



WINTER

Pine News



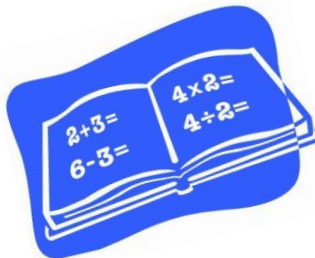
February 2018

PINE HAPPENINGS

- 2.8 Hacienda Give Back for Pine 11am-9pm.
& Boys' B-Ball @ Knapp (4pm)
- 2.15 Boys' B-Ball @ Lake Hills (4pm)
- 2.19 School in session as snow day make-up!
- 2.20 End of 2nd Timester.
- 2.22 Boys' B-Ball @ Pine (vs. Coolspring, 4pm)
- 2.26 - 3.9 ISTEP testing window #1, Grades 3-6.
- 2.28 Kindergarten Roundup (10am - 6pm)
& Elementary Parent-Teacher Conferences (3pm-7pm)
- 3.1 Second Grade Showcase: 2pm & 6:30pm
& Boys' B-Ball @ Pine (vs. Marsh, 4pm)
- 3.2 Theodor Seuss Geisel's Birthday. Who was this guy? What other names do we know him by? Why is he famous? Let me know **IN WRITING** for a treat! (Mr. Schena)
- 3.8 Elementary Art Show/Student Reception @ Lubeznik Center.
& Boys' B-Ball @ Pine (vs. Springfield, 4pm).
- 3.12-3.16 IREAD window (3rd Grade only).

“Automaticity” can also apply to reading. In this case, it is knowing basic sight words rather than having to stop and sound them out. Children who have to

stop & sound out basic sight words spend so much of their time and energy on *that* task that they barely comprehend the real content of what they’ve just worked so hard to read! It’s frustrating & exhausting for these children.



In a few cases, a child may have an actual learning disability. In most cases, however, a child has simply never put in enough consistent time & practice on their sight words or their basic math facts to the point where they are “automatic.” It comes easier for some and takes longer for others, but when the basic skills are mastered, learning becomes much more fun.

Daily practice is the key...the same path to success that Steph Curry & LeBron James have taken... practicing their jump shots, free throws, & defense every day, all year long.

Pine children do practice a variety of reading and math skills during the school day. But they need to practice the basics at home every night as well. Not for hours on end, but for about 30 minutes....every night....vacations & summers too.

“Automaticity”??? What’s that?

Teachers frequently hear parents explain that their children have a very hard time with math. Often, upon taking a closer look, the reason becomes clear: the child never really learned his/her basic math facts very well.

By “well” we mean very quick recall of basic facts. Some call this “automaticity” or “fact fluency.” “Automaticity” is seeing the math problem “2+3 = ?_” and knowing - pretty much immediately - that “5” is the answer.

For more specific ideas about reading materials, math sheets or websites, etc. talk to your child’s teacher. Teachers truly enjoy working with parents who take active roles in helping their children succeed.

Make that next report card something to be really proud of! You can do this!

- Mr. Schena

Pine Elementary School Counselor





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P.S. There's an old Latin saying that really applies here: "Repetitio mater studiorum est." A small reward to the first 10 students who let me know (in writing) what that means.



Presidents' Day

(a.k.a. "Famous Americans' Day")

So when did Americans first acknowledge our Presidents with their own day?

"Presidents' Day" dates back to our founding father and first President, George Washington.

Washington was born on February 22, 1732. Though it may seem strange to us, the **official federal name** of this holiday to this day is actually still **"George Washington's Birthday."**

If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn't sit for a month.
- Theodore Roosevelt

Abraham Lincoln was the next President to gain reverence similar to Washington. Born on February 12, 1809, Lincoln's birthday was first celebrated in 1865, the year after he was assassinated. Although his birthday was not honored as a federal holiday like Washington's, many states adopted it as a legal holiday.



In 1968, Congress passed legislation placing several federal holidays on a Monday, including Washington's birthday, to create a three-day weekend.

In 1971, President Richard Nixon combined the birthdays of George Washington and Abraham Lincoln into the day which most of us refer to as "Presidents' Day." **It would be celebrated on the third Monday in February, regardless of the day on which it fell.**

Presidents' Day is now generally viewed as a holiday that pays tribute to both Washington and Lincoln, as well as all those who have served as president.

It is better to be alone than in bad company.
- George Washington



Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal;
- Thomas Jefferson



Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition.
- Abraham Lincoln





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2nd Grade News

2nd grade has continued to build the foundational skills needed for reading and writing in the future. We have also been practicing our addition, subtraction, and place value skills.

In Reading, we have continued to explore different reading genres and have built our comprehension through meaningful discussions about texts. Students are enjoying reading daily and are building their personal reading stamina. In science, we've explored plants and animals in their habitats and talked about what they need to survive. We look forward to continuing to grow as learner's during the second half of the year

3rd Grade News

We have been enjoying our time in third grade, as well as preparing for our upcoming ISTEP and IREAD tests. The students have been working re-

ally hard to prepare themselves, and we have no doubt they will all shine and show off their amazing skills. The students are nervous for these important tests, but together we will remind them they can do anything they put their mind to and will have no trouble being successful as long as they do their BEST!

As a third grade team we have been preparing for upcoming field trips, one exciting trip in particular is Camp Tecumseh. This will be a unique experience for our third grade team, and the first time Pine Elementary School third grade has went on an overnight camping trip.

The Constitution is the guide which I never will abandon.

- George Washington

One final "Presidential" note for you history-enjoying geeks (like me): **Since 1862, there has been a tradition in the United States Senate that George Washington's Farewell Address be read on/near his birthday.**

His "Farewell" is too long to reprint here, but it is well worth reading. If you do, you will likely be surprised at how very similar Washington's concerns for our nation were in 1796 to those we have today!

