

Pinecrest Schools Canyon Country

Toddler, Preschool, Elementary & Middle School



The Pinecone

October 2011

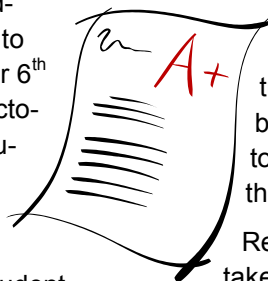
Barking with the Big Dogs...



Congratulations to everyone for getting off to such an incredible start this school year! Students are looking fantastic in their uniforms, parents are making every effort to make sure students are here on time, Middle School is using their agendas to keep organized, books are covered, and smiling faces are coming into the office to tell us about their wonderful days!

It was wonderful to see so many of our parents at our Back-to-School Night. Don't forget that you can still pick up information on After-School Activities such as: Tae Kwon Do; Keyboarding and Guitar lessons; After-School Clubs like Weird Science and Cooking Club; and more in the office!

Please watch for mid-quarter progress reports to be sent home on October 6th for Middle School and October 8th for Elementary students. Remember that this is a mid-quarter report; this is a valuable tool to see where your student stands, and to make adjustments in studying habits if need be. If you need to set up a Parent-Teacher conference, please do not hesitate to contact the office, myself, or your



child's teacher.

In our character-building curriculum this month, we will be focusing on Courtesy. This unit includes a variety of courteous behaviors, including showing respect, being a good friend, behaving, and speaking with consideration.

October also brings the beginning of games for our Pinecrest Bulldog Athletes! Please check the schedules online at www.PinecrestSchools.com/canyon and help us support our athletes! Go Bulldogs!

Lil Angels Photography will be here during the week of October 4th through the 8th. Wait until you see the pictures that will be available of *your* little angel! This one is always a favorite of all of our families! Then, School Pictures will be taken on October 21st. Students will need to be in complete uniform for these pictures.

Red Ribbon Week will also take place from October 25th through October 29th. Please watch for more information on this important week when we all make a pledge to be drug free! We will have many exciting events during Red Ribbon Week, including



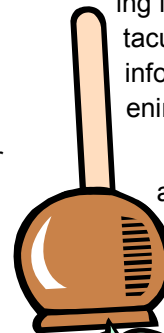
themed days, a Banner Contest, and other fun activities!

Of course, October would not be complete without our annual Halloween celebrations. Our Halloween Parade, Trick-or-Treating, and classroom Halloween Parties for all of our students will take place on Friday, October 29th. We are all looking forward to these "Spook-tacular" events! Watch for more information on all of these frighteningly fun activities.

We have many fun activities and events coming up these next few months. We are starting to prepare for our Fall Family Festival on November 5th. Please see me for ways in which parents can help and be involved in our upcoming activities.

Don't forget....SAFETY FIRST in our parking lot! Please drive slowly and watch for children in our crosswalk. Please remember that there is no parking in our "Kiss and Go Lane." Thank you for helping to make our parking lot safe for all of our students and their families!

October promises to be learning-packed and fun-filled. Please don't hesitate to come say "hello" or "boo" anytime!



Mrs. Rosa Pedvin
Campus Director

“Paws” for Preschool



*This is the way the witches fly,
 witches fly, witches fly,
 This is the way the witches fly,
 Swish, swish, swish.*

*This is the way the ghosts go by,
 ghosts go by, ghosts go by,
 This is the way the ghosts go by,
 Oooh, oooh , oooh.*

*This is the way the black cats howl,
 black cats howl, black cats howl,
 This is the way the black cats howl,
 Meow! Meow! Meow!*

*This is the way the pumpkins laugh,
 pumpkins laugh, pumpkins laugh,
 This is the way the pumpkins laugh,
 Hee! Hee! Hee!*

*This the way the night owls cry,
 night owls cry, night owls cry,
 This is the way the night owls cry,
 Hoo, hoo, hoo.*

6:30 to 7:30 PM. We look forward to seeing you there.

We will be busy getting ready for our Annual Halloween Parade for parents to enjoy on Monday, October 31st the children will be making their costumes at school. Soon after, the children will enjoy some school-wide trick-or-treating fun! Please help us by donating a bag of treats to the office by Friday, October 28th. We are also looking for volunteers after the parade to help distribute the treats throughout the school. We hope to see you there!

