

# The Pine Grove Press

Quarter 1, 2022-2023

## Important Dates

**October 7**

Fall Pictures

**October 10 -- 14**

Walk at School Week

**October 12**

End of 1st Quarter

**October 14**

NO SCHOOL (Teacher Workday)

**October 24**

Early Release Day (Conferences)

**October 24 -- 28**

Red Ribbon Week

**November 7**

Early Release Day

**November 7 -- 11**

College and Career Week

**November 8**

NO SCHOOL (Election Day)

**November 15**

Interims Go Home

**November 17**

Thanksgiving Concert

**December 5 -- 13**

CASE Testing

**December 20**

End of 2nd Quarter

**Dec. 21 -- January 3**

Winter Break



## From the Principal's Desk

Greetings Pine Grove Family,

The 2022-2023 school has gotten off to a great start. This school year, we look forward to getting back on track with our school learning. We know that some of our students experienced some learning loss due to the pandemic. As we work to get our students caught up with learning, I am asking that you all assist us at home. Please make sure your child reads daily including weekends and practices their basic math facts daily. If you need extra books or work for your child to complete at home, please contact the school and we will gladly send items home.

As we return to normal, we will be having many programs and events. Please look for information regarding the programs and events that will be hosted at the school. We look forward to having you back in the building.

Please be reminded that you can walk your child to class from 7:00am-7:30am. We ask that parents exit the building by 7:30am which is the beginning of our instructional time. To visit the school during the school day, you have to make an appointment. Classroom visits can be arranged by contacting the classroom teacher or an administrator.

Thank you for your support of the school as we continue to work together to make sure the students have an enjoyable school year, filled with lots of learning and fun.

Dr. Tracy M. Pickett, Principal



## Meet the Admin Team



*Dr. Riley, Dr. Pickett, and Dr. Williams*

## Dr. Williams

Welcome to an exciting 2022–2023 School year here at The Grove. We are overjoyed to have such amazing students and parents that join us in this work. I am the 3rd–5th Grade Assistant Principal and have been at The Grove for 6 years. One thing that I want to express to you is that we are a team and that it is our objective to put your child in the best position to learn and be a successful, holistic person. We cannot do that without your help, participation and encouragement. For 3rd–5th graders specifically, we are in testing grades. This means that the expectation is for students to behave, learn and be focused. I expect them to be the leaders of the school and I hold them to that standard EVERYDAY! If you need me for any reason, please reach out and I will get with you as soon as I possibly can. Thank you for all that you do!

## School Counseling Connection

**October/November: Self-Awareness**

**Read Aloud:** Bow-Tie Pasta by Brian Cleary

**Discussion:** Using the story Bow Tie Pasta, have students write poems that describe great qualities about themselves using the letters in their names.

**Reflection Activity:** Have students do this again at the end of each month and compare the two poems they wrote about themselves.



*Mrs. Adams, Mrs. Niles, and Mrs. D. Jones*



Did you know that the first day of fall is called the **Autumnal Equinox?**

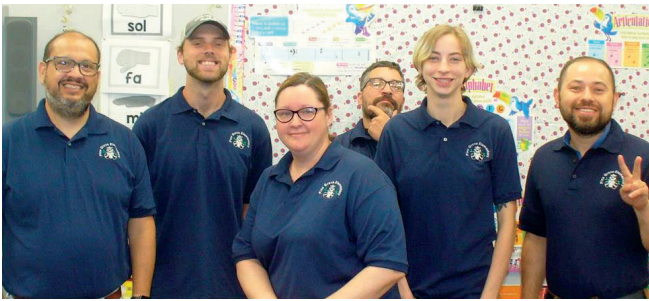
Psst... How many pandas can you count in this newsletter?







## Related Arts



*Mr. Salgado, Mr. Woodberry, Mrs. Shinn, Mr. Lewis, Ms. Wiest, and Mr. Gonzalez*

### Music with Ms. Wiest

Music classes are going great, students are celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month through music. The music department is working hard for our next performance with our 5th graders, choir, and orchestra. Our students are excited to present our Thanksgiving Concert on November 17th, and we hope to see you there!

