



Newsletter 14 - Wednesday 28th September 2022



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



The arrival of daylight savings means that we are at the end of September for another year. It is really quite unreal how fast the year is flying by.

We welcome Eli Caley and his whānau to our school. Eli is five and has joined the Junior Learning Team. We hope Eli and his whānau enjoy their time with us at Pine Hill School. Farewell to Charleen Nath and her whānau, and we wish them all the best.

Two weeks ago our Kapa Haka group performed at Polyfest and wow, what an amazing performance that made me very proud! Unfortunately, I was unable to attend due to being away at conference but I was able to watch their performance online and it was incredible. A huge thank you to our wonderful Kapa Haka tutor Tomuri Spicer for all his hard work with our group. We are very lucky to have someone of Tomuri's capabilities working with our tamariki. Thank you also to Miss Hodges for her help working alongside the group and all those that helped out with logistics on the day. Kapa Haka sessions with Tomuri will continue and the group will be performing at our Final Assembly in term four and also at one of our usual Friday Assemblies, on **Friday 11th November**. If you were unable to make it to Polyfest, the performance on 11th November will showcase some of the items that we performed at Polyfest. We are also very proud of Tomuri who has been awarded a Six60 Scholarship for 2023 which means he lives in the old Dunedin flat of the New Zealand band Six60, he gets his university course fees paid for and also gets tutored music sessions by some of the band members. This is an outstanding effort, congratulations Tomuri and all the very best.

I enjoyed attending the New Zealand Principals' Federation Conference in Christchurch a couple of weeks ago. There were some excellent keynote speakers and I have come away with lots of inspiring thoughts and new information for my kete as Principal. It was also really good to connect with Tumuaki (Principals) from across the country.

Covid is still lingering. We have some whānau who are now being reinfected for a second time. It is really important that you keep your tamariki at home if they are sick and stay vigilant and test them if they have any symptoms of Covid. I have RAT tests available at school for whānau.

Next term looks busy with a number of events including the Senior Learning Team Overnight Camp, Bike Skills for year 6, Beach Education for the whole school, Year 6 Big Day Out, Final Assembly to celebrate our year 6 leavers and hopefully the school Halloween Disco will be back on the cards if we can get some whānau/caregivers to organise this for our tamariki. Term four is also short with being close to 9 weeks, finishing on Thursday 15th December at lunch time.

Painting the outside main block of the school we use, is starting in the term three holidays and will continue in term four. We look forward to sprucing this building up as it definitely needs it!

I hope all of our tamariki manage to have a nice break over the holidays and you get to spend some time with them. We will see everyone back at school for term four, beginning on Monday 17th October.

Ngā mihi nui - Melissa Ward

CARING RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY AIMING HIGH

School Notices

JUNIOR LEARNING TEAM (JLT) UPDATE

The Junior Learning Team has had a very busy term full of fantastic learning and progress and of course lots of fun! We welcomed a new student into our class called Eli who has joined us from Family Ties. Since our last class update we have been doing some exciting learning about insects for our term three topic. This included a wonderful visit to the Otago Museum to learn more about the different types of insects. We even got to visit the real life butterflies at the Tūhura Tropical Forest and watch them release some of the brand new butterflies into the forest. We have created some stunning bug art work and investigated further about the bugs we chose to draw. These are hanging up in our classroom so don't forget to pop in and check these out. We are now working on a very tricky project - creating our own bugs out of paper mache. We can't believe how much hard work and perseverance paper mache takes but we cannot wait to paint and decorate our bugs and show off our finished work. During reading time some of the older students have been extending their Te Reo Māori knowledge. We have been working on counting all the way up to 20 and practicing our school mihi. We hope you all have an enjoyable holiday and look forward to seeing everyone next term!

SENIOR LEARNING TEAM (SLT) UPDATE

This term has gone by so fast and the Senior Learning team have done an amazing job keeping themselves busy and putting a great amount of effort into improving their learning. We want to congratulate the SLT for their awesome performance during the Polyfest! They did such a fantastic job! Ka Pai! Lately tamariki have been working hard on each of their learning tasks, especially their basic facts. Tamariki have been working extremely hard learning how to create more complex sentences applying all of our knowledge about the different parts of speech into our writing. The Senior Learning team have been enjoying learning some new waiata and putting in lots of effort and energy to learn some new Te Reo words. This term we have been learning about bugs! We have learnt about the importance of these creatures in our ecosystem, their body parts, how to differentiate bugs and insects, different bug life cycles and found some cool and interesting facts about a variety of bugs/insects. Tamariki have also completed some fabulous bug art! Our tamariki were very lucky to have an interesting visit to the Otago Museum, learning more about these beautiful creatures. They even got to visit the Tūhura Tropical Forest and saw some lovely butterflies! We hope you have a wonderful holiday and we are looking forward to seeing you next term!

