



## Pine Brook School

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October 1, 2024

To Our Pine Brook Community,

Pirates, congratulations on a great first month of school! We have accomplished so much in our first twenty days together, including Starts with Hello Week, the start of year benchmark assessments, a PBSIS assembly, and Back to School Night. We are now looking forward to all that October will bring!

Please review the following important October information:

- **Quinmester/Trimester 1 Midpoint:** The week of October 7 marks the halfway mark of your child's participation in their first cycle at Pine Brook School! The first cycle ends on November 14, and the second cycle begins on November 15. Additionally, October 21 marks the middle of the first trimester for all core content areas, which would be a great time to review with your child their current progress as indicated on the Genesis Parent Portal. Please click into each grade listed next to the subject area for an account of all graded assignments during the trimester thus far. We encourage you to reach out to your child's teachers if you have any questions or concerns.
- **Chromebook Care-** Please support your children in ensuring their chromebooks are charged each evening and brought to school each morning in their school issued case. As a reminder, your child will use this chromebook through the end of their 8th grade year, and so it is essential to engage in proper care techniques.
- **Internet Safety** - As part of our ongoing commitment to the safety and well-being of our students, on October 1 we hosted an Internet Safety Assembly in collaboration with the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department. During the assembly, students were provided with valuable tips and resources to help them navigate the online world safely and responsibly. We encourage you to take some time to discuss these important tips with your children at home and reinforce the key safety practices outlined during the assembly. Some of the key points covered include:
  - **Think Before You Post:** Remind your child to always be mindful of what they share online. Once something is posted, it can be difficult to take back.
  - **Keep Personal Information Private:** Students were advised to never share personal information such as their full name, address, or school online.
  - **Use Strong Passwords:** Creating unique and strong passwords helps protect personal accounts from unauthorized access.
  - **Be Aware of Cyberbullying:** Encourage your child to report any instances of online bullying to a trusted adult.
  - **Safe Interactions Online:** Remind students to avoid talking to strangers or sharing personal details with people they don't know.

We also encourage you to continue the conversation about digital citizenship and safe online habits with your children. For more resources on internet safety, feel free to visit the Monmouth County Sheriff's Department's website at [THIS LINK](#).

- **Week of Respect:** We are pleased to inform you that during the week of October 7-11, your child will be engaging in schoolwide culture-building activities for "Week of Respect" at Pine Brook School. Each day, the messages on the morning announcements and the associated activities will align to the themes below. Please encourage your child to participate!
  - Monday: Wear Blue - the color associated with World Day of Bullying Prevention

- o Tuesday: Team Up For Respect-Wear your team's logo/apparel
  - o Wednesday: Together We Shine! Wear bright/neon clothing
  - o Thursday: Showing Respect is No Sweat- Wear your favorite leggings, sweatshirts, and/or sweatpants.
  - o Friday: PB Smile Day- Wear your best smile and Pirate gear (Every Friday)
- **Safe Schools Week:** During the third week of October Officer Nelson will be on the morning announcements each day to share with students and staff various ways in which we can be a safe and supportive school community to each other.
  - [2024-2025 School Calendar](#): Take note that school is closed to students on October 14th in observance of Columbus Day.
  - **Before and After-School Activities:** Most activities will be starting up the week of October 7 or 14; advisors will be sending out information the first week of October regarding any materials needed and pickup or drop off locations. Check the calendar on our website for meeting dates.
  - [Book Fair](#): October 21-24. Your child will visit the Book Fair with their Language Arts class on their assigned day. [Fall Book Fair / Sign-Up to Volunteer](#) - 10/21,22 & 23
  - [Halloween at Pine Brook](#): Please review the included letter for information regarding Halloween at Pine Brook.
  - [PTA Information](#): A special thank you to our PTA for the spirit items that we see throughout the school. Upcoming PTA Events:
    - o [Halloween Social](#) - 10/25 5-7 PM
      - You may only purchase a ticket for your child! No exceptions! All other tickets will not be accepted & the sale will be canceled!
      - Students must be in school for a full day to be able to attend.
      - Students must be in good behavioral standing to attend.

Please be sure to check the website regularly and sign up for the Pine Brook Backpack to remain informed about our school. All of our events will show on the school calendar located on the website. Should you have any additional questions, please contact us at (732) 786-2801.

Sincerely,

*Julie Szustowicz*

Julie Szustowicz  
Principal

*Allison Rogers*

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Assistant Principal