The following website from Yale University has a very readable version for those so inclined: http://avalon.law.yale.edu/18th_century/washing.asp

1st Grade News

We are excited to discover a whole new world as we strive towards becoming independent readers! Besides this, we have been learning about forest animals and how the animals get ready for winter.

Did you know that the Cardinal stays here and adapts to our crazy winter weather? Well, the animals have a hard time finding food in the winter so we made bird feeders for all of the animals to enjoy.

If you are looking for ways to help your child at home, listen to them read and ask them questions to check for their comprehension. Also, math facts, addition and subtraction can always be practiced in the car, at the table, or anywhere! If you need more ideas, please ask us.



Nothing gives one person so much advantage over another as to remain always cool and unruffled under all circumstances.

- Thomas Jefferson



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On this trip the students will really dig into how the pioneers lived, and get the real life experience they learn so well from. Keep an eye out for our upcoming fundraising that will be needed to help with the cost of the trip.

4th Grade News

In math, we are working on long division. This is a difficult concept. The students have been encouraged to study their multiplication facts at home as well. This will help them with division. They are being encouraged to use any method they understand to get a correct answer. Our math books have shown them several different ways to do it.



The first round of ISTEP will begin the week of February 26th. Practice for that is being done on a regular basis. This year both rounds will be on the computer. For the first part, we will need to show our work on the computer. We are getting practice on the computers with that, so we can do it with ease.

Please continue to have your child read at home daily, and practice their basic math facts.

Thank you,
Fourth
Grade
Teachers

To educate a man in mind and not in morals is to educate a menace to society.
- Theodore Roosevelt

Interesting Presidential Facts:

Presidents #1- #5.

1. George Washington:

- No formal education.
- The only president elected unanimously. He received all 69 electoral votes.

- At his inauguration, Washington had only one tooth. At various times he wore dentures made of human teeth, animal teeth, ivory or even lead. Never wood.
- In addition to the nation's capital and the state, 31 counties and 17 towns are named in his honor.
- He stood 6 feet and 2 inches tall, weighed 200 pounds and wore size 13 shoes.
- He is the only president who didn't live in Washington, D.C. during his presidency.
- During his presidency the Judiciary Act of 1789 established the federal court system, the Bank Act of 1791 established a nationwide banking system, the Bill of Rights became law on December 15, 1791.

2. John Adams:

- Graduated Harvard College (1755).
- Adams was the great-great-grandson of John and Priscilla Alden, pilgrims who landed at Plymouth Rock in 1620.
- In 1800 the U.S. capital moved from Philadelphia to Washington, D.C.
- Adams and Jefferson were the only presidents to sign the Declaration of Independence, and they both died on its 50th anniversary, July 4, 1826.
- Adams was vice-President under Washington.
- Older than any other president at his death, he lived 90 years, 247 days.



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3. Thomas Jefferson:

- Graduated College of William and Mary (1762)
- Secretary of State under Washington, Vice-President under Adams.
- Jefferson was the first president to shake hands with guests. Previously people bowed to Presidents.
- Jefferson's library of 6,000 books was purchased for \$23,950 and formed the basis of the Library of Congress.
- Principal author of the Declaration of Independence.
- Jefferson and Adams were the only presidents to sign the Declaration of Independence, and they both died on its 50th anniversary, July 4, 1826.
- He designed his own tombstone and wrote his own epitaph, omitting the fact that he was President of the United States!

4. James Madison:

- Graduated College of New Jersey (now Princeton University; 1771)
- Secretary of State under Jefferson.
- Citing continued attacks on its ships, the United States declared war on Britain in June 1812.
- British troops burned the White House 1814.
- Madison was the first president who had prior service as a congressman, as well as the first president to wear trousers rather than knee breeches.

- He stood 5 feet 4 inches, making him the shortest president.

5. James Monroe:

- Graduated College of William and Mary (1776)
- Secretary of State under Madison.
- Secretary of War under Madison.
- Convention of 1818 fixed the boundary between the U.S. and British North America.
- In 1819 purchased Florida from Spain for the cancellation of \$5 million in debts.
- On December 2, 1923 proclaimed the Monroe Doctrine, warning European powers not to interfere in U.S. affairs.
- First president to ride on a steamboat.
- First inaugural to be held outdoors.
- His daughter was the first to be married in the White House.
- The U.S. Marine band played at his second inaugural and every inauguration since.

Editor's Note: Most people won't read this. That likely makes YOU one of the smarter and harder working students!!! Now for a small payoff for your efforts: Who are the 4 presidents who have quote boxes on these pages and why did I pick these 4 to quote? (Hint: Each of them was a "mountain" among men, and it gives me quite a "rush" to think of all they did for our country!)

Write me a note answering my two-part question above. Turn your note in to me - Mr. Schena - by breakfast-time on Presidents' Day/Famous Americans' Day to win a small treat.



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Pine is so proud of our ISSMA students!

(ISSMA = Indiana State School Music Association... ok, you probably already knew that...)

Both Vocal: Marie, Brooklyn, Alyssa, Kourtnie, Jaelynn...

...& Instrumental: Dabria, Heavenly, Jessica and Ethan.

And don't forget our Circle the State Honors Chorus students: Brooklyn & Darius!



Where else can a student get this kind of musical start in elementary school?!



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Fine Arts Fridays are a lot of work for both students & teachers alike...

But it's worth it when you're learning about our Nation's history by more than

reading....by creating art, by moving & performing, by singing. Now that's Fine Arts Learning!