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL - FOUR YEAR OLDS

We have Transition to School visits for all four year olds each term at Pine Hill School. The purpose of these visits is to allow students to become familiar with the school environment, getting a taste of school life. The sessions are held over two different dates in term four due to it being shorter, and the dates are: **Wednesday 9th November** and **Wednesday 16th November**. Children are welcome to come for morning tea at 10.40am, with spending the middle block from 11am-12.30pm in the Junior Learning Team, experiencing school. Children are invited to stay for lunch after the class session with being collected at 1pm. If you would like your child to attend, please RSVP to Renee Hodges at school.

CARING RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY AIMING HIGH

ASSEMBLIES - TERM 4

We are excited to resume School Assemblies on Fridays in term four. The dates for these are: **28th October, 11th November and 25th November**. They will be at 2.30pm in the Hall and everyone is welcome.

END OF YEAR DATES

Confirmed dates for end of year events are as follows: Year 6 Big Day Out - **Wednesday 7th December**, Final Assembly - **Wednesday 14th December at 11am** and last day of term (optional attendance) - **Thursday 15th December school finishes at 12.30pm**.

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There are Pine Hill School Board meetings on **Monday 7th November** and **Monday 5th December** at 6pm at school. Public presence is welcome at our meetings and the board would like to welcome you along. Please contact Melissa, or Kirstyn Stanaway (Presiding Member) if you are interested in attending.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES UPDATE - KIRSTYN STANAWAY: PRESIDING MEMBER

Kia ora koutou. Our last board meeting was held via zoom on 12th September 2022. During this meeting we were presented with a number of reports. We had a report on the advice and guidance programme for Valentina Alvarez Farias, our provisionally registered teacher. We heard about student achievement for the first half of 2022 and how well the ākonga are going. It was great to hear about all the awesome initiatives Pine Hill School has which supports ākonga learning and well being. The board wants to thank Melissa and the staff for all their work that they do to support ākonga at school and the clear communication and relationships they have with whānau. We are very lucky to have a school that really cares! Earlier this term we held triennial Board elections. Amie Hawkins was welcomed onto the board, and Janine Little and myself got our seats back on the board for another term. We farewelled Michael Prasad and thank him for his support of our school during his time as a board member. The board looks forward to continuing to support our awesome little school. As always we do our best to support growing the school roll, so please feel free to share how awesome the school is to others and get in touch with Melissa if you know of any new enrolments. If you are interested in attending the next board meeting, please let myself or Melissa know. ***Nga mihi, Kirstyn***

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.

CONCERNS AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURE

A copy of this is being sent home with today's newsletter. We send this home once a term.

HALLOWEEN DISCO

We would love to have our Halloween Disco in term four for Pine Hill School tamariki only! We have not had one for two years due to Covid but this event can only go ahead if parents/whānau members step up and help organise it. The date we are aiming to have this event is **Friday 28th October from 6-7.30pm in the hall**. If you are keen to help organise the disco, a meeting will be held at school on **Wednesday 19th October (first Wednesday of term four) at 3.15pm** in the staffroom to get things organised! See you there!

SCHOODOCS

SchoolDocs is a website where our school policy and procedures are held. Each term, policies are up for review and whanau are able to review policies with a red flag beside them inside SchoolDocs, and provide feedback if desired. Please see instructions below on how to review and provide feedback. If you have any questions or would like to review the policy/ies on paper, please contact Melissa at school.

If parents/caregivers are involved in this review, send them the following instructions:

1. Visit the website
<http://pinehilldunedin.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm>
2. Enter the username (pinehilldunedin) and password (hislop).
3. Follow the link to the relevant policy as listed.
4. Read the policy.
5. Click the Policy Review button at the top right-hand corner of the page.
6. Select the reviewer type "Parent".
7. Enter your name (optional).
8. Submit your ratings and comments.

If you don't have internet access, school office staff can provide you with printed copies of the policy and a review form.

REMINDERS

Friday 30th September

Monday 17th October

Wednesday 19th October

20th/21st October

Monday 24th October

Friday 28th October

Friday 28th October

Monday 14th November

Friday 2nd December

Wednesday 7th December

Wednesday 14th December

Thursday 15th December

Monday 30th January

Term 3 school holidays begin at 3pm

Term 4 begins from 8.30am

Halloween Disco Organisation Meeting - 3.15pm in the staffroom

Senior Learning Team overnight camp @ Otago Museum

*Labour Day Public Holiday - school **CLOSED***

Year 6 Cycle Skills at school with Bike School instructors

*Halloween Disco - **TO BE CONFIRMED***

*Teacher Only Day - school **CLOSED** to students*

Beach Education, St Kilda beach. Parent/whānau help required.

Year 6 Big Day Out

Final Assembly, 11am in the Hall.

Summer school holidays begin, school closes at 12.30pm

School starts for 2023 at 9am