



# Newsletter 10 - Wednesday 1st July 2026



*Kia ora, Hello, Kia orana, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Bula vanaka, Marhabaan, Salaam, Namaste, Kumusta, Asalaam alaikum, Hola, Welkam, Mâlô*

As we approach the end of another fantastic term, I want to take a moment to celebrate the incredible learning and growth we've seen across the school. Our tamariki have worked so hard, and I am immensely grateful to our wonderful teachers and support staff for their dedication and hard mahi.

Before we wrap up for a well-deserved break, we have some exciting events to finish the term, alongside some important dates to lock into your calendars for Term 3.

## Important End of Term Events

- **Matariki Celebration & Wearable Art Assembly: Thursday 2nd July, 2pm in the hall**
  - Details: Our tamariki cannot wait to share their spectacular wearable art creations with you all! Whānau and friends are warmly invited to attend. Please note that tamariki are welcome to head home with their whānau at the conclusion of the assembly.
- **World Football Cup Celebration Day: Friday 3rd July (Last day of term)**
  - Details: We are finishing the term with a bang! Tamariki will participate in exciting World Cup-themed activities in the morning, followed by a thrilling football tournament in the afternoon. Everyone is welcome to come along to the tournament in the afternoon starting at 1.30pm!

## Looking Ahead to Term Three

- **Cross Country Training: starts Tuesday 21st July**
  - Details: Happens every year in Term 3! To prepare for the big event, we will be training every single day. Tamariki need to wear suitable footwear for daily training and have water bottles.
  - Save the Date: The School Cross Country event will take place at school on **Friday 28th August (with a postponement date of Monday 31st August)**.
- **Board Approved Teacher Only Day: Monday 24th August**
  - Details: The Board has approved a Teacher Only Day which schools can use from the Ministry of Education for staff professional development. School will be closed for tamariki on this day as our staff will be attending professional development offsite.
- **Polyfest Preparation**
  - Details: Next term, we look forward to continuing our preparations for Polyfest which is the week of **7th September**.

There are a number of property upgrades currently happening at our school. The new carpet in the hall looks fantastic and we are excited to showcase this at our Matariki Celebration Assembly on Thursday. Over the holiday break, old heat pumps are being replaced which will make our school much warmer, the caretakers shed is getting a remodel so we can store our school bikes and resources in there and the kitchen in the hall is being replaced. There are also numerous other carpentry jobs happening across the school in the coming months which we are very excited about!

Thank you to everyone for their support of our school throughout term two. I wish everyone a safe, happy, and relaxing holiday break and we look forward to seeing everyone back next term, rejuvenated and ready for a busy and exciting Term 3!

*Kā mihi,*  
*Melissa Ward - Tumuaiki/Principal*

# School Notices

## PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There is a board meeting on **Monday 17th August** and **Monday 21st September** at 6pm on Zoom. Public presence is welcome at our meetings and the Pine Hill School Board would like to welcome you along. Please contact Melissa, or Amie Hawkins (Presiding Member) if you are interested in attending any meetings.

## TRANSITION TO SCHOOL - FOUR YEAR OLDS: TERM THREE

Each term at Pine Hill School, we hold Transition to School visits for all four year olds. These visits allow new tamariki to become familiar with the school environment. These sessions are held over three different dates each term, and the dates for **Term 3** are: **Wednesday 5th August, Wednesday 26th August** and **Wednesday 16th September**. Tamariki are welcome to come for morning tea at 10:40am, and then spend the middle block from 11:00am - 12:30pm with the Room 1 tamariki. They are also invited to stay for lunch, with being collected at 1:00pm. If you would like your tamariki to attend, please RSVP to Mrs Alvarez Farias at school.

## HEAD LICE

Head lice are active at school, please check the hair of your tamariki. 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. We will contact you so that you can organise treatment if we see head lice or eggs in your tamariki's hair. **ALL** long hair **MUST** be tied up. If you would like a treatment kit, please contact us as we have these available for free.

## ENROLMENTS

We welcome new enrolments at Pine Hill School. We are not zoned, which means we are able to take enrolments from all areas. If you know of or have any tamariki that will be attending Pine Hill School in the future, please let Melissa know at school. Enrolment information is very helpful with planning for the immediate and distant future. Enrolment packs can be picked up from the school office.

