



PARROT TALK

Together, Let's Change the World!

A Publication of Pinecrest PTA

September 25, 2009

Vol. 2, Issue 3

Editor: Jeanny Labourdette

FALL CALENDAR

- 09/23 PTA Meeting, 8:45am, Media Center
- 09/28 NO SCHOOL*
- 09/29 Deadline for Membership Envelopes (office)
- 10/01 Sportsfest Meeting, 8:45am
- 10/01 5th Grade Luncheon Meeting 2:00pm, room 731
- 10/07 National Walk to School Day
- 10/19 NO SCHOOL*
- 10/20 Red Ribbon Week begins
- 10/26 United Way Week begins
- 10/28 PTA Meeting, 8:45am
- 10/29 Family Movie Night
- 10/30 NO SCHOOL*
- 11/01 Daylight Savings Time ends
- 11/07 SPORTS FEST—School Carnival!
- 11/11 NO SCHOOL/Veteran's Day
- 11/18 PTA Meeting, 8:45am
- 11/26-29 Thanksgiving Recess!!
- 12/19-01/03 Winter Recess!!

*Teacher planning day

Message from our PTA President: Dorothy Isriel

Thank you to all of the wonderful parents who have contributed so much to our school in the first few weeks.

The PTA has had a tremendous amount of support for our programs. Please continue to get involved. I would like to extend our thanks and appreciation to our principal, Mrs. Diaz, the teachers and all of the staff, who have been very helpful to the PTA.

Our biggest fundraiser is coming up soon. SportsFest will be November 7th.

Keep an eye out for more information.



The 5th Grade Parents The first meeting of the 5th grade luncheon/party committee is set for Thursday, Oct. 1 at 2 p.m. in Mrs. Davis' room (Room 731). The 5th grade luncheon, held at the end of the school year, is Pinecrest's traditional celebration of completing elementary school and the students' opportunity to say goodbye to many of their friends that will no longer be schoolmates. It is a BIG event, and takes numerous parent volunteers that will work on various subcommittees to make it successful (many hands make light work!). Most of the work will be done later in the year closer to the event, but this initial meeting is to establish the sub committees and finalize the venue. Any 5th grade parent interested in participating in the committee is welcome to attend.

NEW EDITORS WANTED!
WILL TRAIN... PLEASE CONTACT
JEANNY @ 786-229-9723
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



Parrot Talk

is published Bi-Weekly.
Please email your
news items for consideration to all editors:

Diane Davis:

diane@wdigitech.com

Jeanny Labourdette:

jeanny_labourdette@msn.com

Suzie Brown Vazquez

suzannev@bellsouth.net

Upcoming Copy Deadlines
10/2 & 10/30



RED RIBBON WEEK!!

October 20th through the 23rd



Every year, Pinecrest participates in this nationally-recognized week of activities to teach students about the dangers of drugs and how to make healthy lifestyle choices. Our wonderful guest speakers are key to making this week meaningful! Parents, if you have professional experience or contacts in law enforcement, substance abuse prevention or another appropriate area, WE NEED YOU! Speaking slots are available Tuesday through Thursday Oct. 20-23 – we need a minimum of 12-24 speakers! Contact our school counselor, Ms. Drittel-Kaplan, at 305-667-5579, ext. 117, if you can help or know someone that can.



10/06/09



Volunteer Registration
 All volunteers, new & old, must register online with the District to be an approved volunteer. Please visit the website www.dadeschools.net and enter the Parent Portal to register. For Level 1: After submitting the online form, you must go to our school office and show your ID to a staff member. For Level 2: You must print the online form and take it to the office for Mrs. Diaz signature and then make an appointment downtown to get fingerprinted.

We are celebrating **National Walk to School Day** on October 6th with our school board representative Dr. Feldman. If you would like to join the fun please meet us at Pinecrest Gardens before 8:00am. At 8:00 am Coach Wolfson and Dr. Feldman will lead our walk to the Pinecrest Elementary Campus down Red Road. Get your heart pumping, alleviate school traffic and reduce your carbon footprint for a day!
Going green can be fun!



