

Pinecrest School Lancaster

Pinecone

October 2011



From the Desk of Mrs. Latimer:

Happy Fall to Everyone!



Our first month of school was a huge success! The students have all settled nicely in to the routine and we are proud of their progress.

An exciting month is in store for one and all. We will be enjoying our annual Fall Festival on Friday, October 21st, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. We will have games, food, raffles and of course our haunted house. We look forward to seeing you here for this fun filled event.

Reminder: October 21st is a minimum day. The campus will close at 12:00 pm. There will be no after school care on this day.

We will re-open at 6:30 pm for the Fall Festival.

We will also have our annual Fall Book Fair from October 17th through October 21st in the breezeway, so please stop by and have a look. Remember, books make excellent gifts.

Don't forget about our Otis Spunkmeyer cookie dough fundraiser. This delicious treat will be here in time for the holiday season.

We would like to extend a big congratulations to our new student council members...

President– Ethan Y.
Vice President–Alex V.
Secretary– Rachel A.
Treasurer– Jake B.
Athletic Commissioner: Alexa B.
Spirit Commissioner– Alicia B. and AJ A.
5th grade class president– Jason A.
6th grade class president– Kartik M.
7th grade class president– Grace J.

Committee Members– Evan I., Alex P., Perry J., Brailyn D.

We would also like to give a great big thank you to all of our students who have helped to keep our campus clean and looking beautiful.

We have enjoyed meeting many of the parents and look forward to meeting even more at the festival.

Mrs. Latimer - Campus Director



From the Desk of Mrs. Pedraza:

Happy Fall Everyone! This is my favorite season! As the leaves begin to change and the weather begins to cool down we have the opportunity to teach the children all about seasons!

We are so excited to see the preschoolers adjusting into their new routines! As the weather begins to change please be sure your child has a weather appropriate change of clothes in their cubby.

We look forward to all of the fun activities this month!

Happy Fall,
Mrs. Monique J. Pedraza
Preschool Director



Art/ Library

Library

The 3rd and 4th grade Library Club will be hosting our annual Scholastic Book Fair on October 17th - 21st. It will be in the school library and in the main breeze way on Friday for the Fall Festival. Please come by and support our school. Volunteers are welcome! Please call the school or email me. We can always use the help! Library Clubs start this month! Every Thursday there will be activities in the Library. On October 6th and October 27th will be the 3rd & 4th grade library club. We will be reading fun and exciting stories and making really cool craft projects. On October 13th starts the Scrabble & Chess Club. All 4th-8th grades are welcome. There will be no clubs on October 20th due to the Book Fair.

Art

Art class is in full swing! The older grades are sketching portraits of themselves. All grades will be learning the art of collage making and will be turning out some amazing fall sunsets. The students will have fun making some spooktacular Halloween art projects!

Mrs. Holly Vasconez

From the Health Office:

Fall is here! Please remember to teach your children the importance of washing their hands in order to stay germ free!

Pinecrest School is a **Drug Free Campus**. Medication (including over-the-counter medications) may be administered in the **Health Office Only** with a written Parent Permission Form.

OTC medication will only be given for three consecutive days without physicians note. Prescription medication must be in the prescription container with the students name, date, name of medication and how often it is to be given.

Happy Harvest!

Monique J. Pedraza
Preschool Director

Spanish

In the month of October the Preschool students will count to seven-siete. The colors they will learn are black-negro and white-blanco.

The junior kindergarten students will count to ten-diez.

The colors are black-negro and white-blanco. The Elementary and Middle School students are working on their grammar and writing.

Have a wonderful month!

Mrs. Laura Curiel





Physical Education

October is a very busy month for physical education.

We will continue to work on various age appropriate soccer skills and drills. Fifth grade through Middle School will use the techniques they have learned to play organized games and begin to incorporate team work.

Our soccer team will play their first game of the season on Tuesday, September 27, 2011 at Lancaster Sport Complex.

Our Cross Country team will be going to their third meet on Thursday, September 29, 2011 at Marie Kerr park.

