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GRANDPARENTS'/GRANDPERSONS' DAY

Close to 200 of the most special friends that Pine Point students have visited the School on April 24th for the annual Grandparents'/Grandpersons' Day. From shooting hoops at recess to following students to classes, all enjoyed themselves. We like to think that many of them felt the same as one grandmother, who afterward wrote: "The teachers, the staff and volunteers always seem to make Grandparents' Day a happy, magical experience. We are so appreciative of your efforts and continued thoughtfulness in creating such a special day for us and our children. Thank you for being such an important part of the lives of our precious little ones, we are truly grateful." Special thanks goes to Hospitality Chair Jennifer Schwindt, who once again assembled a crack crew of servers, greeters, donors of food and beverage, and others who made the day a delight for all. If you took a great photo that you would like to share with the School, please [email](#) it to Associate Director of Development David Cruthers.

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LATIN SCHOLARS HONORED

Every 6th grader is required to take a year of Latin and then may choose to continue their study through eLatin, a program for grades 7-9 taught by Robin Rice since 2004. Each year our students excel on the National Latin Exams, and this year was no different. Fifteen eLatin students recently participated in the 2009 National Latin Exam. Five students were recognized for their excellent performance on the Latin I exam: Madeline Denison and Kyle Sebastian earned *Cum Laude* certificates; Tristan Yerkes received *Magna Cum Laude* recognition; and Amita Bose and Zachary Dameron were silver medal recipients for their *Maxima Cum Laude* performance, answering 34 out of 40 questions correct. For their performance on the Introduction to Latin exam, Gabe Campbell and Brendan Donovan received a Certificate of Achievement. Luke Butler, Hannah Long, Victoria Ferrigno, Quintin Parsons, and Adam Verhoeff each earned a ribbon and Certificate of Outstanding Achievement, answering 35 or more questions out of 40 correct. Matthew Owen was also recognized with a ribbon and Certificate of Outstanding Achievement for correctly answering all but one question. Other exam participants included Ryan Duguay and Lily Hinkle.



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The following is a list of acceptances received by our students this admission season.

SECONDARY SCHOOL ACCEPTANCES

Once again, Pine Point students had another very successful year in terms of secondary school applications. Director of Secondary School Placement Diana Owen lays out the philosophy behind the School's approach in this all-important area: "Our goal is to work closely with students and families to find the school that is the best fit whether public, independent day or boarding. The feedback I received from all of the admission directors indicated some common themes: our students are academically prepared for rigorous secondary schools, our students are poised in an interview setting, and they are clearly involved in their community."

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 Westover School – 1
 The Williams School – 25
 The Williston Northampton School – 1

ADMISSIONS OPEN HOUSE

An information session about Pine Point will be held on Sunday, May 3rd, from 4:00-5:30 PM at the home of current parents Bill and Lisa Donovan, 11 Ferry Road, Old Lyme. If you have friends in the Old Lyme-Essex area who might benefit from looking into the School, please alert them to this event and have them contact Director of Admissions Julie Abbiati at 860-535-0606, ext. 135, or at admission@pinepoint.org. A similar event will target families in the North Stonington area at the home of Jack and Stephanie Gosselin on Wednesday, May 20th.

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POEM IN YOUR POCKET DAY

On Thursday, April 30th, take one more thing with you as you leave the house, and put it in one specific place. It's the second annual Poem In Your Pocket Day, originated by the Academy of American Poets, in honor of April being National Poetry Month. The day was instituted at Pine Point last year by 6th grade teacher Carol Roper. At Monday Morning Meeting, she told the students that she would be carrying *The Love Song of J. Alfred Prufrock* by T.S. Eliot, a portion of which she read to the students. (The finals of the annual April Pine Point Poetry Madness playoff will also take place on April 30.) Ms. Roper (and others) would love to know what poem you might carry that day. Let Ms. Roper know about your poem by clicking [here](#).

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AN EVENING WITH MR. T.

Kindergarten teacher Lou Toscano will share his thoughts on the teaching process in the third and final installment of the Pine Point School Forum on Teaching, "On the Craft of Teaching." Mr. T.'s talk is ingeniously entitled "I Love a Man in an Apron: The Plight of the Male Kindergarten Teacher." He will speak on Thursday, May 7th, at 7 PM in the School's Library/Technology Center.

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TREE PLANTING

In recognition of Arbor Day, a tree was planted outside of the DeMovick Early Childhood Center on April 22. The entire lower school was in attendance as the Kentucky yellow wood was put in the ground by workers from Bartlett Tree Experts, which had also donated the tree. The preschool sang a song which was picked up by everybody there. Bartlett's also donated saplings, enough so that anyone in the School could take one and give it a good home.

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YOUNG CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL

A "Spring Fling" for children ages 2-5 will take place at Pine Point on May 9th from 10-11:30 in the DeMovick Early Childhood Center. Activities include baking and Mother's Day decorating, among other things. Children must be accompanied by a parent. For more information, contact admission@pinepoint.org or call 860-535-0606, ext. 135.

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ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

It's always exciting to receive a gift to the Annual Fund, but there's something particularly heartening when we receive a contribution from a member of the Pine Point family living at a great distance from the School. That was the case when we recently heard from Hugh Beach '65, a professor and head of the anthropology department at Uppsala University in Sweden. Hugh commented, "You should know that it was the recent Back to the Point with its reminder about the Annual Fund which spurred me to action. I want to contribute if I can each year and was aware that I had probably missed doing so. I was waiting for something to make it easy, like the 'click here' of your notice." Hugh, when asked if he'd be able to come by the School if he was back in the States, enthusiastically and cleverly wrote, "You can be sure that I will be getting back to the Point next time I am in those parts." Click [here](#) to safely and securely make *your* gift to the Annual Fund.

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GOLF TOURNAMENT

It's time to sign up for Pine Point's 17th annual golf tournament. Played at Stonington Country Club, the tournament is always a great day of fun and competition. It's also a great way to support the School. Singles through foursomes are welcome. Please also consider a tee sponsorship (\$125) to advertise your business, thank a teacher, or honor a loved one. Click [here](#) to view or download the entry form. Golfers signing up by May 20th will receive a discounted entry fee.

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VIEWPOINTS IN THE MAIL - AND ONLINE

The Winter/Spring 2009 issue of Pine Point's magazine, *ViewPoints*, was mailed last week. If it has not yet arrived, and you're interested in reading it right now, click [here](#).

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Strong Minds, Caring Hearts

Pine Point School, 89 Barnes Road, Stonington, CT 06378, Phone: 1-860-535-0606, Fax: 1-860-535-8033