*Mrs. Melissa Lowell
 Preschool Director*



Happy Halloween! To get into the spirit of Halloween and help your child develop Language Skills, you can practice singing and reciting Halloween songs and poems with them. It's a great way to begin the month of October!

This month is filled with pumpkins, ghosts and goblins. In the beginning of the month, the children will be learning about Fire Safety and Lil' Angels Photography from the 10th to the 14th. Don't forget that October 20th will be our School Picture Day. Please check your child's cubby for flyers and order forms that will be sent home.

We are going to start our *Kindergarten Buddies* program this month. Once a month, the Pre-Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten students will do a project with our older Kindergarten students. This mentoring program is set up so that our Pre-K students can see what they will get to do next year in Kindergarten!

Our Open House will be on Friday, October 21st from



Upcoming Events	
Oct. 6	M.S. Progress Reports Sent Home
Oct. 7	Elem Progress Reports Sent Home
Oct. 10-14	Lil' Angels Photography
Oct. 17-21	National Character Week
Oct. 20	School Picture Day
Oct. 24-28	Red Ribbon Week
Oct. 31	Halloween Parade/ Parties



Toddler Room 1

October is already here! All of our friends are doing great! We are all learning how to get along and we are all having a fun time together.

For the month of October we are going to be introducing the colors black and orange. We will also be focusing on the number 2. Our



letter for this month is "B" and our shape is square.

We will be having our Open House on Friday, October 21st. We hope to see all of you there. Our Halloween parade will be on Monday, October 31st. We will be making our own costumes. Have a great month!!!!

Miss Ania, Miss Shirley,
Miss Julia and Miss Ashlee



Preschool Room 2

Welcome October! This month will bring us the shorter and hopefully cooler days of autumn. We are looking forward to the changing colors of the leaves and a nature walk where we will search for beautiful fall leaves, twigs and anything else that our students find exciting. October is a very busy and exciting month. We can look forward to decorating our rooms for Halloween



and creating our own costumes for the Halloween parade. Our parade and class party will be held on Monday Oct.31st. Please look for a party sign up the week before if you would like to make a contribution. This month will be loaded with many fun activities such as pumpkin carving and going on a "spooky walk". We will also be busy preparing for our fall Open House that will be held on

Friday Oct. 21st from 6:30 to 7:30. Also, please mark your calendar... our school pictures will be taken on Oct. 20th. A quick reminder to please bring a sweater or jacket to keep in your child's cubby, the weather in the upcoming weeks can be very unpredictable. Thanks in advance for all of your help and contributions!
Miss Alyse and Miss Irene

Preschool Room 3

It has been a terrific first month of school. The children are off to a wonderful start. The children have adjusted well and are making new friends.

For the month of October we will introduce letters D, E, and F. We will also introduce the number 2 and continue counting from numbers 1 through 10. Our colors for this



month are orange and black and our shape is triangle.



The children will be learning about Fire prevention and safety at home and at school. They will also learn on how to be good listeners and how to have good manners.

In fitness we will continue our body movements through music and dance. We will also talk to the chil-

dren about sugar awareness. The children will be busy this month getting our room ready for our Open House. Lots of arts and crafts! Hope to see everyone there!

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs. Maria
Mrs. Jennifer



Preschool Room 4

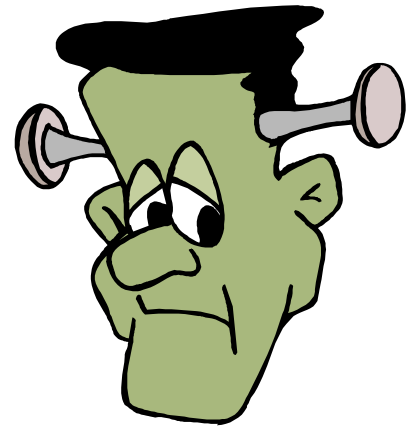
Welcome to room 4! I am looking forward to getting to know all of you.

During this first month of school we will be learning our friends names, classroom rules and playground rules, as well as our daily routine. We will introduce the letters A, B, & C through fun art activities. We will also be working on name



recognition and practice using scissors. We will also be talking about sharing, friendship, and cooperation. I am glad to have your child in my class and look forward to a wonderful school year!