In mid October we will begin fitness training. The National Standards will be sent home. Students are encouraged to set their own personal goals. Each of us perform at different levels of fitness, it is the effort that is most important. When each grade level has completed fitness assessment they will be moving on to Dance and Movement.

Coach Dolores
Coach Mike



Music

Happy October! We are off to a great start in our music program. Preschoolers are singing and dancing to music that is designed to teach them hand and eye coordination as well as introducing them to their body parts. Kindergarten and First grades have been learning some of the elements of music; Dynamics, Pitch, Tempo and apply them with several fun percussion instruments. They are also learning some of the music terms associated with these elements. Second through Fifth grades are learning to read, notate and transcribe music rhythms. We are getting ready to apply what we have been learning in class the first week of October through the end of the year on the recorder. The Eighth grade class is learning about four different styles of music throughout history. When these styles developed, who were some of the important people in the development of these styles, and what was happening historically during the development of these styles. I hope that your students are sharing what they are learning in class with you.

Our after school programs are off to a great start. We have several programs in which your child should be ready to have lots of fun in. **Acoustic Guitar on Mondays** which is for students who would love to learn fun and easy songs in. **Electric Guitar on Tuesdays** for those students who want a rocking sound to jam to. Presently each group meets for 30 minutes. We have also revamped the singing group and its now called **Adrenaline** on Fridays. These practices are subject to change based on the needs of our students! Thank you for supporting our music programs!

Mr. R



Computer Lab

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 questions based on what and where they found the answer. 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 time-lines. They too will practice research for all their school work and creating puzzles for the holiday.
So have a fun and safe and Happy Halloween!

Mr. Vasconez

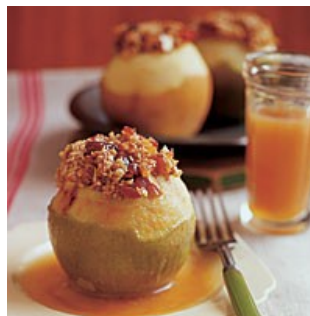


A delicious treat to warm you from the inside out!

Maple Baked Apples

6 apples
6 tablespoons brown sugar
6 tablespoons butter
Maple Sauce:
1/2 cup apple cider
1 teaspoon cornstarch
2 tablespoon lemon juice
1/2 cup maple syrup
1 tablespoon brown sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 teaspoon cloves
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg

Rinse apples and pat dry. Core apples (remove the seeds) without piercing the bottom. Peel upper half of apples and place in a baking dish. Drop a spoonful of brown sugar in each apple. In sauce pan, dissolve cornstarch in cool cider. Add lemon juice, maple syrup, brown sugar, and spices. Stir well over medium heat until thickened. Fill each apple with the maple sauce, then top apples with 1 tablespoon of butter each. Pour 1/2 cup water in baking dish and bake for 1 hour in a 375F degree oven. Top with raisins or chopped nuts. Serve hot with vanilla ice cream on the side. You can also pour the remaining maple sauce over the ice cream or sprinkle ice cream with cinnamon.





Pre-Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten

In Room 2, we had a great first month, meeting new friends and getting to know each other. We look forward to having another super month.

In October Pre-K will be working on the letters Dd, Ee, Ff and Gg. The numbers will be 4,5,6,and 7. Colors black and white and the hexagon, crescent, and pentagon shapes.

In Jr.K the letters we are introducing are Aa, Dd, Ss. Numbers 6,7,8,9, and 10. Oral counting 1-30. Colors black and white and the hexagon, crescent, and pentagon shapes.

This month's theme is Fire Prevention and Safety at home and at school
Our Virtue of the month is Listening and Manners.

Mark your calendars for the following events!

Friday, October 21st-
Fall Carnival 6:30 to 9:30p.m.

October 31st- Classroom Halloween Party

So as you can see the month of October is just bustling with activities.
We hope everyone has a safe and Happy Halloween!

Miss Dennise
Miss Rose
Miss Yeni
Room 2

Preschool

My how quickly we get into the rhythm of school!

