

Pinecrest School Lancaster

Pinecone

September 2011



From the Desk of Mrs.
Latimer...



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the first month of school! We are delighted to be back into full swing and are looking forward to a very successful year. We extend a warm welcome to all of our families and hope you will find your child's experience at Pinecrest Lancaster to be enriching and rewarding.

We hope you will join us for our Rockin' in Back to School Night on Thursday, September 8th from 6:30-8:00pm. We have live entertainment and dessert planned for the evening so that all of our families can meet and enjoy. This evening is mandatory for all middle school parents and new Pinecrest families. In addition, ABC Kids Uniforms will be here as well as Paraclete High School.

For our eighth grade parents, please plan to attend our Washington DC/New York trip Information Night on September 8th at 6:00pm in room 10. We will discuss the costs and all of the amazing places and activities your child will experience.

Please be sure to carefully read our Pinecrest Handbook as it contains all of the pertinent information regarding policies on our campus. The back page needs to be signed and returned by Friday, September 9th.

Feel free to stop by the office and we will happily help you in any way we can.

Sincerely,
Lisa Latimer
Campus Director



From the desk of Mrs. Pedraza...
Dear Parents,

Welcome back to school! I am so excited to be apart of your child's lives and look forward to a fun-filled school year!

Preschool is always full of fun, learning, and growth! Preschool is the foundation for all their future endeavors and we are honored to be apart of this journey!

We are here to answer any questions you may have regarding your child. Please visit our website to view the snack and lunch menus and the calendar of events. We will also send these items home and they will be posted in the classroom.

Our Back to School Night will be held on September 8th from 6:30pm-8:00pm! We will have live entertainment and dessert. Hope to see you there!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Monique J. Pedraza
Preschool Director

Important dates and events....

- 1st- First Day of School
- 5th- Labor Day Campus Closed
- 8th- Back to School Night Preschool-8th
6:30pm-8:00pm
- ABC Kids on campus
- 9th-Grandparents Day Preschool
9:30am-10:30am
- 16th- Constitution Day
- 23rd- Picture Day
- 24th-National Jr. Honor Society Rummage Sale

Physical Education

We have a great year to look forward to in Physical Education for the 2011-2012 school year. Preschool thru 8th grade will review basic movement skills, in addition we will be reviewing various aspects of body coordination through drills and cooperative games. Some rhythmic movement and dance will be practiced, as well as ball handling skills with both hands and feet.

The after school sports competitions around the Antelope Valley are Cross Country, Coed Soccer, Boys & Girls Flag Football, Boys & Girls Basketball, and Coed Softball. In Cross Country, our first sport of the year, interested students should feel comfortable in running for 25 minutes.

Postings for all sports and activities will be posted on the bulletin boards in the schools breezeway. We are very excited to meet all of you in the upcoming year.

Athletic Department
Coach Mike Guillermo
Coach Dolores Synegard



Spanish



Welcome back to a new school year. I hope everyone had a fun and relaxing summer.

I am really looking forward to teaching your child Spanish. It will be very exciting to watch how quickly the children learn another language.

We will begin this school year by reviewing what the children learned last year.

Mrs. Curiel



Music

Welcome BACH! Pinecrest students, this year we are going to have a rocking good time in our music program. We will be learning, listening to and creating music with all sorts of instruments. We are so excited to implement fun songs, games and interactive activities that will help students feel engaged while learning the dynamics of music. If you have any questions or concerns regarding our music program please ask our office staff.

Mr. Ramirez
Music Teacher

Music can change the world because it can change people-Bono

From the Health Office:

Welcome to back to Pinecrest School Lancaster. I would like to start off by saying; I look forward to caring for your child this school year. The health of children is very important to a successful school year.

Students **MAY NOT** carry medication of any kind on school grounds.

Pinecrest Middle 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 and 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 the medication and how often it is to be given.

Welcome Back!

Mrs. Monique Pedraza
Preschool Director



COMPUTER LAB

Welcome back to a new school year. Hello everyone, I hope you all had a wonderful summer, I can't wait until I read all about it when you type up your first essay assignment. For those who don't me, I'm known around campus, as "Mr. V". I have been teaching here at Pinecrest Lancaster for 9 years now. I look forward to start the new school year with great expectations from all of the students.

