemblies!

EQAO Results for 2008 - 2009

How does this assessment fit in the total picture?

The chart below indicates the percentage of Pine Grove, DSBN and Ontario Grade 3 and Grade 6 students who are achieving at or above the provincial standard in the EQAO testing conducted in May and June 2009. When considering these results, it is always wise to look at this snapshot within the larger context.

Assessment is an important part of the teacher's daily instructional practice: observing student's work, marking their assignments, giving tests and projects and having students perform various other tasks.

The main purpose of the teacher's assessment of student learning is to make decisions about what the child needs next for continued growth. It is personalized, and tailored to the instruction taking place in the class.

The Provincial Assessment is designed to inform us about the quality of program across the province; it also provides, for individual students, a part of the total picture, which should be used in conjunction with other assessments.

For the individual student, it is the teacher's assessment, based on the year long experience of that child that is most meaningful.

2008 - 2009 RESULTS....

	<u>Grade 3</u>		
	Reading	Writing	Math
Pine Grove	83%	89%	94%
DSBN	60%	68%	68%
ONT	61%	68%	70%

	<u>Grade 6</u>		
	Reading	Writing	Math
Pine Grove	87%	91%	96%
DSBN	70%	66%	62%
ONT	69%	67%	63%

School Visitors



If you have something to drop off for your child or if you would like to meet with your child's teacher, please see Ms. Boyle in the office. At this time you may leave items at the office or book an appointment time with your child's teacher.

Unannounced classroom visits are disruptive to both your child and the other children in the class. We appreciate your support in this safety matter as we continue to make Pine Grove Public School a safe place for our children and staff.

A Reminder from the Office

We receive a number of messages in the school office concerning lunch arrangements, play dates, reminders to students about picking up siblings, how children are getting home, etc. We ask that you try and organize your day in the morning before your children leave for school. The office can get very busy and sometimes messages do not get delivered before dismissal time. We appreciate your help and will endeavour to be prompt in delivering any urgent messages.

Lost and Found Items

Our lost and found bin is overflowing already. Please encourage your child to check the bin for any lost items or stop in yourself; the bin is located in the hallway outside of the school office.



Sunsweeting Fundraising



Our Sunsweet Greeting Card/ Frozen Delights fundraiser is now underway. Orders are due back to your child's teacher by with payment by **Wednesday, October 14th**. We will advise you of the order pick up date, sometime in early November.

The monies raised will be used to purchase learning resources for your child's classroom and help subsidize special events and class trips.

Hallowe'en Activities



On Friday, October 30th, the students will take part in many special activities. Our morning JK/SK children may wear their costumes to school and will participate in activities planned by Mrs. Nowell. Our afternoon will

consist of a Hallowe'en Parade at 1:45 p.m. with our classes in JK/SK to grade 6 walking out to the front of the school and turning left onto Lake Street. We will turn left at Lakeshore Road and walk along Lakeshore to Simpson Road. We will turn left onto Simpson, then turn into the gate at the back of Pine Grove for our class parties. We are looking for parents to help supervise our walk.

Please help us keep Pine Grove a heart healthy school by keeping Hallowe'en treats and candies at home. Remember to send in healthy nutritional foods to school with your child everyday for our nutrition breaks.

"The Parenting Place"

Information from the Youth Counsellor at your school.

Parenting today is far more complex than it was years ago. As parents we need to cope with the adversity of our times and the many versions of right and wrong our children will face. This can be confusing to us as parents & to our children. In the book "How To Behave So Your Children Will, Too!" by Sal Severe, Ph. D, there are 3 promises highlighted that parents can make, and, work to live by that will help in becoming more successful in our parenting efforts.

1. PROMISE TO HAVE COURAGE. . . . to grow & learn with your child. Be open to and accept new ideas and change. Children spend a lot of years changing. We need to modify our parenting with these changes so that our parenting is age appropriate and fair.

2. PROMISE TO HAVE PATIENCE. . . . LOTS!

Give your child time to change in the direction that you are trying to encourage/instill. When we try a new parenting method we need to give it a consistent

try and time to have impact. Some methods can take weeks to show improvement. Our world runs fast enough as it is with cell phones, computers, 1 hour photos/dry cleaning etc. Positive and productive parenting will always take time. Something our children deserve!!

3. PROMISE TO PRACTICE. . . . your good intentions. Sports teams have practices for good reason. Having a child does not mean we always know what to do or how to do it. Learning new ideas/methods and getting good at using them through practice always helps.

Mrs. Hasenack
Pine Grove Youth Counsellor

Communication Matters

(Smart talk from DSNB Speech-Language Pathologists)

Did you know that children whose parents are involved in their education do better at school than those with less involved parents? They get better grades, have a better attitude toward school and demonstrate more appropriate behaviour. Consider trying a few of these tips to make a **BIG** difference.



Tip 1: Get involved

- *Attend open houses, book fairs, BBQ's, parent/teacher interviews

Tip 2: Check on homework

- *Communicate with your child each day about homework.
- *Provide an organized and quiet place for your child to do school work.
- *Help your child manage the workload by dividing assignments into smaller parts.

Tip 3: Make home a good place for learning

- *Praise and encourage your child.
- *Read and encourage your child to read every day.
- *Set aside a few moments daily to talk with your child about a special interest he/she has.

