

PENN FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 19, 2024
PFES Newsletter

CONTACT INFORMATION

Need to contact your student's teacher? On the PFES web site click on "about us" you should see "Staff Directory." The teacher contact information is listed on this page.

<https://www.rcps.us/PennForest>

SCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: 540-772-7590

Office emails:

jgriffin@rcps.us	Jenny Griffin, Principal
ejenkins@rcps.us	Julie Noell, Principal
bwooten@rcps.us	Brenda Wooten, Bookkeeper
mporterfield@rcps.us	Michele Porterfield, Attendance
dapoff@rcps.us	Debbi Poff, School Nurse
hlewis@rcps.us	Holleigh Lewis, Counselor

To report an absence or make a change of transportation please go to the PFES Web site. Under "Quick Links" choose the form that fits the change needing to be made.

We ask that you report any type of absence as soon as possible and make any transportation changes by 11 AM each day.

We make regular posts on our Facebook page showing you a look inside the school almost daily. Please use the link below to get there. Remember that the password is, "Hootie."

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pennforestowls/?ref=share>



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- **EATING IN THE CAFETERIA**
- **UPCOMING DATES**
- **SKATE PARTIES**



Welcome Back!

We are off to a great start here at Penn Forest! Our students are settling in well, and our staff is knocking it out of the park! These newsletters are typically emailed at the beginning of each week to keep you in the know of what is going on school-wide at our school. For the past several years these have come to you weekly. I've created a survey to get parent feedback on if we want to continue weekly this year, or go to a monthly format.



Mark your calendars for our first skate party August 29th from 3:15 PM-5:15 PM at the Skate Center on Brambleton. This skate party is open to all of our students and their families and is closed to the public. Parents (or another adult your designate) are responsible for your child (ren) during the parties and Penn Forest staff is not held liable or assume responsibility for them at this time. However, some of us may still show up to enjoy this time skating with you and your kids! You cannot drop your kids off, and need to stay with them during the entire party time. If older siblings are coming, they need to be mindful of our younger students and no speed skating around them, and they cannot compete in the contests for our elementary aged kids. While the first time is already scheduled, we invite your feedback on future times. The feedback we have gotten most is that parents prefer this earlier time to free them up for evening practices, dinner, and family time. I also have heard from some families with everyone working full time and this can be hard on them to get their children there. So, I've included this question in a parent survey (emailed out) to see if the preference is the later time, the earlier time

LUNCH WITH YOUR CHILD



The cafeteria will be open for parent visitors for lunch starting next Monday, August 26th. You will need to scan into the kiosk, wear that sticker, and eat in our Owl's Nest (aka the stage in the cafeteria). When you are done eating, please exit through the main office, and scan out at the same kiosk. Please do not go into other parts of the school, or exit through a different exit door so we can maintain safety protocols for student safety,

Policy Reminders

Roanoke County Policy was updated last year to state that we can no longer hand out birthday party invitations at school (even if you are inviting the whole class). We worked with our PTA to create a voluntary parent directory if you would like to be included so you can contact each other outside of school for these kinds of things. Penn Forest does still allow you to send in a treat on the day of your child's birthday for their class as long as it is store bought (so we can check labels) and it has to go through the office first since we have so many allergy concerns in the school. Unfortunately, we cannot allow treat bags, balloons, or flowers delivered to the school for students.

THANK YOU!



A huge thank you to the PTA partnered with the Pawn Shop for supplying a staff breakfast on 08/19. It was such a great welcome back for our staff who work so hard for our students! If you are wanting to sponsor a staff lunch this year, please contact Ms. Griffin to help set this up! We are always looking for ways to make Penn Forest the best place for our staff and students.



Upcoming Dates

- 08/29– School Skating Party at the Skate Center 3:15-5:15
- 09/02– Schools closed for Labor Day
- 09/13– Interim Midpoint
- 09/20– Interim Midpoint Reports go home (for 3rd-5th with a “D” or “F” average)
- 09/25– Three hour early dismissal

Long Range Important Dates

- 09/20– Fall Fun Run (during school hours)
- 10/18– Pumpkins on the Playground PTA event