

# Pine Point School

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## Back to the Point



Pine Point's Dolphin Research Trainees arrive in Japan

From upcoming special events to quick snapshots of what's going on in and out of the classroom, Pine Point's e-newsletter keeps you connected with the School. We encourage you to [contact us](#) with news and ideas for individuals or topics to feature in *Back to the Point*. We hope you enjoy this window into Pine Point and that it helps you keep Pine Point in mind. [Sign me up!](#)

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### Opportunities and Announcements

#### ▲ **Annual Fund Reaches \$200,000 Goal**

The last week has seen a flurry of gifts come to the Annual Fund. The good news is that those gifts have pushed us over the \$200,000 mark for the fifth time in the last six years. Don't delay! With the end of the fiscal year fast approaching (June 30th), there are only a few days left to join the other 460 friends of Pine Point who made a commitment to maintain the strength of the program for this generation of Pine Point students.



[I'd like to make a gift online to the ANNUAL FUND](#)

#### ▲ **ECC Challenge Update**



Pine Point is on the verge of meeting the \$500,000 Challenge and

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embarking on its second transforming construction project in the last four years. The Early Childhood Center (ECC) will bring together the Preschool through Grade 3 into one defined area of the campus. Since the last *Back to the Point* communication an additional \$57,000 has been raised, leaving us just \$43,000 from meeting the Challenge!

A number of alumni have responded to the mailing that went out in the beginning of June asking for their help with the ECC. One alumnus, Ben Williams '98, a Senior Programmer/Analyst at The George Washington University, made a wonderful gift and passed on his reason for doing so. He wrote, "My education and life experiences granted me enough luck to have been offered this job in 2003, and it feels like the right thing to share my good fortune...Good luck with reaching the goal, and I can't wait to see it as a reality."

We hope every member of the Pine Point family will see the value in supporting this important project and seizing this tremendous opportunity presented to our School.

[Read more about the ECC>](#)



[I'd like to make a gift online to the CAMPAIGN](#)

## What's Happening at Pine Point?

### ▲ Moving On and Moving In

Pine Point said goodbye to faculty who are not returning for the 2007-08 school year. Second grade teacher Holly David, Webmaster Julie Wright DelPrado '89, French teacher Amy Hallberg, Spanish teacher Melani Suarez-Contreras, seventh grade teacher Bonnie Tate, and Business Manager Isabella Zagare will be off to further their lives in other fields. We wish them all the best!

New and returning faces at the School will be Tim Whipple in second grade, Michael Burns in fourth grade, Erin Call in seventh grade, Michele Snitkin teaching French, Gordon Ringer as the new Business Manager, and Geri Hathaway as the new Extended Day Director.

### ▲ DRTs to Japan!



The Dolphin Research Trainees (DRTs), who are studying with Dr. Kathleen Dudzinski of the Dolphin Communication Project, arrived in Japan on June 16 for an 11-day stay. The trip will focus on Mikura Island, where they will be studying the ocean and the dolphins that live offshore, along with students that live on the island. After a 14-hour flight from New York to Tokyo, the group took an eight-hour ferry ride from Tokyo to Mikura. The isolation and topography of the island make it an ideal place to research dolphins.

Teachers Sally Cogan and Gary Williams accompanied the students; it is Mrs. Cogan's second visit to Mikura within a year, her first trip as a result of being one of the first Fiore Fellows recipients. Pine Point's students will also be getting to know their Japanese counterparts, whom they will host in 2008.

[Follow the students' adventures>](#)

### ▲ Pine Point Golf Tournament



Monday, June 11 saw the 15th annual Pine Point Golf Tournament at beautiful Stonington Country Club. Twenty groups of golfers played under mostly clear skies (a brief thunderstorm stopped play for about 20 minutes) for a great day of fun and competition.

The Winning Foursome

First place went to the foursome of Bill Ernst, Tom Kiely, Jon Kodama, and Tim Sisk, who were 14-under par for the day. The tournament netted over \$13,000. Those funds benefit the School's entire program. Additionally, as was established last year, any income over \$11,000 will be directed to the Fiore Fund, which supports the faculty sabbatical program. Thanks go out to the Fiftal, Fiore, and Holstein families as the tournament's major sponsors, as well as the six charter members and 28 businesses and individuals who were tee sponsors.

[Golf Tournament Slide Show>](#)

### Graduation and Poetry Night



The 18-hour period between 6 PM Friday, June 8 and noon on June 9 were magical on the Pine Point campus. The combination of Poetry Night and Graduation brought many nostalgic memories to students and parents alike, a wonderful celebration of the ninth grade family. Friday night's program of poems, recitations, and music showed the taste and personality of each ninth grader.



The graduation ceremony on Saturday was moving and emotional for parents, grandparents, students and friends alike. One of the day's highlights was the return to campus of Robert Petrocelli '81, who delivered the Commencement Address. Congratulations to the Class of 2007! (Detailed reporting of commencement will appear in the fall issue of *ViewPoints*.)

### 2006-2007 Archive

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[Volume 6, Issue VII, March 2007](#)

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[Contact Julie DelPrado](#) if you are looking for a story that appeared in *Back to the Point* prior to the 2006-2007 school year.

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