



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



Newsletter 14 - Wednesday 17th September 2025



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

It is quite hard to believe this is the final newsletter for term 3. The term has flown by, with many different learning events happening and we know our tamariki are due for a well earned rest.

Our school's Kapa Haka group delivered an absolutely outstanding performance at Polyfest a couple of weeks ago, lighting up the stage with their energy and passion. We extend a huge thank you to Tait Duncan supported by Olivia Culbert, Ally Ward, and Jemima Hunter for preparing our group for this event. Their guidance was instrumental in the success of the performance. We are also immensely proud of our tamariki, who put in countless hours of hard work and practice, demonstrating commitment and resilience. Their powerful and moving performance was a testament to their dedication and talent, and we couldn't be more proud of them.

This week, Janine Little and Garthruth Ganaii are concluding their time as members of our school board. We appreciate their time and commitment to our school community and wish them both the very best for the future. A warm welcome to Tylah Visser and Sam Hector, our newest members of the school board. We are thrilled to have them join our team and look forward to their contributions.

Please find our School Community and Conduct Expectations attached with this newsletter. This document is sent out yearly to the entire school community and can be found at any time in SchoolDocs, which holds all of our official policies and procedures.

Thank you to everyone for their support of our school this term. We hope everyone enjoys the upcoming school holidays. School finishes at 3pm on Friday and we are back at school for the final term of 2025 from 8.30am on **Monday October 6th.**

Kā mihi

Melissa Ward

Tumuaki/Principal

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

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There are board meetings at 6pm on **Wednesday October 29th (Zoom)** and **Wednesday December 3rd (at school)**. 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.

CLASSROOM UPDATES *(now with having four classes, we are doing two combined updates per term!)*

It's been a fantastic term filled with learning, effort, and celebration across our kura. We are so proud of everything our tamariki have achieved over the past weeks. Our Student-Led Conferences were a highlight, providing a great opportunity for students to take ownership of their learning and proudly share their progress with whānau. Thank you to all the parents and caregivers who came along to support their tamariki. One of the real highlights of the term was our cross country. The students put in such a great effort, showing enthusiasm, determination, and perseverance throughout the day. Whether they were giving it their all in the race or cheering loudly from the sidelines, everyone helped make it such a positive and exciting event. It was awesome to see the teamwork and encouragement as tamariki supported each other and celebrated every finisher. We also want to give a massive congratulations to our Kapa Haka group, who represented our school with pride and strength at Polyfest. Their powerful performance was the result of weeks of dedication, a lot of practice, and teamwork. From waiata to haka, every moment on stage reflected their commitment and pride. It was a proud moment for our entire school community to see our tamariki standing tall and giving their best on the Polyfest stage. Ka pai! Across the school, tamariki have been engaging in the study of Siapo art, a traditional form of barkcloth art from Samoa. Inspired by Polyfest, this learning has focused on the shapes and patterns that make Siapo unique. Tamariki are learning about the cultural significance of Siapo and how it reflects Samoan heritage and identity. Through hands-on activities, they explored techniques such as stenciling and freehand design to create beautiful artwork, which is now displayed in our school library. Each class has been exploring well-known Māori legends. These traditional stories not only capture the imagination but also teach important lessons and values. Tamariki have been interpreting these legends through creative art projects, including drawings and paintings. We have also begun practicing folk dances from around the world as part of our performing arts programme. This exciting unit introduces students to a variety of traditional dance styles and movements, allowing them to experience the rhythm, music, and cultural expressions of different countries. Through dance, tamariki are developing their coordination, confidence, and cultural awareness, while having a lot of fun along the way! With spring in the air, we're excited to welcome longer and sunnier days as we head into the final part of the year. We hope this upcoming break provides a chance for everyone in our Pine Hill community to rest and recharge! Thank you once again for your continued involvement and support—it truly makes a difference. We wish you all a safe and happy holiday, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for an exciting and busy Term Four!

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 two dates in Term Four, and they are: **Wednesday October 22nd** and **Wednesday November 19th**. 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).

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following tamariki for receiving awards at our most recent Assembly:



	Junior Learning Team 1	Junior Learning Team 2	Middle Learning Team	Senior Learning Team
Principal Award - Respect	Dea Noliai	Mercy Fa'alave	Aurora Fishlock-Sawers	James Lees
Classroom Certificate	Atom Estrella	Naya Alibrahem	Mahi Chaudhary	Charleen Nath
Duffy Caught Being Good Award - Term 3	Hope Burgess-Wells	Eva Murphy	Isla Frewen	Isabella Duder
Attendance Shield	<i>Junior Learning Team 2 were the winners with a 92% attendance rate over the last three weeks! Well done!</i>			

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

Our biennial Scholastic Book Fair is taking place from **October 28th-November 7th**. A Book Fair is when there are books set up at school and you are able to purchase them. You are able to view books for purchase from 8.30-9am and from 3-3.30pm on weekdays during these dates in our spare classroom beside the office. **Cash and online payments** can be accepted if you are wishing to purchase books. Books make great Christmas presents and proceeds from all purchases are put back into our school so we can buy books for our library. On **Friday November 7th** there is an optional Book Character Dress Up Day. Tamariki are welcome to come dressed as a book character of choice. We will need volunteers to set the Book Fair up the week before this starts and we will also need help to man the Book Fair from 3-3.30pm. We will be asking for helpers early next term. We appreciate your support with our Book Fair and we hope to see you all there!

HALLOWEEN DISCO

We would love to have our Halloween Disco in term four for Pine Hill School tamariki only! This event is a huge highlight for our tamariki and something they talk about with excitement for weeks. This event can only go ahead if whānau members step up and help organise it. The date we are aiming to have this event is **Friday October 31st from 6-7.30pm in the hall**. If you are keen to help organise the disco, a meeting will be held at school on **Monday October 13th at 3.15pm** in the Senior Learning Team to get things organised! We will need help with setting up on the Friday during the day. We hope to see you all there!

SCHOOLDocs

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 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 September 19th
Monday October 6th
Monday October 27th
October 28th-November 7th
Friday December 5th
Friday December 12th
Thursday January 29th 2026

Term three school holidays begin at 3pm
First day of term four, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am
Labour Day - school CLOSED
Scholastic Book Fair
Year 6 Big Day Out to celebrate their time at Pine Hill School coming to an end
Last day of school for 2025, Final Assembly at 11am
First day of school for 2026, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am



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

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