For the month of September we are going to start with the introduction of Word and it's basic functions. Kinder thru 2nd grade will be introduced to the different parts of a computer then learning the basic keys on the keyboard and later typing their weekly spelling words in various types of exercises using a tables in the process, plus how to open, save, and exit a program.

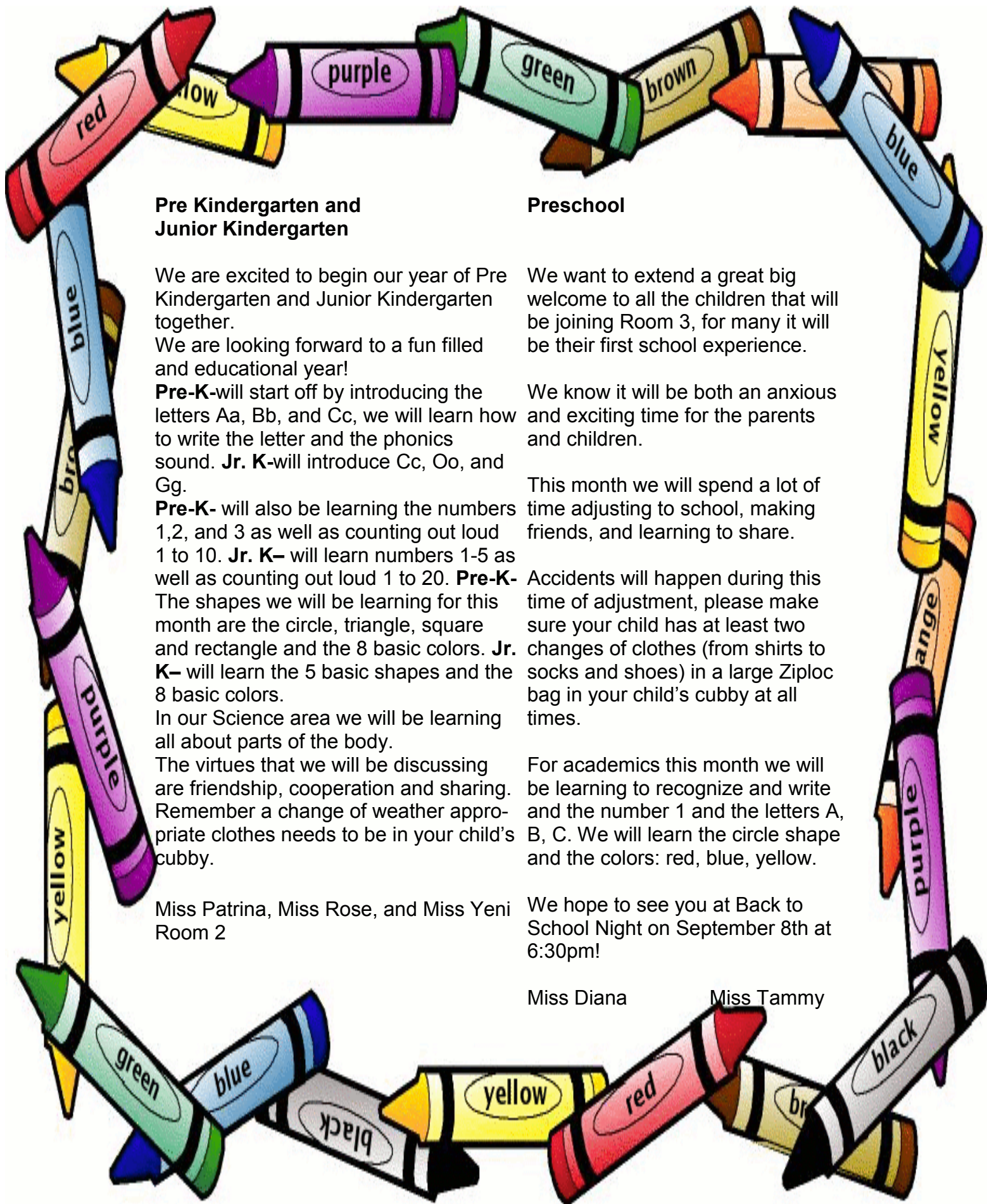
For 3rd thru 5th grades they too will be learning Word but in more depth, things such as creating a table, printing, formatting columns, paragraphs, and text boxes. They will also need to start working on their typing skills to see their level of accuracy. Last but not least middle school will need to learn the differences between formatting business and friendly letters. We'll work with different types of templates and formulas to create various essays. They will practice how to do research papers, cut and paste articles and photos, and later format the different aspects of them.

