



PINE GROVE SCHOOL

690 Lake St., St. Catharines, ON L2N 4J5

(905) 935-1901

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



Newsletter

September 2009



A Note from Mrs. Smith's Desk.....

Welcome back to Pine Grove Public School!!! A "warm" Puma welcome is extended to all students, parents and staff returning to Pine Grove. If you are new to our area, we extend a special hello to you and hope you enjoy your year with us!!

Pine Grove has a tradition of high academic standards and positive school participation and, we as a staff, expect our students to put their best foot forward and achieve their best results in all endeavours.

We invite and encourage your interest, support and participation in the activities at Pine Grove. We look forward to working closely with you as we strive together to ensure the best possible education for all our students.

Balanced School Day Times

Pine Grove School is on a balanced school day. Our school day is broken down into three 100 minute blocks of instructional time. School start and finish times have not changed. Our morning entry bell will ring at 8:45 a.m. and our dismissal bell will ring at 3:15 p.m. **It is very important for your child to be at school no later than 8:40 a.m.** That way he/she can enter the building with his/her classmates and be ready to begin promptly at 8:45 a.m.

O' Canada, the Pledge of Freedom and daily announcements will be held at the beginning of the first break. Our first Nutrition/Fitness Break is from 10:25-11:05 a.m. where the children will have 20 minutes to eat their food and then play outside for 20 minutes. Our second Nutrition/Fitness Break is from 12:45-1:35 p.m. It will be during this break that the students will be allowed to go home for lunch.

Our Pine Grove day will look as follows....

8:45-10:25 a.m.	First Block
10:25-11:05 a.m.	Nutrition/Fitness Break
11:05-12:45 p.m.	Second Block
12:45-1:35 p.m.	Nutrition/Fitness/ Lunch Break
1:35-3:15 p.m.	Third Block
3:15 p.m.	Dismissal

Our morning JK/SK class times will be from 8:45-11:15 a.m. and our afternoon JK/SK times will be from 12:45-3:15 p.m.



Pine Grove Public School Staff 2009- 2010

Mrs. Smith	Principal
Mrs. Gorham-Nowell	JK/SK/ Music/Drama
Mrs. Dyck	JK/SK
Mrs. Shepherd	Grade 1
Ms. Delahunt	Grade 1 / 2
Mrs. McConnell	Grade 2/3
Mrs. Meleskie	Grade 3
Ms. Whitesell	Grade 4/5
Ms. Kond	Grade 5
Mr. Leighton	Grade 6
Mrs. Ten Brinke	FSL
Mrs. Halfyard	Resource Teacher
Ms. MacKenzie	Prep
Ms. Boyle	Secretary

Mrs. Winger
Mrs. Rix
Mr. Curry
Mr. Hayday
Ms. Hasenack
Mrs. O'Neill

Head Custodian
Custodian
Lunch Supervisor
Lunch Supervisor
Youth Worker
Youth Connection
Nurse

Classes may not be finalized for the next 2 - 3 weeks. We are still waiting to hear from students who have moved and new students who are moving into our area. Due to our high primary numbers, we may have to reorganize some of our class lists.

BBQ/Open House



Your child/ren would love to introduce you to their teacher, have you visit their classroom and show you around our building during our Meet the Teacher BBQ on

Tuesday, September 15th from 5:00-6:30 p.m. Come out and join us for some great food prepared for you by our School Council. More information will be going home shortly about this exciting family event!!!

Picture Day

School photographs and class pictures will be taken by Edge Imaging on **Wednesday, September 16th** with individual retakes scheduled for Friday, October 16th.



School Council Meeting



Welcome back Pine Grove families! Our first Council meeting for this year will be held on Monday, September 14th. All meetings are open to all parents and guardians and are held in our staff room beginning

at 6:00 p.m. Dates for each of our meetings are located on the school monthly calendars which will be available on the school website. We look forward to seeing you at our meeting.

Sunsweeting Fund-Raising



This year we will again be offering two great fund-raising programs from Sunsweet; their Frozen Delights (cookie, muffin dough, etc.) and Greeting Cards.

This fund-raising event will run from **September 23rd to October 13th** with a pick up date in early November. More information will be coming home with students shortly.

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

Pine Grove School Website

Our school website has been updated and is working for you to access from your home.

