



Newsletter 1 - Wednesday 16th February 2022



Kia ora, Hello, Kia orana, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Bula vanaka, Marhabaan, Salaam, Namaste

It is great to be back at school and into the swing of things. Everyone seems refreshed and ready to learn after a good summer holiday break.

Welcome to Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias who is team teaching in the Senior Learning Team with Mrs Hazel Astley and myself, full time this term. Valentina has relieved lots at our school and knows all our students well. We also welcome Miss Amy Bennett to the Junior Learning Team. Amy is a third year teaching student from the University of Otago and is completing her final year placement in the Junior Learning Team, supported by Miss Renee Hodges. Amy is with us for the year and will be doing some block postings along with being here each Tuesday. It is great to have Valentina and Amy on board and we hope they both enjoy their time with us. Mrs Astley will be going on maternity leave at the end of term one and a replacement for her will be announced later in the term. Nikola Ballard in the Office will be working four days a week this year from 8.00am-12.30pm Monday and 8.30am-1pm Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

I am really impressed with how well our students and families have adapted to the rules of the Public Health Order as part of the Red Light Covid-19 Response System. Our Senior Learning Team students have taken mask wearing in their stride and have been positive and amazing with wearing them during the day. Staff are masked and it is really great to see our awesome outside spaces being utilized during the day so that students and staff can have a break from wearing their masks, or get some fresh air. I have also been impressed with the senior students taking responsibility, asking for mask breaks when they feel the need. We are doing our very best at Pine Hill School to ensure school is safe and as normal as possible, under the Public Health Order. We are now in Phase 2 of the Red Light System with minimal changes at school, including: students having designated areas to play at breaks and extremely minimal mixing of students and staff if required.

It is a rather quiet start to the school year. The Senior Learning Team overnight camp at Otago Museum has been postponed until Thursday/Friday 16th/17th June and we are undertaking school swimming in weeks 3 and 4 of term 2. Beach Education has been postponed until 2nd December. Due to the nature of the current environment, we will not be holding Goal Setting Interviews this term. Please contact your child's classroom teacher/s if you have any queries regarding anything. You can find contact details for staff further on in the newsletter.

Ngā mihi nui - Melissa Ward

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

There are Pine Hill School Board meetings on **Monday 28th February and Monday 28th March** at 7.15pm on the online platform, Zoom. Public presence is welcome at our meetings and the Pine Hill School Board would like to welcome you along. Please contact Melissa if you are interested in attending either of these meetings.

CARING RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY AIMING HIGH

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Before and after school care is now on offer at Pine Hill School. This service is available to whānau from our school and Liberton Christian School. Mana Before and After School Care are the outside providers running this programme and it is called 'Pine Hill Mana'.

We are excited to have before and after school care up and running. Whānau are able to enrol children now by going to www.manaafterschoolcare.com and clicking on the 'Click To Enrol' tab.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact Johanna Newman (manager/director) by emailing mana.afterschool.care@gmail.com or myself.

ABSENCES

Please ring/text the School Office and inform us if your child/ren are going to be absent from school for any reason. Please ensure you give us a reason for their absence when you phone to inform us. It is part of our Health and Safety policy to know where students are when they're absent.

HEAD LICE

Head lice are active at school. Treatment of head lice has to be done thoroughly. There are a number of ways to do this but one of the best ways is to cover the hair in conditioner to stun the lice. You then need to comb through the hair strands carefully and pull out any eggs along with removing the live lice. The egg cases can be empty but are still really sticky and need to be pulled out by hand or fine metal comb. The live eggs are dark and live approximately 1mm from the scalp. Live lice crawl around the head. Please check your child/ren's hair.

If we notice lice in a child's hair we will contact you so that you can organise treatment. **ALL** long hair **MUST** be tied up. If you would like a treatment kit, please contact us as we have these available for free.

FRIENDS OF PINE HILL SCHOOL DUNEDIN (FOTS) UPDATE

A resolution has been passed and accepted to fold the Friends of Pine Hill School Dunedin group. This resolution was passed at the AGM in November 2021 and has been confirmed by digital resolution this week, as per the constitution. The remaining funds in the account were transferred to school, as per the constitution. Thanks to everyone for their support and help with the group over the last few years. Hopefully this group can get back up and running in the future.