HELP WANTED



Parrot Talk Newsletter Editors

Editors are needed to help publish the newsletter this year. This is a great option for a parent that wants to do their volunteering from home..... Personal Computer with some basic Microsoft Office skills helpful — we can train you on how to use the publishing software.. For more info, contact jeanny_labourdette@msn.com or 786-229-9723.

Public Relations Chair

Help us share our good news! Volunteers needed to write and send press releases to community papers, and coordinate collection of model releases.

Book Fair Co-Chair

Work with Scholastic to plan and implement the school book fair. Organize volunteers to set up, run and break down the fair during the end of January.

Art Appreciation

No art knowledge required! Chair coordinates 3rd-5th grade parent volunteers who visit classrooms monthly to

present a selected artist. All materials provided.

School Clubs/Activities

Help your child pursue their passion! Virtually all school clubs are dependent on parental participation - at a minimum most require a parent or two to coordinate registration and other routine administrative tasks. Some, such as drama or safety patrol require more extensive volunteer commitments. Look for more information soon.

School Store-Uniform Liaison

Volunteer to collect,, organize and place orders for school uniform shirts 2-3 times per year.

Red Ribbon Speakers

Parents if you have professional experience or contacts in law enforcement, substance abuse prevention or another appropriate area contact school counselor, Lynn Drittel-Kaplan, 305-667-5579, ext. 117.

Math Superstar Room Coordinator

The following classes don't have

volunteers yet. Please help out if you can!! **Kindergarten:** Ms. Lundblad, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Tamayo, Mrs. Biegen, **1st Grade :** Ms. Simpson, Ms. Santini, **2nd Grade :** Ms. Lindsey, Ms. Molina, **3rd Grade :** Ms. Smith, Ms Trifiletti, Ms. Mojicar, Ms. Gillott Ms. Alicot, **4th Grade :** Ms. Altfield Ms. Perez, **5th Grade :** Ms. N. Garcia, Ms. Schlesinger, Ms. Witus, Ms. Davis and Mrs. Kondrat

Career Day Co-Chairperson

Help coordinate and organize hand-outs, speakers, classroom, schedules. This event is not scheduled until April but work begins early January. Great PR position to meet parents, Community leaders, etc. Call Jeanny Labourdette, 786-229-9723. jeanny_labourdette@msn.com

More information on Volunteering

contact Dorothy Isriel

305-663-9390

(doisriel@bellsouth.net).



Be a Math Superstar!!!

Hey, Kids! This year you will definitely want to participate in the Math Superstar program!

Do you know WHY???? Because **NEW** this year, in addition to the milestone prizes and the trophies, the top 3 scorers from each and every class with a minimum of 250 points will be eligible to enter a drawing to win lots of fun prizes including : **Nintendo/WII/Xbox/PS2 game of your choice (\$50), Family outing to Gameworks (\$40 gift Card), iTunes \$20 Gift Card, 4 Movie tickets, Remote Control Car, and much more....**

In addition, win the following prizes for milestones achieved with recognition for your achievement in Parrot Talk : **50 points – A free ice cream, chips or cookie from the school cafeteria. 100 points – A \$1.00 voucher to be used in the school store. 200 points – A \$3.00 voucher to be used in the school store. 300 points – A \$5.00 voucher to be used in the school store. 400 points – A \$8.00 gift card from Blockbuster**

AND remember, Math Superstar trophies will be awarded to the top three scorers per grade level

SO.....with so many prizes/awards to win, don't you want to be a Math Superstar??



