



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



Newsletter 17 - Wednesday 5th November 2025



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

We can hardly believe we are almost halfway through Term 4! The school is buzzing with activity as we power through the final few weeks of the year.

A huge shout-out to everyone who made our Halloween Disco on Friday night such a great success - the costumes were incredible, and the dance floor was busy! A special thank you to Miss Culbert, Miss Duncan, Miss Ward, Jemima, Amie, Brie, Deepthi, and Debbie for their fantastic work in organising and running the event!

The excitement continues this week with our biennial Scholastic Book Fair, which is going really well! Thank you for supporting this event. We get a percentage of total sales back to buy books for our library. Don't forget, the Fair is open every day this week from 8.30-9am and 3-3.30pm until Friday (last day), so be sure to grab some reading material for the summer holidays for your tamariki, or Christmas gifts! There is an optional Book Character Dress Up day this Friday and we look forward to seeing lots of awesome characters at school!

Our kaiako (teachers) are currently busy with the important work of writing school reports and carrying out final assessments for the year. Reports will be sent home on **Friday December 5th** along with class and stationery lists for 2026.

It is a very exciting time for our roll growth at Pine Hill School. We currently have a number of four-year-olds on school visits this term who will all start within the first week of school in 2026. If you know of any more tamariki who will be enrolling for 2026, please get in touch with the office as this helps hugely with our planning for next year.

*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 at 6pm **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.

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 the remaining date for this term is: **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).

CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLE

Thanks to all those that have returned their Christmas Hamper Raffle cards already! A reminder that we are also asking each whānau to please donate two non-perishable items for the raffle. All hamper items are due at school by **Friday November 14th**. We are very appreciative to whānau for their assistance with donating prizes. Please check the expiry dates on the items before you send them to school. All raffle cards (sold or unsold) are due back at school by **Monday November 17th**. The raffles will be drawn under police supervision on **Tuesday December 2nd**. If you would like extra cards to sell, please return your original cards and we will issue more. Thanks for your support with our fundraiser!

YEAR SIX BIG DAY OUT

On **Friday December 5th**, our year 6 tamariki head off on their '*Big Day Out*' with Miss Culbert and Miss Ward (Tumuaki/Principal), to celebrate their time at Pine Hill School coming to an end. They visit Leap, swim at Moana Pool, Ten Pin Bowl at Bowline and finish their day with a yummy lunch at the Gardens. We know they will have the best time! Can all parents/caregivers please ensure this event is paid for (\$35 cash) by **Friday November 28th**.

END OF YEAR SCHOOL REPORTS, STATIONERY LISTS AND CLASS LISTS

School reports and stationery and class lists for 2026 will be sent home on hardcopy or emailed (however you get school information) on **Friday December 5th**. Please ensure you take the opportunity to talk about school reports with your tamariki. It is important to celebrate their learning journey and successes, in 2025. It is up to whānau to get stationery purchased for back to school for their tamariki. You can purchase stationery from any stationery provider. Please ensure you purchase **everything** on the lists for your tamariki as we are unable to provide extra stationery for tamariki. All stationery must be **named**.

FINAL ASSEMBLY/START OF 2026 INFORMATION

The Final Assembly where we celebrate our year 6 leavers and our end of year awards are given out, is on **Friday December 12th** at 11am in the school hall. School also finishes for the year at the conclusion of the Assembly and all tamariki must go home. In 2026, school starts on **Thursday January 29th**. Tamariki are welcome at school from 8.30am for a 9am start in class.

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 - Aiming High	Khyrue Brydon-Middleton	Farrah Sipa	Zain Chaudhary	Miracle Tione
Classroom Certificate	Emre Tekinkaya	Rawan Al Husein	Mila Driver	Marcel Rewha



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, especially as the 2025 school year is coming to a swift end! Enrolment packs can be picked up from the school office.

CLASSROOM UPDATES

What a busy and exciting term it has been so far! Welcome to Ishaan who has joined JLT 1 and farewell to Hope, Parua, Charlotte and Isabella. Our tamariki have been involved in so many wonderful activities and events that have helped them learn, grow, and connect with others. From Sports Day and folk dancing, to our Halloween Disco and Book Fair, there has been plenty to celebrate and enjoy together as a school. What a fantastic day it was for our tamariki, as Sports Day gave everyone the opportunity to participate in a variety of fun and challenging activities. From sprints and relays to learning all sorts of different skills, it was wonderful to see our tamariki giving their best effort, cheering for one another and showing great sportsmanship throughout the day. This event also allowed our tamariki to meet and connect with tamariki from other schools, building friendships and community spirit. A big thank you to all the whānau and friends who came along to support our Folk Dancing presentation! Our tamariki had an amazing time learning a variety of dances; they truly enjoyed exploring movements from a range of different countries and cultures. It was wonderful to see the joy and confidence on their faces as they performed. What a great celebration of music, rhythm, and cultural diversity! Our biennial Book Fair has also been a great success, and the excitement of our tamariki has been wonderful to see. There is a large and wonderful selection of books to browse through, so please make sure you pop in and have a look! The fair not only encouraged our tamariki to read more but also helped to raise funds for books for our school library, allowing us to continue nurturing a love of reading across all year levels. A huge thank you to everyone who has been supporting the event—whether by purchasing books, helping with setup, or simply sharing in the joy of reading! We've also been very fortunate to have futsal and cricket sessions this term. These sessions gave our tamariki the chance to learn new skills, work as a team, and develop confidence in trying out different sports. After school touch and futsal games have started, and our tamariki have shown great enthusiasm! Thank you to the staff and parents who have donated their time to coaching our sports teams this term. What a spooktacular night our Halloween Disco was; filled with dancing, laughter, and plenty of fantastic costumes—from spooky ghosts to superheroes and everything in between! The hall was buzzing with excitement as tamariki played games, won prizes, and showed off their best dance moves! It was truly a wonderful evening that brought our school community together for some Halloween fun. A huge thank you to everyone who helped make the night successful. With there only being five and a half weeks of the school year left, we have lots to fit in before then!

REMINDERS

October 28th-November 7th
Friday November 7th
Wednesday November 19th
Friday November 21st
Wednesday December 3rd
Friday December 5th
Friday December 12th
Thursday January 29th 2026

Scholastic Book Fair in the library
Book Character Dress Up Day - optional
Transition to School, all four year olds in the area 10.40am-1pm
Last Friday Assembly of the year, 2.20pm in the hall
Board meeting, 6pm at school
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 from 11-12pm - school finishes at 12pm
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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