Miss Kim



Pre-Kindergarten Room 5

Our school year is off to a great start. We have been very busy. It has been a pleasure getting acquainted with all of your children.

For the month of October we will introduce the letters: Dd, Ee, Ff, and Gg along with the numbers 4, 5, 6, and 7. We will also practice counting up to 20. The children are doing a great job.

We will introduce the shapes hexagon, crescent, and pentagon and the colors for the month are black and white.



Our themes for the month will be fire safety, the season fall and how pumpkins grow. We will be decorating our room for Halloween with lots of fun crafts.

Our annual Halloween parade will be held on Monday, October 31. We will also be having our classroom Halloween party on that day.

Our interpersonal skills and virtues for the month are listening and manners.

We hope everyone will be able to attend our Open House which will be on October 21st from 6:30 to 7:30.

Miss Pam &
Miss Jenny



Junior Kindergarten Room 6

The school year has gotten off to a great start in Room 6. Everyone has adjusted well to new friends and new activities. We have been busy working hard in our new and challenging Junior Kindergarten curriculum. We have jumped right into studying math concepts, letter recognition, phonics and printing in our new workbooks.

Don't be spooked by all of the monstrous fun in our class during the month of October. We will be very busy getting ready for Halloween. In addition to our daily academic curriculum, we will cut, glue and paint pumpkins, bats and jack-o-lanterns for Halloween. Our Halloween parade and party will be on Friday, October 29th. More information will be

sent home during the month of October.

Homework nights are Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please have your child use pencil on his/her homework. All homework must be signed by one parent and turned in the next day.

I am looking forward to continuing an exciting year in Junior Kindergarten!

Miss Courtney



Kindergarten Room 9

Wow, we can hardly believe that- September is all ready over and that October has arrived! We have had such a great first month and we are so

happy to be back. The children are simply doing a great job! They are working so hard in class.



This month in Mathematics, the children will be practicing their ability to recognize as well as write numbers 1-10. We will complete activities to help the children learn one-to-one correspondence, numerical order, and the concept of greater and lesser values. In addition, we will also learn beginning graphing skills.

In Phonics, Reading and Handwriting we will continue the alphabet from letters Jj through

Ss. Please remember to keep on practicing letter recognition, formation and sound identification at home.

In Science/Social Studies, we will learn about the bones in our body, how a pumpkin grows, we will learn about fire safety, Christopher Columbus and become mad scientists as we brew up some green and slimy goop!

October is always a month filled with fun. As Halloween draws near, the children will be occupied making holiday crafts and eagerly awaiting to go Trick-or-Treating. Please look for information on an upcoming field trip to the Pumpkin Patch. There will also be a Halloween parade and party to look forward to.

Just a few reminders- School begins promptly at 8:30. Please help your child to start

their day off right by arriving on time. It can be very uncomfortable for a child to enter their classroom once activities have begun. Remember that homework is assigned Monday thru Thursday and is due the day after it is given. Please be sure to read all the directions to your child. In addition, homework should be completed in pencil unless otherwise instructed by the directions. We also require a parent signature on each assignment to insure parent involvement during homework time. Finally, no toys are permitted at school. Help your child follow this school rule by knowing what they are packing in their backpacks.

Mrs. Webb and Mrs. Hernandez
Kindergarten Rooms 9

First Grade Room 8

Our semester is off to a great start. September was such a successful month. I would like to thank all the parents for their support at our "Back to School Night". It was a great pleasure meeting all of you. With the beginning of the Fall season, we will be looking to new and exciting lessons. The following subjects we will cover this month are: Social Studies - We continue our studies on Rules and Maps and

Globes.

Science - Plants and Living Things

Language Arts - Identifying and writing complete sentences

Phonics - Short Vowels

Math - Addition and Subtrac-

tion Concepts

Our Halloween Spooktacular Party will be Monday, October 31st. A sign up sheet will be on the door from the week of October 10th.

Keep your eyes on the daily folder for more details and information regarding the costume parade!

I'm proud of our first grade students and all their efforts. Keep up the good work!