PINECREST ELEMENTARY PTA SPONSORED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS 2009-2010

Below is an overview of the PTA-sponsored after school club programs that are currently planned for this school year. This is for planning purposes only – you will receive registration information separately for the individual clubs. If your child is interested in more than one activity, please choose clubs that do not conflict. Because enrollment is limited in all clubs, and programs generally reach capacity quickly, club fees are non-refundable. For security reasons, all students must be picked up promptly at club ending times, so please take this into account when selecting after school activities.

Tanya Pino, PTA Clubs and Programs VP, tany-iap3@bellsouth.net or 305-494-8545

ART CLUB (5th graders)- Increase artistic skills and knowledge of fine arts through a field trip to an Art Museum and projects. Projects include working in clay, paper mache and paint. Limited to 15 students. Faculty sponsor Ms. Bittel. **Meets every other Wed. from 10/7 to 4/21 from 2 to 3pm.**
Fee \$120 for 13 meetings

CHESS CLUB (K-5th)- Learn to play chess or enhance your game and improve your tournament play. Class teaches openings, middle games, endgames, strategies, tactics and combinations. Each class limited to 12 students. Offered through Chris Stormont/ Stormont Kings. Session I (Fall) 10/06/09 – 2/04/10 (15 weeks) / Session II (Spring) 2/9/10 to 5/25/10

Tuesdays: 2pm – 2:55pm (Beginning/Int for K-1st) \$145
Thursdays: 2pm – 2:55pm (First timers class for K-1st) \$145
Tuesdays: 3pm – 4:25pm (Intermediate/Advanced 2-5th) 195
Thursdays: 3:00 – 4:25pm (Beg./Int. for 2-5th graders) \$195

CHORUS (4th & 5th graders only)- Faculty sponsor Ms. Kohanek. Acceptance by audition on Wednesday September 23rd at 2pm - Room 807. **Meets Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00PM in the Music Suite - Room 807, Fee: \$100 per year**

HARAMBEE (2nd -5th graders)- A celebration and exploration of African-American History. Limited to 15 students Faculty sponsor Ms. Williams. **Every Monday from 3:00 4:00pm beginning October 5th**

GEOGRAPHY CLUB (3rd, 4th, & 5th graders)- Learn Geography (fun and creative atmosphere) while preparing to represent Pinecrest Elementary in county and national geography bees! Students will learn states and countries by playing geography games, using the computer, working with puzzles, and more - even holding mock competitions! Limited to 15 students. Faculty sponsor Ms. Batten, **Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. (alternates with Art Club): Beginning Sept. 30th -Cost \$130/16 meetings**

JOURNALISM CLUB (4th and 5th graders only)- Love to write? Young reporters will learn basic interviewing and editing techniques that will be showcased in a professionally designed and printed school newspaper. Please note this is not a remedial course: students with a foundation of good writing skills will enjoy the club more. Limited to 20 students. Faculty sponsor Ms. Kondrat, **Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. Beginning October 7th \$75 per session (8 classes per session)**

MONEY MANAGEMENT 101 (4th and 5th graders only) Students will learn how to make a lifetime habit of managing money to build wealth, increase savings and promote philanthropy using multi-media systems and an interactive financial literacy curriculum. Limited to 12 students. Faculty sponsor Ms. Vega, **Every Wednesday from 2-3 p.m. Beginning October 7th. Fall and Spring Sessions offered, \$130 per session (10 classes)**

ORCHESTRA (2nd – 5th graders)- Faculty sponsor Ms. Kohanek. Beginning Orchestra - meets on **Wednesdays from 2:00-3:00 p.m. in the Music Suite Room 407.** Advanced Orchestra - meets on **Mondays from 3:00-4:30 p.m. in the Music Suite Room 807.** Rehearsals week of October 5th, \$100 per yr.