<http://www.dsb.edu.on.ca/schools/pinegrove>

Please refer to our website for school information. Our website will continue to be updated by Mrs. McConnell on a regular basis.

We are trying hard this year to be more environmentally friendly and save trees. Information regarding our school monthly newsletters and calendar, school council meeting minutes/events, balanced school day, hot lunch, etc. can be found on our website.

However, if you would still like to receive a hard copy Pine Grove's monthly newsletters, please email us and let us know at pin@dsbn.edu.on.ca

Character Education Trait

September's Education Trait is **R E S P E C T!** Children who learn respect treat others with care and courtesy. Children who respect themselves also respect others.



"Puma Paws" will be handed out by our Pine Grove staff to students who display our monthly character trait. Once a student receives a paw, he/she may bring it to the

office and place it in our draw basket. Paws will be drawn randomly following morning announcements for students to come to the office for a special treat.

Your child's class will be hosting one of our monthly Student Recognition Assemblies. The assembly will take place at the end of each month. The date and time will be on our monthly calendar.

Ms. Delahunt's class will be hosting September's Student Recognition Assembly on Thursday, September 24th at 9:00 a.m. in the gym. Parents, families and friends are welcome to attend our assemblies. Your child's photo will be displayed in the front hallway on our Recognition Bulletin Board.

Puma Pride Spirit Day

Ms. Delahunt's class has designated Tuesday, September 22nd as "Party Day"; the theme for our first Puma Pride Spirit Day.

We are asking all school members to bring in their party hats, horns and wear their special party clothes and shoes on this special day.



The class showing the most participation will display our Puma Pride banner until our next spirit day in October.

Peanut/Nut Safe Building



Pine Grove Public School is a peanut and nut safe building. We have students in our building who have severe allergies to peanuts and nut products. Due to the life threatening nature of this food allergy, we are asking for your support and co-operation with this important matter.

For the continued safety of these children, we respectfully request that no food containing nuts or nut products be sent to school with your child.

We consider the safety of all our students a top priority and we feel confident that you will understand the seriousness of this request.

Lost and Found



Let's be sure to start the year off on the right foot. Please identify your child's clothing, outerwear, backpack and lunch bag. It only takes a moment to write the name or initials (with permanent marker) on all items. If you find you are missing an item, please make sure to come in and check the lost and found located outside the Main Office.

Early Release Day

Friday, September 25th has been designated as an Early Release Day. There will be no afternoon classes for the children on this day. The children in grades 1-6 will be dismissed at 11:55 a.m. Our staff will be working on professional development and planning during the afternoon.

There will be no afternoon class for Mrs. Dyck's JK/SK class on this day.

Milk Sales



Students will be able to purchase milk at lunch time beginning on Tuesday, September 8th. White or chocolate milk may be purchased for 75 cents each.

Pizza Lunches

Every Friday, we will once again be offering our families in Grades 1 to 6 the opportunity to order a pizza lunch for their children - watch for the October order form coming home shortly. Special lunches will be held during the second nutrition break from 12:45 - 1:05 p.m. Monies generated from these pizza lunches have been used in the past to pay for our Carousel Player productions, offer a free pizza lunch for all students, as well as subsidize the costs of both primary and junior trips. However, as with so many school activities, we can only be successful if we have the parent volunteers to help us. For our pizza lunches, one Wednesday per



month, we need at least one parent volunteer per classroom to transfer all the individual orders onto a master sheet and help with the counting and rolling of the money. On pizza lunch days, from approximately 12:40 to 1:00, we need one or two parent volunteers per class to hand out the pizza orders and help supervise the students.

If you are able to give 20 minutes of your time on any Friday, please leave your name with Ms. Boyle in the office.

School Visitors/Dismissal Procedures

We would ask parents to wait for your child outside the back doors of the school at lunch time and the end of the school day. We are trying to encourage independence in dressing and organizing personal belongings and the hallways outside of the classroom can become quite congested during bell times.

If you would like to speak to your child's teacher, please write a note in your child's agenda call to make an appointment.

If your child needs to leave school early for an appointment, again, please write a note to your child's teacher in their agenda. When you come to pick your child up, please come to the office and let Ms. Boyle know so she can sign your student out of the school. Ms. Boyle or Ms. Smith will go and get your child out of class.