CLASS TIME

Students are expected to be at school by 9am every day. Being at school by 8.45am or earlier (anytime after 8.30am) is ideal as this allows students to get ready for the day and socialize with their peers.

Students coming in late are disruptive to the class programme and can be frustrating to teachers when they have already started the school day. Of course, we understand if there are special appointments in school time that cause students to be late to school, for example dentist, optometrist, doctor. Please try your very best to make appointments out of school time. Students are required to stay in class until 3pm each day and need to bring a drink bottle full of water with them every day.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE: KIRSTYN STANAWAY - PRESIDING MEMBER

Kia ora koutou. Welcome back to everyone, old and new! Our last Board meeting was held on 6 December 2021 at school. The Board was presented with 2021 achievement data in reading, writing and maths and we saw how well the children at Pine Hill School had done for the year. It was excellent to see the progress made in maths, reading and writing. It's very exciting for children, families and our school, when learning and progress is happening. Well done to all the teachers, support staff and children for working together to make this happen! Students are still receiving the Governments Lunches in Schools and the Board has opted in for the \$150 per student School Donation Scheme for the year. The donation scheme means that student activities (except camps) are covered by the scheme, such as swimming and other Education Outside the Classroom learning opportunities, which is fantastic.

Melissa has just completed a comprehensive plan for the school according to the Government's three phases of the Covid Red Light setting. Thank you Melissa, it looks succinct and is very straightforward for her to follow if needed. On that note a big thank you to all families and staff at this unknown time. There is a lot of new information and changes can happen quickly, so thanks for your understanding and patience while Melissa and the staff navigate the changes from the Ministry. Melissa and the staff are doing a great job at making a school a safe and happy space for children to be in as well as they can under the Public Health Order. I encourage you to talk to Melissa if you have any worries regarding anything to do with the school's Covid response.

A main goal of the Board is to try and increase the roll size of the school, so if you know anyone looking for a school, Pine Hill School is an awesome place to be! Please let others know! We have before school and after school care available, which is a great asset to the school.

Board elections will be coming up this year, so if you're keen to join and become a member, please either see Melissa or contact me regarding this. *Nga mihi, Kirstyn*

NEWSLETTER

If you would like to go on the school newsletter email tree, please contact Nikola at the school office.



ENROLMENTS

If you know of or have any children that will be attending Pine Hill School in the future, please let Melissa know at school. We have a number of students pre-enrolled already for this year which is fantastic! Enrolment information is very helpful with planning for the immediate and distant future.

WAYS TO CONTACT/FIND US!

School phone number: 03 473 9148	School cell phone number: 027 528 7198
Website: www.pinehilldunedin.school.nz	Search Pine Hill School on Facebook and give us a like!
Download the Skool Loop app from the Google Play or Apple Store on your phone and search for Pine Hill School	Seesaw - please see your child's classroom teacher for login information

EMAIL ADDRESSES

You can contact us on the following email addresses:

renee@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Renee Hodges: Junior Learning Team Teacher	valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Valentina Alvarez Fariaz: Senior Learning Team Teacher
hazel@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Hazel Astley: Senior Learning Team Teacher	office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Nikola Ballard: School Secretary
principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Melissa Ward: Principal/Senior Learning Team Teacher	

REMINDERS

Monday 28th February Monday 21st March Monday 28th March Thursday 14th April Monday 2nd May	<i>Pine Hill School Board Meeting, 7.15pm on Zoom</i> <i>Otago Anniversary Day, school CLOSED</i> <i>Pine Hill School Board Meeting, 7.15pm on Zoom</i> <i>School holidays begin at 3pm</i> <i>Term two begins</i>
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Kia ora,

Have you considered Pine Hill School for your child?



AT PINE HILL SCHOOL WE OFFER:

- Low student to teacher ratios
- Highly skilled teachers
- Personalised learning
- interesting and engaging classroom learning programmes
- Innovative learning environments
- Strong use of digital technologies
- Sporting and cultural groups
- Exciting Education Outside the Classroom programmes
- Before and after school care
- Expansive grounds
- A family focus and community engagement
- A friendly, welcoming environment




Get in touch! Phone us: 03 473 9148
 Email Melissa Ward: principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz
 Go online: www.pinehilldunedin.school.nz
 Visit us: 11 Hislop Street, Liberton, Dunedin

Pine Hill School - the hidden treasure in Pine Hill