The children are doing a great job, learning to share, using their words and being friends to their classmates.

This month in addition to the excitement and preparation for Halloween we will learn the following.

The letters we will learn in October are D, E, F

The number we will be learning is 2.

The theme is Fire Prevention and Safety at school and home.

Our virtue this month is Listening and Manners.

Don't forget about the Fall Festival on October 21st at 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

On Friday October 31st, we will celebrate our Halloween class party and costume parade.

Watch for more information on the sign out sheets.

Miss Diana
Miss Tammy
Room 3



Kindergarten

October is here; the month when magic is in the air!

We are continuing to learn our short vowels and moving along in our reading groups.

In Math, we will be studying geometric shapes.

Science: we will begin Chapter Two, learning about animals.

In Social Studies, we will be discussing Christopher Columbus and the Fall Harvest.

October upcoming events:

October 19th-Fieldtrip to Lombardi Ranch Pumpkin Patch

October 31st, Halloween Costume Party and Parade.

**October 21st, Fall Festival
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.**

Happy Halloween!

Mrs. Ray
Miss Jessica
Room 1

Mrs. Sahugun
Miss Elaine
Room 5

First Grade

Wow! We can't believe how fast the school year is already going! Everyone has done such a great job during the first month and we are excited for October!

Some things to look forward to in October:
Weather and Seasons in Science
Geography in Social Studies
Addition and Subtraction Strategies in Math
We will also do more reading and writing!
Your children are becoming so good at reading and writing! We are so proud of them!

Fall Festival is October 21st! Please mark it on your calendars! Each class is in charge of a game booth so be sure to tell your teacher if you have any ideas. We will also have our Halloween Parties on October 31st!

Remember, if you have any questions feel free to contact us!

Mrs. Alcantar

Mrs. Lucero

Miss Rachel

Miss Rachel

Room 6

Room 7



Second Grade

Now that we're settled into the new school year, it's time to speed things up a little.

Phonics— long vowels, compound words, and syllables.

In our Language Arts book we will learn about subject and predicate

In Math- we are moving into subtraction.

In Science- we will be studying animals and their habitats.

Please note the following important dates:

October 31st Halloween costume parade

**October 21st Fall Festival
(6:30 to 9:30 p.m.) We look forward to seeing you there.**

We have an awesome class this year. Parents, please remember my door is always open!

Mrs. Campbell-Hodges
Miss Carol
Room 8

Third Grade

We have had such an awesome first month of school! We have already had our first classroom celebration...the students really worked hard to earn this! As we begin this next month of school, we look forward to continuing our hard work in all subjects. We are focusing on reading comprehension in our current literature theme, "Inspiration allows us to solve problems". And in math we have reviewed place value, money and comparing numbers. We will be moving in to regrouping this month.

The students have really enjoyed all of specialty classes and have done a great job working on each area with all the different teachers. I am so impressed with the way our class has begun this new year. The fun is just beginning....and with that thought, don't forget to mark your calendars for the Fall Festival on October 21st. It's going to be a great time for all!

We are well on our way to a very successful school year!

Mrs. Romero
Miss Jackie
Room 12



Fourth Grade

Fourth grade is moving along nicely in all areas. I am pleased with their progress. I have enjoyed getting to know all of my students.

Ms. Hernandez has joined us. She has been a great addition to the class. Ms. Hernandez and I are anticipating a busy, but enjoyable month in October.

Here are the areas we intend to cover through the month:

Math– Our goal is to strengthen the long addition, with re-grouping and the long subtraction with borrowing. This is where many mistakes are made, so it is important to drill the importance of setting up the problem correctly.

Language Arts– This month, we will be writing stories. Our focus will be on sentence and paragraph structure.

Science– Our study of plants will continue. Our goal is to plant an herb garden.

Social Studies– Our focus will be on the environment in California. The weather, climate, and taking care of our resources, will be covered in the next chapter.