Mrs. Wilson



Second Grade Room 7

Wow! I cannot believe how quickly September flew by, and it is now time for falling leaves and pumpkins. We had a wonderful start to our new school year! I want to thank you, once again, for allowing me to be part of your child's educational years. In reading, students will continue learning about Great Adventures. During this month, students should be completing their chosen fiction book (which was started last month), and begin working on their monthly book report. They will also choose a historical fiction book to read this month for next month's book

report.

In language arts, students will continue to practice correct sentence structure and punctuation. They will begin to write "Personal Narrative" and begin to see like a writer. In math, students will learn "Numbers to 100."

In social studies students will continue to differentiate between things that happened long ago and things that happened yesterday. They will begin to demonstrate map skills by describing the absolute and relative locations of people, places, and environments.

In science, students will continue to learn about life cycles.

I am very proud of my students and their effort to do well in school! I am also very happy that their parents give our classroom, and their children much support; which helps in the educational growth of your child.

Those of you who go out with the ghosts, goblins, pirates, princesses and all the other creatures this season brings to life; I hope you have a Spook-tacular month of trick or treats and a very safe and happy Halloween!

Mrs. Camarillo

Third Grade Room 17

Let me start off by saying "thank you" to everyone who attended our Back-to-School Night on September 16th. It was wonderful to talk with all of you. I hope you had an enjoyable and informative evening.

October will be a busy month for Third Grade. During this month, we will take a stand against drugs during Red Ribbon Week. There will be a different theme each day to help us show that we are proud to be drug free. The first quarter progress reports will be sent home this month as well. Fall picture day and Lil Angels Photography will also be part of our busy

month. We will have our annual Halloween celebrations on the 31st, which will include a costume parade, trick-or-treating to each classroom, and our classroom party.

Now for our academics: in Science, we will continue studying the "Roles of Living Things;" in Social Studies, we will finish our unit on Geography and then begin exploring the American Indians; in Math, we will begin Unit 2 – Money and Time; in Language Arts, the children will begin Unit 2 – "Nouns and Explanatory Writing;" as for Reading and Vocabulary, we will

continue to read our weekly stories and work in our Spelling and Wordly Wise books.

The children have been working very hard, and they seem to be getting "back-in-the-groove" of school. I'm very proud of all of them for their hard work, and I appreciate the support and guidance you provide for them at home. Have a "spook"tacular month!

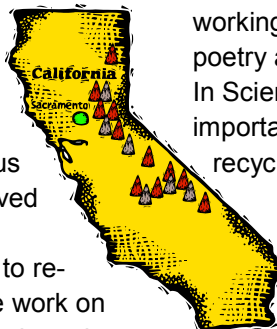
Mrs. Alicia Mowrey



Fourth Grade Room 16

We already have one month of school under our belt, and we are looking forward to accomplishing much more in the months to come! We started reading *The Island of the Blue Dolphins*, by Scott O' Dell. I look forward to seeing all of your projects, which are due on October 24th.

nia. So far we have looked at the different regions that California possesses. This month we will also begin to focus on the people that first lived in California.



In Math we will continue to review multiplication as we work on rounding, place value, and word problems. In Language we will be

working on writing short stories and poetry as well.

In Science we will be focusing on the importance of natural resources and recycling.

Ms. Warrick



We are learning all about our great state, Califor-



Middle School

5th Grade History

This month we explore The Spanish Colonies, The Founding of Jamestown, and The Plymouth Colony. We'll trace the routes of early explorers and describe the early explorations of the Americas. We'll explore the cooperation and conflict that existed among the American Indians and between the Indian nations and the new settlers.

6th Grade History

This month we analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the early civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, and Kush. We'll discuss the locations of the settlements and movements of Hebrew people, including the Exodus and their movement to and from Egypt, and outline

5th English

Students are finishing up their review unit on sentences! We'll spend a good amount of time this month focusing on what makes a good paragraph before beginning to write personal narratives. We will finish the month by beginning unit 3: nouns.

6th English

This month students will be reviewing paragraph structure and will begin writing personal narratives! We will finish the month by beginning unit 3: nouns.

7th English & Literature

Students breezed through our first review unit on sentences. This month, we'll jump into unit 2: nouns. Currently, students are getting comfortable with writing five paragraph essays using the Jane Shaffer model. This includes writing well-developed 1 chunk paragraphs. In Literature, we have finished our first unit in the anthology, which included short stories, autobiographies, and poems. This month we will begin reading our first novel, *Heroes, Gods and Monsters of the Greek Myths*.

the significance of the Exodus to the Jewish and other people.