There is an Internet Agreement form that goes out with your child from 3rd grade on up. I ask the parents to return it signed as soon as possible. With out it the student cannot have access to the Internet for school projects.

I look forward to seeing all the returning students and also the new faces around campus. Don't forget to stop by and say hello.

– Mr. Vasconez





Pre Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten

We are excited to begin our year of Pre Kindergarten and Junior Kindergarten together.

We are looking forward to a fun filled and educational year!

Pre-K-will start off by introducing the letters Aa, Bb, and Cc, we will learn how to write the letter and the phonics sound. **Jr. K**-will introduce Cc, Oo, and Gg.

Pre-K- will also be learning the numbers 1,2, and 3 as well as counting out loud 1 to 10. **Jr. K**- will learn numbers 1-5 as well as counting out loud 1 to 20. **Pre-K**- The shapes we will be learning for this month are the circle, triangle, square and rectangle and the 8 basic colors. **Jr. K**- will learn the 5 basic shapes and the 8 basic colors.

In our Science area we will be learning all about parts of the body.

The virtues that we will be discussing are friendship, cooperation and sharing. Remember a change of weather appropriate clothes needs to be in your child's cubby.

Miss Patrina, Miss Rose, and Miss Yeni
Room 2

Preschool

We want to extend a great big welcome to all the children that will be joining Room 3, for many it will be their first school experience.

We know it will be both an anxious and exciting time for the parents and children.

This month we will spend a lot of time adjusting to school, making friends, and learning to share.

Accidents will happen during this time of adjustment, please make sure your child has at least two changes of clothes (from shirts to socks and shoes) in a large Ziploc bag in your child's cubby at all times.

For academics this month we will be learning to recognize and write the number 1 and the letters A, B, C. We will learn the circle shape and the colors: red, blue, yellow.

We hope to see you at Back to School Night on September 8th at 6:30pm!

Miss Diana

Miss Tammy

Kindergarten

Welcome back children and parents!

It's time to explore the world of Kindergarten. There will be many exciting things to do and learn. During the month of September we will focus on adapting to Kindergarten, Making new friends and following school rules.

The remainder of the month we will review letters, sounds and numbers.

Science we will be learning about plants and trees.

Social Studies, the topic "Our Flag" and its history.

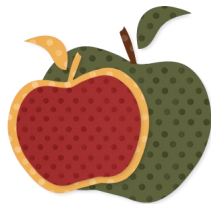
We will also enjoy learning about Johnny Appleseed.

We are looking forward to teaching your child this school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Mrs. Ray
Room 1

Mrs. Sahagan
Room 5



First Grade

Welcome back, First Graders!

Our new school year is about to begin and we hope everyone had a wonderful summer. We are so excited for this school year. We can't wait to meet all of our new friends!

In September we are going to work on many things, like:

Learning new First Grade routines

Verbs

Spelling Words

Numbers

The Earth

Learning Styles

Remember, school starts at 8:30 and ends at 3:00. In order to have a good day, it is best to arrive on time every day! Back to School night will be on Thursday, September 8th at 6:30 p.m.

We are so excited to be your teachers this year and we can't wait to get started!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us!

Mrs. Alcantar
Room 6

Mrs. Lucero
Room 7





Second Grade

Welcome back to school and to the Second Grade.

We hope everyone had a restful summer.

September will be a month for getting acquainted, understanding classroom rules, review and preparing for an exciting school year.

Our Author for the month is A.A. Milne!

Our Back to School Night is September 8th at 6:30 p.m., we look forward to seeing you here.

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to contact us, our door is always open.

Mrs. Campbell-Hodges
Room 8



Third Grade

It's going to be such an exciting school year! I'm looking forward to all of the new learning adventures that are ahead for the students.

I also look forward to meeting all of you at our Back to School Night on September 8th, at 6:30 p.m.

We will be busy this first week of school working on assessments and reviewing. Then for the rest of the month we will continue with our reviewing and on to new concepts. Feel free to call or come in if you have any questions or concerns.

This school year is going to be wonderful for us all!

Mrs. Romero
Room 12



Fourth Grade

How fast the summer goes!
I look forward to an exciting school year, full of fun and learning.

