

# Pinewood Press

April 2026

## *Message from the Principal*

Welcome Spring! It was great to meet with so many of you at our Student Conferences in March. Our students were excited to share their learning and to set new goals for the last quarter of this school year. If you were unable to meet with your student's teacher, please call the office at 531-299-1940 x 0 so we can set up a time for this important work.

Part of our mission is to develop life-long learners. Pinewood students have set goals to work towards as individuals, as classes and as a school. We know that when our students show their ROAR each day as they work to learn and practice their strategies, they will reach their goals. Help our students by letting them know you believe in them and want them to show their best effort each day.

During the months of April and May, our students will have the opportunity to show what they have been learning and working toward all year. Students in K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be taking their spring MAP assessments. Students in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grades will be showing their knowledge on the NSCAS assessments, our statewide assessment system. Students in PreK will be working on assessments through May that include Creative Curriculum Gold. Teachers will be sending reminders home as the test dates get closer. It is extremely important that students are well rested and at school on the scheduled testing days, and every day, so they can "show what they know."

We know there are many ways to measure student achievement and growth, and standardized tests are only one measure. What we value most is individual progress and achievement. If we are able to sit with you, the parent, and provide evidence of growth during a conference and we see a child with growing academic skills and confidence, then we know we are being successful.

We are excited that we will be doing a "One School One Book" project in April as we all learn about pets. Each student will get a book to bring home and back to school as families and classes read it together. See more details in this newsletter.

I want to encourage all our Pinewood Panthers to keep learning, working, and displaying a positive attitude during this fourth quarter. We still have a LOT of learning to do together before the year is over, and we want to use every minute! Please continue to check SeeSaw, check book bags and assignment notebooks for important notes from your child's teacher, and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Kristi Reinsch Principal

April 16- Family Reading Night

April 17- Non-student Day

April 20- Non-student Day

April 24- No school for PreK

May 1- All School Fun Run

May 13- K-5 Field Day

May 18- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Signing

May 20- Last Student Day

Dear Pinewood Family,

Each year we take time to get your input on our programs here at Pinewood. We value your feedback and would like to hear from as many families as we can about your experiences with our school.

There are two surveys we use at this time of year, and We will use this data to improve our school and the instruction we offer. Please use the links provided to take each of the surveys. These surveys are available in several different languages.

Family Engagement Survey -- This will collect information about your experiences with our School as Hub grant programming.

[Family Engagement Survey](#)

Climate and Culture Survey -- This will collect information about all district schools, and you can provide responses on just a selected area, or all of the areas offered.

[Parent Voice Survey](#)

We value our Pinewood School community and the families that we serve. We appreciate your time. You will also have an opportunity to complete these surveys at conferences. Students can earn a Paw Pat for each survey completed.

Thank you!

Mrs. Reinsch





# Omaha Public Schools Foundation Kids Club 2026-2027 REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

## WHAT IS THE PROGRAM:

Looking for the perfect before or after school program?

Kids Club is where learning meets fun —  
right at your school!

## HERE'S WHY FAMILIES LOVE IT:

Safe, supervised environment with caring, trained staff  
Fun, engaging activities every single day — crafts, games, and more!

Follows the OPS school calendar

Open to Kindergarten – 5th/6th grade OPS students  
A safe, supportive space for OPS elementary students

**First come, first serve!**

**Limited spots available!**

**Registration is required every year!**

Don't miss your chance to join a program kids love and parents trust!

**FIND MORE INFO at:**

[WWW.OPSFKIDSClub.ORG](http://WWW.OPSFKIDSClub.ORG)



## **LOOKING AHEAD FOR 2026-2027**

We will not be taking parent requests for teachers for next year. Please be assured that the teachers, counselor, and I will be reviewing and working on class placements for next year. We strive to balance each class list for gender, race, academic growth, work habits, and social/emotional growth. As a team, we work to make the best possible placement for your child. If you have specific concerns that you would like considered for your student's success as we make placements for your student for next year, please submit this in writing to Mrs. Reinsch by April 10<sup>th</sup>. We will weigh these concerns with the other factors to be considered.

The Pinewood staff is outstanding, and we appreciate your trust as we make these important decisions. If you have any questions, please contact me at 531-299-1940.

Mrs. Reinsch

## **Parents of Incoming Kindergartners**

Please remember to have your child see their medical provider to complete their kindergarten physical and immunizations before school starts in August. All physical and immunization paperwork can be turned in to the health office upon completion.