7th Grade History

We analyze the geographic, political, economic, religious, and social structures of the sub-Saharan civilizations of Ghana and Mali in Medieval Africa. We look at the role of the trans-Saharan caravan trade in the changing religious and cultural characteristics of West Africa and the influence of Islamic beliefs, ethics, and law.



8th Grade History

The American Revolution begins! And 8th grade is there! We analyze the political principles underlying the U.S.

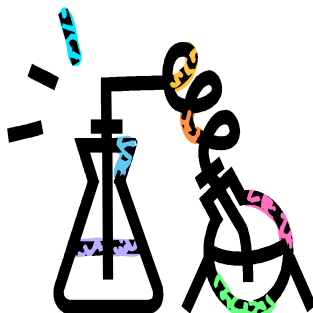
8th English & Literature

Students did a fabulous job on the review unit on sentences! This month they are learning how to write a Jane Shaffer five paragraph essay, which includes practice with writing 1-chunk paragraphs.

Our next essay will be the Personal Narrative. In addition, we will be heading into our second grammar unit: nouns. In Literature, we are finishing up our first unit in the anthology, which included short stories and personal/autobiographical essays. Then we are diving into our first novel *The Help!* While reading this novel we will have interdisciplinary activities/ lessons that combine history and literature.



Miss Di Luigi



Constitution and compare the enumerated and implied powers of the federal government. We analyze the Articles of Confederation and the Constitution and the success of each in implementing the ideals of the Declaration of Independence. Students will choose one important historical figure from the reading and will write and present a research report on that person.

6th Grade Literature

We begin our first novel, *Where the Red Fern Grows*. The story of Billy, Old Dan and Little Ann. A boy and his two hound dogs. They ranged the dark hills and river bottoms of Cherokee country hunting for coons. Old Dan had the brawn, Little Ann had the brains and Billy had the will to train them to be the finest hunting team in the valley.

Mrs. White

One month into the school year and things are looking great. We have some awesome potential field trips on the books. Here are some trips we are working on:

5th Grade-

California Science Center, Peterson Automotive Museum, Reagan Library, Sacramento Trip

6th Grade-

California Science Center, Natural History Museum, Getty Villa, Science Camp

7th Grade-

La Brea Tar Pits, Medieval Times, California Science Center, Catalina Marine Biology Camp

8th Grade-

California Science Center, Physics Day at Six Flags, Reagan Library, Pirate Dinner Theater, Washington D.C. and New York City

As you can see, we'll be checking out all kinds of off-campus fun. More information on all of these trips will be coming out soon!

Until next month, this is Mr. Waybright!

Middle School (cont.)

Our middle school students have settled in to the new school year and are working hard to keep organized and stay on top of their assignments. Keep up the good work!

In Eighth Grade Math, students have become experts at working with integers and rational numbers. Next we will work on solving multi-step equations and proportions.

In Seventh Grade Math, students are using basic algebraic properties using all four inverse operations to solve a variety of one-step equations. Then students will use these same methods to solve and graph inequalities. Next, students will work with decimals to solve equations, find measures of central tendency, and to use formulas.

Sixth Grade Math students will be working with statistics and graphs as they organize, interpret, analyze, display, and evaluate data. We are working with bar graphs, line graphs, and stem-and-leaf plots, and even examining misleading graphs. Then we will move on to using algebraic concepts and properties of numbers to investigate patterns and to write and solve one step

equations using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

In Fifth Grade Math this month, students will review multiplication and will move on to multiplying larger numbers. We will also work on division, divisibility rules, and order of operations.

It would be helpful for all students to spend some time reviewing basic multiplication and division facts so that they are all quick, quick, quick!! Keep flashcards in the car for a convenient 5 – 10 minute daily review! There are lots of fun (and free) multiplication games online as well!

What do you sign your name with? You may call that object a “pen”, but soon our fifth graders may call it a “Frindle” as we begin to read one of my all-time favorite novels by Andrew Clements. This story is sure to bring some wonderful discussions to our Literature classroom as well as many smiles!