The first weeks of the school year will be spent doing assessments and reviewing what we learned last year, then off to new and exciting concepts.

I look forward to seeing you all at Back to School Night on September 8th at 6:30.

Please feel free to contact me either before or after school with any questions or concerns.

I know this is going to be an awesome school year!

Mrs. Warwick
Room 11



Fifth Grade

Dear parent(s) and students,

Welcome back! My name is Cindy Christman and I am looking forward to a year filled with exciting learning experiences. The first few days we will review some concepts that may have collected a little dust over the summer. You will also have fun discovering your unique learning styles and new techniques to make learning a fun experience based on your personal needs.

During the next few weeks, our **math** classes will be learning about numbers from billions to decimals. We will be comparing, ordering, and rounding these numbers. You can expect to see work that provides practice with comparing whole numbers and comparing decimals.

In **social studies**, begin with the geography of our country and then we will work our way from the crossing of the land bridge over the Bering Strait through the American Revolution.

Our **English** curriculum encompasses vocabulary, reading, language arts, and writing. A study skills curriculum will be taught in conjunction with English and **Social Studies**. We will begin reading the wonderful novel, **The Cay**, this month.

In **Science**, we will be working on life science. We are going through three chapters on cells. It is a fun unit because we get to work with a microscope and participate in experiments. We also get to make a model of a cell.

Welcome Back!

Mrs. Christman

Room 9



Science

Greetings from Middle School Science! I'm very excited to get this new year started. Welcome to our new sixth grade students and I'm so glad to see all of our awesome seventh and eighth grade student's return.

6th Grade- Students will learn about the Earth system and how energy moves among the major spheres of the system. Students will also learn about maps and scientific inquiry.

7th Grade- Students will explore some of the many fields of life science.

They will also learn how the anatomy and physiology of plants and animals illustrate some of the basic principles of life science.

8th Grade- Students will focus on the scientific method as it is used in physical science. They will see how scientists use math skills to collect and display their data.

8th Grade Life Skills- This month we will be working on budget. We will also be scheduling and planning our fundraising activities for the eighth grade trip to Disney Land and Washington, D.C./ New York City.

Have a great first month of school!

Mrs. Marzocchetti

Room 10



History and Geography



Welcome back! I hope everyone had a wonderful summer and is ready to begin a new school year. To my home room, Welcome to Middle School.

Here's what we'll start with:

6th Grade: History- Our first unit is all about the study of history (what it is, and why it's important). After that, we'll move on to Prehistory- history before written language.

Geography- We'll start with the basics of geography: maps, terms, and a little cultural geography. 6th grade will also be working on study skills so that this transition year will (hopefully) be a little easier.

7th Grade: History- We'll pick up just where we left off – The Roman Empire. After discussing the problems leading to the fall of the Western Roman Empire, we'll focus on the rise of the eastern Roman, or Byzantine, Empire.

Geography- We begin with a study of South-western Asia, including your first country report of the year!

8th Grade: History- The history of the United States is the focus this year, but we'll draw on what we learned last year when we start with the Age of Discovery and Colonial America.

Civics: We'll get right into our study of the 3 branches of government.

Mrs. Robin
Room 16



Language Arts

Welcome back to Middle School!

I hope everyone had a great summer and is as excited as I am about this upcoming school year. During the first month of school we will be reviewing the basics of composition and essay writing. I will also be introducing and reviewing techniques for literary analysis and critique. I want to get students back into the mindset of looking at literature critically, effectively discussing it in class, and comfortable with planning and crafting a well thought out essay.

My door is always open, so feel free to stop by if you have any questions or just to say hi.

Mr. Pintarelli
Room 15



Math

Welcome back Middle School Superstars! I hope you had a wonderful summer!

6th Grade – Mathematics

We will begin the year by reviewing our skills with decimals and fractions. This will include writing in expanded and standard form, comparing and ordering, and finally - estimating.

7th Grade – Pre Algebra

The first concepts for review will be using variables in expressions, order of operations, evaluating expressions, integers, and absolute value.

8th Grade – Algebra I

PEMDAS review is our first order of business. During September we will also revisit commutative, identity, associative properties, and exponential notation. It will be a busy month, but I know these 8th graders are up to the task.

Mrs. Greenleaf-Perez
Room 14