## EMAIL ADDRESSES

You can contact Kaimahi (staff) on the following email addresses:

<a href="mailto:valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias: Room 1 (year 1) Kaiako/Teacher	<a href="mailto:ally@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">ally@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Miss Ally Ward: Room 2 (year 2 & 3) Kaiako/Teacher
<a href="mailto:tait@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">tait@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Miss Tait Duncan: Room 3 (year 3 & 4) Kaiako/Teacher	<a href="mailto:tara@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">tara@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Miss Tara McGoff: Room 4 (year 5 & 6) Teacher/Kaiako
<a href="mailto:principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Miss Melissa Ward: Tumuaki/Principal	<a href="mailto:office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz">office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz</a> Mrs Nikola Ballard

## CLASSROOM UPDATE - MISS WARD, MISS MCGOFF and MISS DUNCAN

It has been another action-packed and productive term here at Pine Hill School! Our tamariki have continued to show incredible dedication to their learning, finishing the term on an absolute high!

We have been incredibly fortunate to have Deepasha from the Otago Polytechnic working alongside us to lead some fantastic P.E. sessions. A huge thank you to Miss Ward (Principal) for getting us new footballs, these have been a massive hit during break times to keep everyone active and moving. Inside the school, Rooms 1 and 2 merged for part of the term due to Ms Alvarez Farias being on leave, and it has been wonderful to see how beautifully the tamariki have adapted, working collaboratively and supporting one another in their shared space. For our curriculum theme, the whole school has been learning about Wearable Arts as part of a Technology unit. Tamariki have been exploring the design process while learning about the importance of recycling and sustainability. A project we decided would connect well to our end of term Matariki celebrations! Tamariki worked together in groups to create incredible costumes based around the 9 Matariki stars, which we cannot wait to show you at our special Matariki Celebration this Thursday at 2pm. Whānau and friends all welcome! A big shout-out also goes to our year 5-6 tamariki and kaiako (teachers) who did an amazing job cleaning out the caretaker's shed into skip recently to get ready for the renovations there! Finally, to finish off the term, we are having our own Football World Cup Celebration Day this Friday 3rd of June. Tamariki have been split into teams based on different countries competing in the Fifa World Cup. They are more than welcome to come dressed in their team colours, and will be participating in World Cup activities during the day and a tournament in the afternoon. We are so proud of everything our tamariki have achieved over the term! Have a wonderful, safe, and relaxing holiday with your whānau, and we look forward to seeing everyone refreshed and ready for Term 3!

## REMINDERS

Wednesday 1st July	<i>Mid year school reports emailed out</i>
Thursday 2nd July	<i>Matariki Assembly - 12pm in the hall</i>
Friday 3rd July	<i>Football World Cup Celebration Day</i>
Friday 3rd July	<i>Term two school holidays begin at 3pm</i>
Monday 20th July	<i>Term Three begins, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am</i>
Monday 3rd August	<i>Student Led Conferences - 3.15-6pm (booking information to come next term)</i>
Tuesday 4th August	<i>Student Led Conferences - 1-6.30pm (school closing at 12pm this day)</i>
Wednesday 5th August	<i>Transition to School, all 4 year olds in the area</i>
Friday 7th August	<i>Assembly, 2.20pm in the hall</i>
Monday 17th August	<i>Board meeting, 6pm on Zoom</i>
Monday 24th August	<i>Teacher Only Day - <b>school CLOSED</b></i>
Wednesday 26th August	<i>Transition to School, all 4 year olds in the area</i>
Thursday 27th August	<i>Assembly, 2.20pm in the hall</i>
Friday 28th August	<i>School Cross Country 12pm</i>
Monday 31st August	<i>School Cross Country postponement date, 12pm</i>
7-11th September	<i>Polyfest Week - our performance date to be confirmed</i>
Wednesday 16th September	<i>Transition to School, all 4 year olds in the area</i>
Friday 18th September	<i>Assembly, 2.20pm in the hall</i>
Monday 21st September	<i>Board meeting, 6pm on Zoom</i>



**Pine Hill School** EST. 1872  
'Reaching for the Top!'

*Kia Ora!*

Have you considered  
**Pine Hill School**  
for your child?

At Pine Hill School we offer:

- Low student to teacher ratios
- A highly skilled teaching team
- Personalised and engaging learning opportunities
- Integrated learning programmes
- 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!**

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 Find us on  
**Facebook**

[www.pinehilldunedin.school.nz](http://www.pinehilldunedin.school.nz)

*Aiming High | Respect | Responsibility*