

PINE BUSH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017



**PLEASE BE ADVISED
THAT IN THE SCHOOL
SIDE PARKING LOT, IT IS
ILLEGAL TO PASS A
STOPPED SCHOOL BUS
THAT HAS ITS RED
LIGHTS FLASHING.**

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Dear Families and Friends,

It seems that we just finished our Thanksgiving leftovers and are now busily preparing for the next holiday celebration. Some of us will soon begin our holiday traditions by lighting a menorah in recognition of Hanukkah on December 12th. Others of us are making travel plans, shopping trips and preparing recipes in recognition of Christmas or Kwanzaa. Regardless of which holiday tradition your family celebrates, it is important to remember why we hold these annual traditions so dear to us.

I would offer a reason is because we have fond memories of celebrating these traditions as children. If you pause to think for a moment, many of our fondest memories of the holidays are seen through the eyes of a child. Those eyes may be your own as you reflect upon your own childhood memories; or they could be those of your children. Memories are moments in time that are captured and stored for a lifespan.

A gift is something given to recognize a special occasion, but a memory lasts forever. Spending time with family and friends should be a more rewarding gift than one purchased. The fond memories of moments spent with loved ones are long cherished, especially at this time of year. Enjoy some time this holiday season to share special moments and create memories with family and friends.

May you and your family enjoy the peace and tranquility of a joyous holiday season!

Warmest wishes,

Christopher T. Sanita

"I like to compare the holiday season with the way a child listens to a favorite story. The pleasure is in the familiar way the story begins, the anticipation of familiar turns it takes, the familiar moments of suspense, and the familiar climax and ending."

~Fred Rogers

2018-2019 Incoming Kindergarten Students

A special informational session for incoming kindergarten students will be held on January 18, 2018, at 6:30 pm at Pine Bush Elementary. Information and registration paperwork will be mailed home in December. To be sure that your child is listed in our database, please contact the GCSD Central Registrar, Zeynep Rice by email at ricez@guilderlandschools.net or by phone at (518) 456-6200, ext. 3109.

If you choose to send an email, please include the following information:

- First and last names of both parents (if applicable)
- Your child's first and last name
- Your child's date of birth
- Your home address and phone number

Children must be five years old by December 1 of the year that they enter kindergarten to be eligible to attend school. Parents of eligible children who are not notified by mail by early January should contact the Central Registrar.

Kindergarten registration for the 2018-2019 school year will be held on January 31 and February 1 in the main office at Pine Bush.



Library News

Try our new Digital Magazines with Flipster!

Students can read current and back issues of the **Ask, Click, Ladybug** and **Spider** magazines at home or school using tablets and computers. Students can find the username & password for our school's Flipster account by logging into their Destiny library account.

Use Flipster online using the web browser of your computer or mobile device or get the free Flipster app to read our magazines offline. The app is available for iPads and iPhones, Android Phones and Tablets, and side-loaded to Kindle Fire Tablets.

Magazines have stories, poems, plays, nonfiction articles, games, and craft ideas and are very enjoyable to read. Read a magazine the way **you** want to:

*From cover to cover

*Pick and choose articles from the Table of Contents

*Read items in your favorite magazine sections/departments

Lost and Found

There are several clothing items, including winter coats, hats and gloves in our Lost and Found area in the front lobby. Please check with your child to see if they are missing any clothing items. If so, encourage them to search through our Lost and Found.

We also request parents to write your child's name inside their winter coats so that we may quickly return these costly items to your child. With the exception of winter coats, we are planning to donate unclaimed items from our Lost and Found to a local charity over the holiday break.

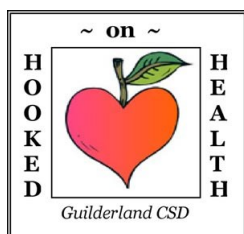
Energy Cost Savings

As part of our district-wide energy saving efforts, the building temperature will be set at 70 degrees during the school day. Please encourage your child to dress appropriately during the winter months.



PINE BUSH WINTER CONCERT

Pine Bush Elementary School will hold its annual winter concert on Wednesday, December 6th at 7:00 p.m. in the school gymnasium. At this performance the fourth and fifth grade chorus and fourth and fifth grade band and orchestra will present a program of musical selections. Parents, grandparents and family guests are invited to attend.



Holidays are the perfect time to give the "gift of health".

HOOKED ON HEALTH HINT:

Buy presents that promote health.:

Pedometers, hand weights, health magazine subscriptions, jump ropes, basketball, snowshoes, etc.)

School Delays and Closings

As the winter approaches it is possible that weather conditions may require closing school on certain days. Delayed openings may also occur. Information concerning closings and delayed openings will be carried on the following radio and television stations:

Stations and Dial Positions

WGY 810 AM

WYJB B95.5 FM

WRVE 99.5 FM

WRGB (TV) Channel 6

WXXA (TV) Channel 8

WTEN (TV) Channel 10

WNYT (TV) Channel 13

Capital News Channel 9

Local Cable TV Channel 16

Guilderland Website www.guilderlandschools.org



Parents please note that on days when the opening of school is delayed by one or two hours, there are no staff present to supervise children who arrive at the regular time. Please do not drive your child to school earlier than the delayed opening time expecting that someone will be available to watch him or her.

Whenever schools are closed for emergency reasons, all night activities and continuing education classes are also cancelled.

Upcoming Events:

December

6 & 7 PTA Kids Holiday Craft Fair (Snow date 12/8/17)

6 Pine Bush Winter Concert, 7:00 pm

25-1/1/18 Holiday Recess

January 2018

2 School Resumes

10 PTA Meeting, 7:00 pm

15 **NO SCHOOL**—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

18 Kindergarten Information Night, 7:00 pm (Snow Date 1/22/18)

19 PTA Winter Party, 6:00 pm



HOLIDAY RECESS

December 25- January 1, 2018

School will resume on Tuesday, January 2, 2018