Ms. Orland



Specialties

Art

October will be a busy month as we explore the strange and dream-like world of Salvadore Dali. His Figurative Surrealism will be the direction our 3rd through 8th graders will take with October related themes. Kinder through 2nd graders will enjoy the art of print making using potatoes. All students will be combining Science with art when we study then draw and color the effects of light and shadow on a pumpkin

Mrs. Lindsay Beerup

Computers

Well the first month of school went by so fast and now we continue with the month of October. Get ready for Halloween fun. Kindergarten thru 3rd grade classes will create many fun drawings using Kids Pix. This allows them to create a new design, color it, and then print it. Also they will be continuing typing more words and putting them in ABC order.

For 4th and 5th graders we are going to start doing research. I teach them to gather information on different topics. Then they need to answer ques-

tions based on what and where they found the answer. Also they too will be having fun creating word search puzzles for Halloween.

All of middle schools is starting with more advance Word instructions. They are going to create tables and graphs. After they need to format them and color them. With the tables they can create their own biography timelines. They too will practice research for all their school work and creating puzzles for the holiday. So have a fun and safe Halloween.

Mr. German Vasconez

Music

Many exciting things are happening here at Pinecrest Canyon Country in our Music program! Many students have already signed up for Choir and After-School keyboard classes. I'm looking forward to another fun year teaching the gift of music to your children!

We have added a two octave set of bar chimes to our Music program. The students have really

enjoyed playing these beautiful instruments. You will hear them being played at our Holiday Show in December.

During my classroom time with the students, we will continue to learn about music theory, rhythms, note reading and many other exciting musical topics.

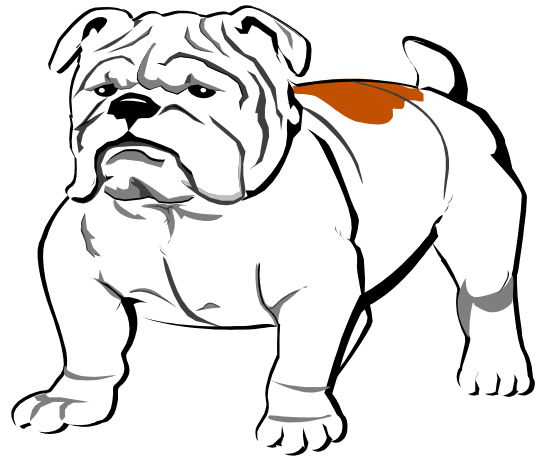
Miss Robin Shelnut

Español – Spanish

During the month of October kindergarten students will be work on basic greetings and will identify parts of the body. Our first graders will be working on how to use and respond to greetings appropriate for the time of the day. The second grade will work on how to greet someone appropriately including greeting one or more friends by gender and number. They will also read and complete phrases with the appropriate greeting. Third grade will review introductions. The fourth grade is working on how to understand and interpret pictures in context as well as to listen to and follow a narrative sequence through pictures.

Specialties (continued)

In fifth grade we will discuss school subjects, languages, and friends. In middle school, our sixth grade class will work on more greetings, subject pronouns, and the verb ser (to be). The seventh grade will also work on greetings, subject pronouns, indefinite and definite articles. Eight grade will work on talking about activities, saying what they like to do and don't like to do.



Mrs. Marci Coreas



Physical Education

P.E. has kicked off to a great start! We are very proud of all students who have strived to do their very best during the first month of P.E. Everyone has done a great job learning daily Stretches and Exercises.

After two weeks of hard work we will continue to raise the bar every quarter by adding additional running laps. This will be a helpful tool to all eligible students who will be asked to take upcoming Fitness Testing along with required Presidential Testing. Great job!

Our "After School Sports Program" is also off to a great start as well. We can see the progress being made at practice, such as good sportsmanship and working together as a team. Coach Ed, Coach Waybright and Coach Justin would like to thank all players for their positive attitude and enthusiasm during our first week of practice.

Teams are as follows: Middle School Boys Flag Football and Girls Basketball.

If there are any questions regarding game and practice schedules sent home with your athlete, please feel free to contact Coach Ed @

emontoya@pinecrestschools.com or 298-2127

Good luck to all of our teams and we look forward to a successful "After School Sports Program."

Coach Ed Montoya
Athletic Director
Pinecrest Schools Canyon
Country

Go Bulldogs!

