



**Pine Hill
School**
'Reaching for the Top!'



Newsletter 13 - Wednesday 3rd September 2025



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

What a busy last few weeks it has been! The beautiful spring-like weather has been a welcome change, and it was fantastic to see so many people at our school cross country last week. I was incredibly proud of all our tamariki and the grit and determination they showed in their races. A big thank you to all the whānau and supporters who came along to cheer them on. Your encouragement was well received by our runners! Thank you also to our fabulous tamariki who all gave their races their very best effort. All the training over the six weeks leading up to the cross country was very evident. Good luck to Isabella Duder who competes at the Otago Cross Country on Friday at Kaikorai Valley College.

I'd also like to extend a huge thank you to our school community for attending our recent student-led conferences. It was wonderful to see our tamariki so proud to share their learning with someone special from home. We heard lots of positive feedback from parents and guardians, which is a testament to the strong partnership we have between home and school. Having 100% attendance at the conferences truly shows how much our community values the education of their tamariki.

Well done to our year 5 & 6 boys Rippa team who competed at the Metro Rippa tournament a few weeks ago. They were all fabulous representatives of our school and played some great games, coming away with a couple of wins, a draw and a loss. Unfortunately due to sickness, we had to withdraw our girls team from this year's event.

All the best to our Kapa Haka group who are performing at Polyfest today. They have put in a lot of hard work, and we are incredibly excited and proud to watch them take the stage at 2:10pm. A special thank you to Tait Duncan for all her fantastic organisation and support with getting our tamariki ready for our Polyfest performance. Thank you also to Hope and Nikita Rewha for helping apply tattoos and stencilling to the faces of our tamariki.

*Kā mihi - Melissa Ward
Tumuaki/Principal*

'Reaching for the Top!'
Aiming High, Respect, Responsibility

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There is a board meeting on **Monday September 15th** 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.

KIDSCAN

We are lucky to be a member of KidsCan New Zealand. When tamariki start at school they get a free jacket. Some of the other things we have available for free include: shoes for tamariki, food for morning tea and head lice treatment. Please contact school if you require any of these items.



TRANSITION TO SCHOOL - FOUR YEAR OLDS

Each term at Pine Hill School we hold Transition to School visits for all four year olds. These visits allow tamariki to become familiar with our school environment. These sessions are held over three different dates each term, and the remaining date for **Term 3** is: **Wednesday September 10th**. Tamariki are welcome to come for morning tea at 10:40am, and then spend the middle block from 11:00am - 12:30pm with the Junior Learning Team. 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 (valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz).

SCHOOL PHOTOS

All tamariki have been given information about school photos being held on **Thursday 11th September**. Please ensure tamariki are dressed tidily and have their hair done nicely for photos. Please read the information that has been sent home and fill in and return the form if you would like sibling photos to be taken on the day. After photo day you will be emailed a unique Photo Keycode to view photos of your tamariki at www.photolife.co.nz.

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.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

You can contact Kaimahi on the following email addresses:

valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias: Junior Learning Team (year 0-1) Kaiako/Teacher	ally@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Ally Ward: Junior Learning Team (year 1-2) Kaiako/Teacher
tait@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Tait Duncan: Middle Learning Team (year 3 & 4) Kaiako/Teacher	olivia@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Olivia Culbert: Senior Learning Team (year 5 & 6) Teacher/Kaiako
principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Melissa Ward: Tumuaki/Principal	office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Nikola Ballard: Secretary

REMINDERS

Wednesday September 3rd	<i>Polyfest performance - 2.10pm @ Edgar Centre</i>
Wednesday September 10th	<i>Transition to School, all four year olds</i>
Thursday September 11th	<i>School Photos</i>
Friday September 19th	<i>Term three school holidays begin at 3pm</i>
Monday October 6th	<i>First day of term four, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am</i>
Monday October 27th	<i>Labour Day - school CLOSED</i>
Friday December 5th	<i>Year 6 Big Day Out to celebrate their time at Pine Hill School coming to an end</i>
Friday December 12th	<i>Last day of school for 2025, Final Assembly at 11am</i>
Thursday January 29th 2026	<i>First day of school for 2026, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am</i>