Thank you,

Mrs. Kroeger

## **WEATHER REMINDERS**

Keep in mind that spring in Nebraska can mean very warm temperatures one day and very cold the next, so it is important to consider the forecast when dressing for school. Please make sure students have a sweatshirt or jacket available for recess.



## From the Office

Have you moved? Changed your phone number or email? Please be sure the office has your most current contact information. We need this to send you important information over the summer. Much of the district communication comes via email and text now, so please update the school if you have new information. We want to be sure that you receive all your information in the timeliest way. If you are not sure, please contact the school and we can check for you! Call 531-299-1940 with any questions.

## From the Nurse

**A friendly reminder-** OPS medication policy is not to administer any prescribed or over-the-counter medication without a written order from a physician. The over-the-counter medications include **hand lotions, Tylenol, and cough drops.** Thank you!



## Did You Miss Kindergarten Roundup?

If you have a child who will be eligible for kindergarten in the fall of 2026, please use the link below to enroll your student the 2026-2027 school year. If you have any questions, call the office at 531-299-1940. If you know a family with a child who will be eligible for kindergarten in the fall, please pass on this information.

Thank you!

<https://campus.ops.org/campus/OLRLogin/ops>



Dear Pinewood Families,

We are excited to share that Pinewood Elementary is starting a program called **ONE BOOK ONE SCHOOL** from **April 1st to April 16th**. Each Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at Pinewood will receive a copy of the book **8 Class Pets + 1 Squirrel + 1 Dog = Chaos**, a Bingo Card of themed activities to go along with the story, and a bookmark with the daily reading schedule.

At school, your student will read pages each day and bring the books home to read with their family. As you read the book, students are invited to complete activities on the BINGO board. Students will earn Paw Pats for completed activities and get a prize for a BINGO row on the board! Classroom teachers will share more details.

Additionally, we invite you to our **Books and Bingo Family Literacy Night on April 16th from 5:00 – 6:30 PM**. Come and enjoy snacks, BINGO, and prizes with our Pinewood community. It will be an excellent opportunity to engage with other families and promote the importance of reading in our children's lives.

By reading aloud with your student, you equip them with vital tools for growth. These skills are essential to social, emotional and academic learning.

Academically, reading aloud helps students stack new knowledge on top of what is already familiar. Socially, reading aloud is a shared experience, a way of building connections. It also expands your child's attention span and focus which is so important in this digital age. Emotionally, children experience new ways to see the world and build empathy for others by reading a variety of stories. As children's author Jacqueline Woodson said, "When we come out of a book, we're different." It changes us and brings us together.

Thank you for helping Pinewood build a better tomorrow, **ONE BOOK** and **ONE SCHOOL** at a time!

# MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE PINEWOOD'S FAMILY READING NIGHT - BINGO & BOOKS APRIL 16, 2026, 5:00-6:30 AT PINEWOOD!!




**PINewood SCHOOL AS HUB**  
*April 2026*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5		7 Play & Learn 9-10:30 am	8	9	10	11
12		14 Play & Learn 9-10:30 am	15	16	17	18
19		21 Socialization 9-10:30 am	22	23	24	25
26 		28 Play & Learn 9-10:30 am	29	30		

**FREE EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM FOR FAMILIES/CAREGIVERS OF CHILDREN AGES 0-5**

PLAY & LEARN/FAMILY SOCIALIZATION GROUPS: PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS OF YOUNG CHILDREN(BIRTH-5) ARE INVITED TO BRING THEIR CHILDREN TO OUR GROUP TO PLAY, READ, CREATE, AND EXPLORE! PARENTS/CAREGIVERS STAY WITH THEIR CHILDREN TO PLAY WITH ALL THE TOYS & ACTIVITIES IN THE PINEWOOD PANTHER DEN. COME JOIN US AND MEET OTHER FAMILIES AT OUR SCHOOL.

DEEDEE THAKOLO - HOME VISITOR  
MARY ELLYN DUNN - FAMILY FACILITATOR  
CLAIRE CORDES - COMMUNITY FACILITATOR

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# APRIL 2024



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Tutoring	2	3	4
5	6	7 Cheer Tutoring	8 Tutoring	9	10	11
12	13	14 Cheer Tutoring	15 Tutoring	16 Reading Night 5-6:30	17 <b>No School</b>	18
19	20 <b>No School</b>	21 Cheer Tutoring	22 Tutoring	23	24 2 <sup>nd</sup> to Zoo  No PreK	25
26	27	28 Cheer Tutor K-2 Musical Explorers	29 Last Tutoring	30	<b>MAY 1<sup>st</sup></b>  <b>All School Fun Run!</b>	