

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO ...

Ellie Steele	9/03
Heather Hakim	9/05
Brendan Strauss	9/06
Sienna Itri	9/14
Miori Takasaka	9/15
Kaia Grossman	9/18
Alexander Landau	9/19
Rajani Vihaan	9/20
Jayden Ain	9/22
Michelle Feldman	9/23
Ryan Misulovin	9/23
Katie Shapiro	9/23
Rylan Cahill	9/25
Ethan Ciccone	9/25
Olivia Philip	9/27
Joseph Pappas	9/29
Skylar Rogol	9/29
Matthew Neumaier	9/30



## Upcoming Events at Pierce:

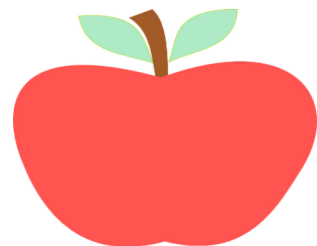
### SEPTEMBER

9/13	First Day of School
9/21-22	Rosh Hashanah: School Closed

### OCTOBER

10/2-5	Reading Week
10/6	Picture Day
10/9	Columbus Day: School Closed
10/18	Staff Development Day: School Closed
10/23-27:	Fall Festival

Please note: changes have been made to our 2017-18 school calendar regarding the Spring Show dates.



# PIERCE COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

From the Desk of Mr. Neal

## CHANGING GEARS FROM CAMP TO SCHOOL

As the days get a little shorter and autumn approaches we can start the process of preparing for the school year. One way in which we begin thinking school is by getting together in the middle of August to talk about the upcoming school year. This gets us into the mind set of what will be here in just a few short weeks.

In getting together we talk about some items that are strategic to starting our year off in the best way possible. We discuss what new information has come from the State or what regulations might impact our preschool. We share some of our policies that we expect all of us to follow as we begin. Our new staff has lots of procedural and curriculum concerns that we can talk about at this meeting. We also just want to get to know each other a little better.

We always try to wrap this Agenda around a relevant early childhood topic that would be of interest to our Teachers. This meeting featured "Developmental Milestones".

We learned a lot about what is reasonable to expect from two year olds through five year olds. We focused on what to look for from the physical, emotional and verbal milestones that are within normal ranges at particular ages. These were helpful guidelines for all of us to always keep in mind when assessing the growth of our children.

After we meet, the real work begins. Camp goes into Color War mode as our last week of camp starts. There is never a dull moment at camp but right after one season is over the next one begins. At this time we we'll have our carpets cleaned and we will pack away camp until we plan for our 101<sup>st</sup> summer. Some classrooms will be relocated to other areas in school. We will unpack books, puzzles, blocks, educational materials as well as all the basic ingredients that help to create superior learning environments. We have lots to do with little time to do it in. We can't wait to exceed all of your expectations.



**REMINDER!!!**

PHYSICIAN EXAMINATION FORMS WITH IMMUNIZATIONS ARE DUE PRIOR TO THE START OF SCHOOL.

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY BROUGHT IN A CHANGE OF CLOTHING FOR YOUR CHILD PLEASE DO SO NOW!

**REMINDER!!!**

WE ASK THAT YOU DROP-OFF BETWEEN 8:30-8:45AM. PARENTS WHO HAVE A TODDLER ALONG WITH ANOTHER SIBLING AT PIERCE ARE ASKED TO DROP-OFF AT 9:00AM. PLEASE REMEMBER TO DRIVE CAREFULLY & SLOWLY AT DROP-OFF AND PICK-UP. SAFETY ALWAYS COMES 1ST!



In the weeks ahead, we will be initiating an exciting enrichment program to our school curriculum.. It's called **Twenty First Century Skills**. It may be familiar to many of you if your children have attended our summer day camp program.

Implemented a few years ago at Pierce Country Day Camp, this program has become a big success here! In short, the Partnership for Twenty First Century Skills ([www.p21.org](http://www.p21.org)) focuses on the "3 C's":

1. Critical Thinking & Problem Solving
2. Creativity & Innovation
3. Communication & Collaboration

They also list the following life skills as critically important to the healthy development of children.

- Kindness
- Collaboration & Communication Skills
- Self-Control
- Flexibility & Adaptability
- Cooperation
- Teamwork
- Sportsmanship
- Creativity
- Autonomy... sense of self

Our plan here at school is to weave these **core competency skills** into our everyday lives. It is our strong opinion that developing these skill sets are certainly in our children's best interest moving forward. We will be sure to include you as we develop this exciting program.

PIERCE... We Teach Success!