



## Pine Brook School

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January 6, 2026

To Our Pine Brook Community,

Happy New Year! We hope you all had a joyful and restful holiday season. As we step into 2026, it's hard to believe that we have already completed almost half of the 6th grade year! Over the past few months, it has been a pleasure getting to know your children—their curiosity, creativity, and determination continue to inspire us every day. As we move toward the second half of the school year, we look forward to continuing this journey together, supporting our students as they grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Thank you for your partnership and trust—we are excited for all that's to come! Please review the following important upcoming information:

If you have not checked Genesis yet, please do so. Report Cards are available for Trimester 1 and Quarter 1 classes. In order to see the report card, please log in to the Genesis Parent Portal and click on the "Grading" tab. Once in the "Grading" tab, you will see a tab below for "Available Report Cards". Click under the "View" to see the report card.

Key Information to Understand the Report Card:

- You will see a letter grade (A-F) per subject that equates to the number (1-100) you have been seeing in the Gradebook all trimester long.
- You will also see the standards assessed for each subject. An "X" will mean that the standard has not yet been assessed. The scale for 1-5 is available on the report card itself.
- Please also be aware of your child's attendance totals as routine attendance is imperative to student learning.

Topics to Remember for the 2026 Return:

- The New Year is a wonderful time for reflection. In addition to reflecting on academic growth, we request that you please take time to speak with your children about choosing to be kind and the power words hold both positively and negatively. We aim to always provide a safe and supportive school environment, and we hope you will collaborate with us in doing so.
- Save the Date for [Ryan's Story](#): February 4, 2026 at 6:00pm at Pine Brook School. Please also be aware of [the letter](#) that will be emailed home separately this week.
- Our midyear District benchmark assessments will occur during the first two weeks of January, including LinkIt B administration and Lexile Level Set.
- Student Council: Thank you so much for your support in our Toys for Tots drive! We were able to package multiple boxes of items for pickup! Please stay tuned for our press releases as we share more information about events we will be organizing for 2026.
- PB Band and Orchestra Concert: Please join us as our students share their musical talents in our Band and Orchestra Winter Concert on January 14th at 7:00pm.
- Basketball is split into two sessions. All registered families have received an email notifying them of their child's session. Please ensure your child is aware of their session.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the school at (732) 786-2800 or email me at [jszustowicz@mersnj.us](mailto:jszustowicz@mersnj.us).

We wish everyone a wonderful 2026 ahead!

Sincerely,

*Julie Szustowicz*

Julie Szustowicz  
Principal

*Allison Rogers*

Allison Rogers  
Assistant Principal