SCIENCE CLUB – (2nd - 3rd grades and 4th - 5th grades) Faculty sponsors Ms. G. Diaz and Ms. Torres for 2nd and 3rd graders and Ms. Alicot for 4th and 5th graders, 2nd and 3rd graders will meet on Fridays in room 403 from 3:00pm - 4:00 pm. 4th and 5th graders will meet on Mondays from 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. beginning October 5th. Fall and Spring Sessions offered, \$130 per session (10 classes). Limited to 12 students

MARK THE DATE: November 7th, 11am- 4pm

SPORTS Fest

Pinecrest Elementary School
November 7th, 2009

BE A SPORT AND SHOW SUPPORT!



Look out for underwriting and silent auctions forms.



If you can help, please attend the organizational meeting **Thursday, Oct. 1st at 8:45am** at the home of Siby Torrese, 10400 SW 70 Ave.



If you cannot attend but can help please contact Ybis Frevola (305) 632-3672, jimandybis@bellsouth.net
Siby Torrese (305) 345-7182 jtorrese@bellsouth.net

Family Movie Night



1st Annual Family Movie Night
October 29th

Come with family and friends to watch a movie under the stars.
Lots of food, games and fun.

Membership News



We are in the process of compiling the 2009-10 Pinecrest Elementary School Directory. You will find the directory an invaluable tool for both you and your child. It comes in handy when your child has homework questions that his or her peers can answer and to make social plans. However, we need written permission to include your child in the school directory. By filling out the PTA membership envelope you consent to your child's information being included in the directory.

A second round of envelopes will go out this week only to the children for whom we do not have envelopes.

While we encourage everyone to join the PTA, you are under *no* obligation to join the PTA or purchase a directory. If you want your child's information to be included in the directory, please simply fill out the relevant information and ***return the envelope by Tuesday, September 29. Thank you.***

Thank You

*****Listeners Wanted*****

Are you looking for a meaningful way to help children of Pinecrest Elementary while learning skills to use with your own family? Do you want to get to know the Pinecrest Elementary School teachers better? Well...The Listeners program is for you. Volunteers will be assigned a child to "listen" to once a week for approximately 20 minutes. Listeners will offer support and limited skills training for everyday life stressors. Requirements for this program include attendance at 1 training and 4 follow up meetings for supervision. The training session is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2009 from 9 am-12 noon at Howard Drive Elementary School! If you are interested or have any questions, please contact **Andrea Loeb** at:

mommyloeb@aol.com or (305) 205-3118!

The PTA would like to thank the wonderful parents who have given valuable time over the summer and at the beginning of school year.

Diane Davis for her hard work over the summer on our Special Edition Parrot Talk, as well as Suzy Vazquez and Jeanny Labourdette who work tirelessly all year to put together our newsletter.

Monica Schatz for Room Parent Coordination and delicious treats at our events.

Judy Kettler for going above and beyond with our School Store.

Linda Lau for chairing our Gift Wrap Fundraiser.

And to all of you that help in so many ways each and every day. Thank You!!

And a very special THANK YOU to Keith Hoebel at the UPS STORE, 6800 SW 40th Street, Miami, FL, Tel: 305-667-2379 for making it financially possible for Pinecrest to print our newsletter.



Together the WORLD
Let's change



The UPS Store®

ADDENDUM
ADDITIONAL DATES
TO REMEMBER

- **09/28** -NO SCHOOL,
Teacher Planning Day

- **09/29** -H1N1 Swine Flu Town Hall Meeting, Village of Pinecrest, *6:00-7:00 PM* Evelyn Greer Park
8200 SW 124 St.

- **09/30** Education Advisory Council Meeting, Pinecrest Community Center, *9:30AM*
5855 Southwest 111th Street,
Consultant from village will be present to hear from parents and school administrators on the transportation needs of our residents. The consultant is conducting a feasibility study to determine if there is enough interest and potential ridership to warrant the village developing a trolley system.

- **10/5-10/12** School Picture Sales

- **10/06** This will be Pinecrest Elementary's OFFICAL "WALK TO SCHOOL DAY". This will allow Dr. Feldman our School Board Member to walk with us as well as our principal, Mrs. Diaz.

- **10/15** PICTURE DAY

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