I enjoyed meeting all of you at Back to School Night. Please make sure to introduce yourselves to Ms. Hernandez. We are looking forward to a busy, but productive month.

Mrs. Warwick
Ms. Hernandez
Room 11

Fifth Grade

There's a cool chill in the air and we are welcoming the nice change in weather.

October brings Fifth grade into a more advanced mastery of multiplication and division, before diving into the world of factors, primes, and composites.

In Language Arts and Reading we are learning to appreciate literary styles, and how to add more detail to our writing.

We have finished our introduction on "Life in the United States" and we are heading into the "Native American Cultures" .

Science has us traveling through the Earth. Fun, Fun, Fun!

We are also gearing up for the annual fall festival on October 21st at 6:30 pm! Hope to see everyone there!

Mrs. Christman
Miss Carol
Room 9



Science

The month of October is full of tricks and treats. The Pinecrest Science lab is no different. Let's explore the many "tricks" we find in nature, which make our environment and our Earth so adaptable to our needs and lifestyles. You never know, we may discover a few treats along the way!

Sixth grade will discover how the Earth changes through erosion and deposition. Did you know that most people believe that most of our groundwater consists of rivers or lakes beneath Earth's surface? It is true that there are underground caves that contain streams and lakes, however, almost all groundwater is in small pores in cracks in rocks. Sixth grade will bust this and any other myths that we come across about our Earth's surface.

Seventh Grade will enter the cell's environment through the use of microscopes in order to discover the difference between animal and plant cells. Then use the power of imagination to make cell models out of gelatin. This will not only prove to be fun, but yummy!

Eighth grade will be exploring the different states of matter. They will discover that matter atoms and molecules that have kinetic energy. Much like a classroom of two and three year olds (and sometimes even eighth graders,) these atoms and molecules are always moving. How quickly and how far they move depends on the state of matter they are in.

Mrs. Marzocchetti
Room 10



Math

6th Grade is jumping from addition, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals to working with equations and order of operations. They are a very responsible and diligent group of workers. I am very proud of them.

7th Grade is using the distributive property to simplify and solve equations. It is imperative that they practice the skills they learn in class nightly by completing all their homework assignments. If they are diligent this year, next year will be a snap!

8th Grade is jumping into solving equations, and finishing up any review concepts from 7th grade. They have a great foundation, and I know completing Algebra 1 is going to be a whole lot easier than they think. They are such a super group of students who work very hard.

Mrs. Greenleaf-Perez
Room 14



Language Arts

Welcome to Mr. Pintarelli's Literary House of Horrors!

This school year is off to a fantastic start! In the spirit of the Halloween season each Middle School grade will be diving into a different spooky story this month.

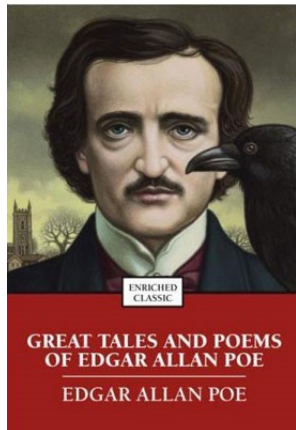
6th Grade: Something Wicked This Way Comes by Ray Bradbury

7th Grade: The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde by Robert Louis Stevenson

8th Grade: Various works of Edgar Allen Poe.

All grades will also be moving forward in their Language Arts books working with verbs.

Mr. Pintarelli
Room 15



History

It's been an exciting first month and we are off to a great start!

6th- History: We are continuing to study The First Civilization and finishing the section on Early Humans. We also made our own imitation cave paintings. Come by the classroom and take a look.

7th- History: We will be learning about the Rise of Islam, Islamic Empires, and Muslims life. We are also developing our note taking , organization skills, and learning different ways to study and prepare for tests and quizzes.

Geography: we will complete our study of the Middle East and then we will move on to Asia

8th- History: We are finishing the Rise of Modern Capitalism and moving on to Nationalism.

Civics: Now we are focusing on the basics of U.S. Government and moving on to our Study of The Constitution!

Mrs. Robin
Room 16