



Newsletter 17 - Wednesday 6th November 2024



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

We all have our toes and fingers crossed that the weather is going to improve soon! There has been a lot of rain which has not made for a good Spring. With there being just over five weeks of school left for the year, we hope to see some sun before the summer holiday break!

The recent athletics sports day with the Portline schools, swimming lessons, and the Halloween disco, were all fantastic events. Tamariki showcased their athletic talents and teamwork during the sports day, while swimming lessons provided valuable skills and helped enhance and practise the confidence of tamariki in the water. The Halloween disco was a lively highlight, with plenty of exciting games, music, and dancing, creating lasting memories for everyone involved. We extend our thanks to all the kaimahi (staff), whānau members, and volunteers who helped organise and support these activities. Your dedication and enthusiasm made these events possible, and we are grateful for your contributions to our school community.

Kaiako (teachers) at Pine Hill School are actively engaging in professional development focused on the new mathematics curriculum for New Zealand schools. This initiative is crucial as we prepare to introduce key components of the curriculum from the beginning of 2025. We are committed to taking a thoughtful and measured approach to implementation, ensuring that our kaiako are well-equipped with the necessary knowledge and strategies to effectively teach the new content. This careful planning will run parallel to our efforts in rolling out the new literacy curriculum, allowing us to create cohesive and comprehensive learning experiences for our tamariki. By prioritising professional development, we aim to enhance our teaching practices and ultimately improve the outcomes for tamariki, in both mathematics and literacy. Our Teacher Only Day around the new mathematics curriculum on Monday was very beneficial. It was led by Maria Kewene-Edwards, a Curriculum Lead from the Ministry of Education. We appreciate the support from Maria in helping us navigate this new curriculum as there is a lot for us to learn, in a short period of time.

The Pine Hill School Board is pleased to announce that Miss Tait Duncan has been appointed to the permanent teaching position beginning in 2025 and Miss Olivia Culbert has been appointed to the fixed term roll growth teaching position for 2025. Both Tait and Olivia have been teaching at Balclutha Primary School this year and are extremely excited to join our team. They bring a variety of strengths to our school and we are looking forward to them joining us. Tait will be teaching in the Middle Learning Team and Olivia will be teaching in the Senior Learning Team. Valentina Alvarez Farias will continue teaching in the Junior Learning Team in 2025.

Our Christmas Hamper Raffle is currently happening. Raffle cards are due back at school by **Monday 18th November**, sold or unsold. The raffle will be drawn on **Tuesday 3rd December**. **Two** non-perishable item donations per whānau are due to school by **Friday 15th November**. Thank you for your support with this raffle fundraiser for our school.

As the end of year is approaching fast, please ensure you are aware of key dates in the 'Reminders' table on the second page of the newsletter. Our Final Assembly where we celebrate and farewell our year six leavers, along with giving out some special awards across the school, is on **Thursday 12th December** at 11am and concludes around midday. School finishes for the year after this event.

*Kā mihi,
Melissa Ward - Tumuaki/Principal*

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There is a board meeting on **Wednesday 4th December** at school. Public presence is welcome at our meetings and the Pine Hill School Board would like to welcome you along. Please contact Amie Hawkins (Presiding Member) or Melissa Ward (Tumuaki), if you would like to attend.

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL - FOUR YEAR OLD TAMARIKI

We have Transition to School visits for all four year old tamariki each term at Pine Hill School. The purpose of these visits is to allow tamariki to become familiar with the school environment, getting a taste of school life. The sessions are held over two different dates in term four and the dates are: **Wednesday 13th November** and **Wednesday 20th November**. Tamariki 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. Tamariki are invited to stay for lunch until 1pm. If you would like your tamariki to attend, please RSVP to Miss McGoff or Mrs Alvarez Farias at school.

WATER BOTTLES

Please ensure your tamariki are coming to school with a water bottle each day. We do not have water fountains at school so it is imperative tamariki have their own water bottle. They are able to refill these at classroom sinks when needed.

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 2024 school year is coming to a swift end! Enrolment packs can be picked up from the school office.

REMINDERS

Wednesday 13th November	<i>Transition to School, all four year olds in the area 10.40am-1.15pm</i>
Friday 15th November	<i>Two non-perishable items per whānau, for Christmas Hamper Raffle, due to school</i>
Monday 18th November	<i>ALL Christmas Hamper raffle cards due back to school, sold or unsold</i>
Wednesday 20th November	<i>Transition to School, all four year olds in the area 10.40am-1.15pm</i>
Tuesday 3rd December	<i>Christmas Hamper Raffle drawn</i>
Friday 6th December	<i>Year 6 Big Day Out - to celebrate their time at Pine Hill School ending</i>
Thursday 12th December	<i>Final Assembly, 11am in the hall, school finishes for the year</i>
Tuesday 28th January 2025	<i>School starts for 2025, tamariki welcome from 8.30am</i>
Thursday 6th February 2025	<i>Waitangi Day - school CLOSED</i>
Friday 7th February 2025	<i>Teacher Only Day - school CLOSED</i>

Aiming High, Respect, Responsibility