### Strings/Orchestra 5th Grade with Mr. Salgado

We have been working on D and A open strings with the bow and pizzicato technique. Also, we are learning musical vocabulary.

### P.E. with Mrs. Shinn and Mr. Woodberry

Physical Education is off to a great start. Pre K – 2nd grade students are learning locomotor skills like skipping, hopping, and leaping. 3rd – 5th grade students have learned how to work together, problem solve, and now are working on rolling skills like bowling. Make sure students wear comfortable clothes and tennis shoes on PE days.

## Intervention Team

**What is intervention?** Intervention is a set of steps an educator takes to help a child improve in their area of need.

**How are children chosen for small group intervention?** At the beginning of the school year, all students take the STAR Reading and Math assessment. We use the scores from this assessment to identify students with specific needs and create groups based on their needs.

**How do I know if my child was chosen for small group intervention?** Once students are identified, an interventionist will contact you to ask permission for your child to be a part of the intervention group.

**How often does a child receive intervention?** If your child is chosen for intervention, they would be pulled 3–5 times a week for small group time to focus on their area of need.

We are excited to work with our students this year!



*Mrs. Walls, Mrs. Rutherford, Mrs. Reeder, and Mrs. Dunagan*



What do pandas eat on Halloween?

Bam-BOO!



## School Library

### Meet Your School Librarian:

Mrs. Walker is excited to join Pine Grove this year in the library! She has previous experience as a high school English teacher. Her current favorite children's books include *The Rabbit Listened* and *The Baby-Sitters Club* graphic novels.

### Meet Your Library Assistant:

Ms. Mack is also new to Pine Grove this year. She comes to us with three years of library experience. Her current favorite children's book author is Ezra Keats (author of *The Snowy Day* and more).



Mrs. Walker and Ms. Mack

### Information About Book Checkout:

**K–2nd:** Each K–2nd grade student can check out one book at a time during their class's weekly library visit. Each week, we practice returning our books, reading a story, doing a related literacy activity, and checking out a new book.

**3rd–5th:** Each 3rd–5th grade student can check out two books at a time. Students in grades 3rd–5th can visit the library in small groups to check out books during "flex time," which is every afternoon from 11:50 – 2:15pm. Their teachers can also sign up to bring the entire class in during flex time for lessons and activities.



## Meeting an Author!

On September 21st, students met local children's author Dinah Johnson. They enjoyed an interactive presentation, and each student received a copy of one of her books, *H is for Harlem*.







## Meet the Pre-K Team



*Ms. Myers, Ms. Adger,  
Ms. Johnson, and Mr. Martin*

## Learning Spotlight: Richland Library



**RICHLAND  
LIBRARY**

*access freely.*

Richland One School District partners with Richland Public Library to ensure that every student has access to the public library.

We recently distributed library cards to each student in grades PK -- 4th grade. 5th grade students will be receiving flyers about library card sign-up soon.

Public library cards are free to all Richland County residents. You can use them at <https://www.richlandlibrary.com/> as well as in person at any Richland Library location. The closest library location to Pine Grove Elementary is Richland Library St. Andrews, located at 2916 Broad River Road.

With a public library card, you can access books, ebooks, audiobooks, music, magazines, and more. Happy reading!



## Meet the ESOL Team



*Ms. Turner, Ms. Thomas,  
Ms. Courtney, and Mr. Lynip*

### Did you know...

*Adult pandas weight between  
220 -- 330 pounds!*

*Pandas are native to China.*

*Pandas are excellent climbers.*



### Follow us!



**@pgespanda**



## SPED Corner



*Ms. Ham, Mr. Johnson, Ms. N. Jones, Mr. Walker, Ms. Skelton, Ms. Bates, Ms. Magdale, and Ms. Kemp*

Welcome back to our 2022–2023 academic school year. It is my pleasure to continue to serve as SPED Team Chair. Let's give our newest member a warm welcome: Ms. Danielle Magdale to our SPED family. Here's a quick reminder that Annual Reviews will begin October 1. I'm asking all parents to try your best to attend all Annual Reviews because you are a vital part of our team and decision-making process. If there's a time conflict when planning your child's Annual Review, please let us know and we'll adjust to meet your needs.

