



CARPOOL AWARENESS

The school year has begun well and as we continue to progress, **please take a moment to read some reminders about arrival and dismissal procedures.**

Arrival:

- Arrival time for the entire campus is from 8:00–8:30am.
- Always pull up as far as possible to drop off students. Dropping students off close to their classroom causes unnecessary congestion behind you.
- Please do not leave unattended vehicles in the drop off lane. If you need to speak to, or hand something to a teacher, park at the Castle and request assistance.
- **If you arrive late, a parent/ guardian must sign students in.** There is a safety concern when students are dropped off on Bob Beatty. Students are not allowed to sign themselves in. A tardy slip is required to go to class if a student is late.

Dismissal:

- Please pick up your student **no later than 2:30pm for early release** to prevent interference with afternoon carpool.
- Dismissal time for lower grades (K-5) is from 3:00–3:30pm and for upper grades (6-12) is from 3:30–4:00pm. It is important that all students are picked up on time.
- Always pull up as far as possible to pick up students. If traffic is moving, or about to move, pull up as far as the car in front of you allows.
- Students must use crosswalks to approach vehicles on the inside lane. This is a safety concern when students cross in the middle of traffic.
- Please arrive no sooner than your designated pick-up time. A build up of early vehicles takes up space on a very narrow Bob Beatty road.
- Please be aware of entrances and exits at other parts of campus, refrain from blocking these areas.

We are dismissing over 500 students in nearly 50 minutes. Our priority is that everyone gets home safe and on time. We appreciate your attention to the procedures and thank you for your cooperation.

WINGS BACK-TO-SCHOOL PLANT SWAP

Rescheduled to Thursday, October 1, 2:00–3:00 PM



Start the school year with a little greenery and good company! Join us for a relaxed WINGS social where you can bring a plant, take a plant, and take home as many as you bring. Stay for a while and chat with other parents, or simply stop by, make your swap, and go. No pressure, no agenda—just a fun way to kick off the year and connect. Bring a plant. Take a plant. Stay awhile or grab and go. Come as you are! Come for a plant, stay for the community.

IMPORTANT DATES & ITEMS TO NOTE

- 25 Sept: Staff workday – no school
- 29 Sept: 8th grade field trip
- 1 Oct: 2nd grade field trip
- 6 Oct: 1st grade field trip
- 14–16 Oct: 10th–12th grade backpacking
- 21 Oct: Kinder field trip
- 22 Oct: Staff workday – no school
- 23 Oct: Fall Break – no school
- [Academic & Events Calendar](#)



Bookmark our **WINGS (our school's homegrown PTO) Linktree**, where you can find everything you need in one place, including the Staff Favorites List, monthly newsletters, upcoming socials, and volunteer needs! **If you would like to be a room parent for your child's K-5 class, please email wings@pioneersprings.org.**

BENCHMARKING AT PIONEER SPRINGS COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Benchmarking is under way across campus! At Pioneer Springs Community School, we use benchmark assessments in reading and math to better understand each student's strengths, needs, and to create a personalized learning to ensure every student reaches his/her full potential.

The personalized learning plan might include targeted interventions to fill skill gaps, enrichment at grade level, or enrichment beyond grade level.

Pioneer Springs uses the following benchmark tools:

Kindergarten–2nd Grade Math: Happy Numbers

Happy Numbers helps teachers understand students' early math development, including number sense, counting, addition and subtraction, place value, patterns, and problem solving. This information helps teachers strengthen foundational math skills in the early grades.

Kindergarten–5th Grade Reading: DIBELS

DIBELS measures important early literacy skills, including phonics and reading fluency. It helps teachers identify how students are progressing with letter sounds, decoding, reading accuracy, and reading rate. DIBELS data supports early intervention and helps ensure students build the strong reading foundation needed for success in all subjects.

3rd–12th Grade Reading and Math: NWEA MAP Growth

NWEA MAP Growth provides information about each student's achievement and growth in reading and mathematics. Because the assessment adjusts to a student's responses, it gives teachers an individualized picture of what the student knows and is ready to learn next. MAP results help guide instruction, intervention, enrichment, and goal setting across upper elementary, middle school, and high school.

Families are essential partners in this work. Be on the lookout for an email from your student's teacher sharing your student's individual benchmark scores with families. The email will include personalized recommendations for age-appropriate academic support at home, such as reading together, practicing phonics or fluency skills, working on math facts, playing number games, or encouraging students to explain their thinking.

THE BIG RED BUS WILL BE HERE THE 10/14 & 10/30!



The blood drive is, simply put, the gift of life. We partnered with OneBlood again to host a blood drive on campus on **Wednesday, 10/14 and Friday, 10/30 from 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM.**

Sign up using the link below and recruit family and friends to come out and donate. Donors will receive refreshments and a OneBlood Halloween T-Shirt at both blood drives.

<https://www.oneblood.org/donate-now/scheduler.html?locationId=1781016>

High School Students who are 16 years old or older can donate with parents' consent and must bring a consent form to the bus on the day of the blood drive. All donors and prospects must have a picture ID showing their date of birth.

OneBlood strongly encourages all donors to have a good breakfast or meal and drink plenty of water before and after donating.

FIFTH GRADE SPENT TIME AT THE MCDOWELL NATURE PRESERVE