Sincerely, James M. Walker, MA, CCC–SLP

## Kindergarten

In Kindergarten, we are working on Alphabet recognition, letter sounds, shapes, and seasons (Fall). Next week, we will begin our theme unit on Apples and Signs of Fall. We are excited for our first upcoming field trip in October to Clinton Sease Farm in Lexington, SC. We will learn all about the growth cycle of a pumpkin, importance of Honeybees and Dairy cows, and even pick our own pumpkin to take home!



*Ms. Pollock, Ms. Hinds, Mrs. Haggerty, Ms. Prioleau, Mr. Powley, Ms. Riley, Ms. White, and Mrs. Sewell–Hannah*

## First Grade



*Ms. Kelly, Mrs. Prioleau, Mrs. Kenney, and Mrs. Rutherford*

In First Grade we have been learning about school rules and getting to know each other. Students have started learning about how to be good readers and how to use different math strategies! We have also started learning about Light and Community Helpers. We are excited to go on our first field trip soon to the Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus musical. Our school year has gotten off to wonderful start!

What does a panda use to cook?



A pan, duh!





## Second Grade



*Mrs. Connelly, Mrs. Britt, Mr. Jones, Ms. Rambwawasvika, and Mrs. Walker*

Mrs. Rambwawasvika's class won the P.E. trophy for the 1st 9 weeks for the fastest class.

Mrs. Britt's class are enjoying using their math manipulatives during Math.

Mrs. Connelly rewarded her kids with a silly putty party for good behavior and routines.

Mrs. Walker's class had to apply and have an interview for Leadership Teams. Students received their offer letters and are now working as a Team to perform their leadership team responsibilities.

As a grade level, 2nd Grade and 3rd Grade will be getting Robots in 2–3 weeks and they will learn how to code, program and run the robots.



## Third Grade



We are excited about the many wonderful things that our students are working on and completing. We have been studying characters, making inferences, and analyzing the setting and plot. We have started exploring place values, as well as addition and subtraction in math. We have reviewed weather and maps of South Carolina in Science and Social Studies.

Our students have been working hard to earn dojo points to make it to our Grade Level Ice Cream Social next month. Students are responsible for monitoring their behavior, grades, and possessing the quality of being a good leader. In October, we will have our next Town Hall meeting and we will begin our E3 program. This program stands for Exposure, Explore, and Experience. We will expose all of our students to a variety of activities throughout the year. We will have our first event in October where the focus will be Exposure. More information will be sent at a later date.



*Mrs. Drummond, Ms. Brannum, Ms. Cain, and Mr. Bell*



## Fourth Grade



*Ms. Panton, Mr. Dixon,  
and Ms. Gamble*

We are excited about our students' learning in fourth grade! We are focusing on the following skills:

### Math

Interpreting multiplication equations as a comparison; for example interpret  $35 = 5 \times 7$  as a statement that 35 is 5 times as many as 7 and 7 times as many as 5, Solving multi-step, real-world problems using the four operations. Representing the problem using an equation with a variable as the unknown.

### Reading

Analyzing characters, settings, events, and ideas as they develop and interact within a particular context, Asking and answering inferential questions, Use evidence from the text to support his/her answer.

### Science

Analyzing and interpreting data from observations, measurements, and weather maps to describe patterns in local weather conditions including temperature, precipitation, wind speed/direction, relative humidity, and cloud types, and predict changes in weather over time.

## Fifth Grade

Things are off to a great start here for The Phenomenal 5th Grade. While many of us, both teachers and students, are still adjusting to a new environment with new expectations, each of us are making more and more growth each week, coming closer to our ultimate goal of overall excellence.

While each 5th grade classroom has its own characteristics and identities, the one thing we all share is the same curriculum. If you were to enter a 5th grade classroom during math time, you'd likely see some students practicing on coordinate planes. We are about to start prepping for our next unit, place value.

In Language Arts, you'd see our students diving into the different aspects and perspectives that come along with reading fictional books. With Halloween right around the corner, stay tuned to see some of the 5th grade student's personal narratives based on their individual Halloween experiences!

A lot will be happening in the 5th grade moving forward, so pay attention! 😊



*Mr. Gregg, Mrs. Moore-Gives,  
Ms. Wells, and Mr. Hart*

