



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



Newsletter 2 - Wednesday 18th February 2026



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

The weeks have been flying by since we have been back at school! It has been nice to see the sun, however we would like more of it to shine over the remaining few weeks of summer. It certainly has not been the best summer for Dunedin!

Our tamariki enjoyed swimming during the last two weeks. Thanks to everyone for ensuring their tamariki were organised every day with their swimming gear and to the staff at JC Swim School for providing our tamariki with fantastic swimming lessons. It is always rewarding to see the progress they make from the beginning to the end of their lessons.

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Orientation/Meet the Teacher event a couple of weeks ago. It was great to see everyone and for whānau to meet our wonderful kaiako (teacher) and learn about classroom routines and programmes, along with reconnecting with other school whānau. On **Monday 23rd February from 3.15-4pm** at school, Trish Bunting who is a Numicon Facilitator, will be hosting a parent/guardian information session around the maths programme we teach at school called Numicon. Trish is working with staff this year to support us in our implementation of this structured maths programme which we began teaching in mid 2025. It would be great if you could make it along as you will be able to hear all about how we teach maths to your tamariki under this new structured programme which is mandated by the Government. A google form has been emailed for RSVPs to this event. Please fill this in by Monday at the very latest if you are able to attend. Childcare will be provided.

Goal Setting Interviews will take place on **Monday 9th March from 3.15-6pm** and **Tuesday 10th March from 1-6pm** interviews will be 10 minutes each between you, your tamariki and their kaiako (teacher). Tamariki are to be present at their interviews. Please note these are interviews to look at what is working well for your tamariki and to set some goals in relation to school. Student Led Conferences will be held in term three where tamariki will lead a discussion around their learning and achievement with parents/guardians. We encourage parents/guardians to speak to the classroom kaiako of their tamariki at any time throughout the year if needed. A google form booking form and information about these interviews has been emailed out.

*Ngā mihi nui,
Melissa Ward - Tumuaiki/Principal*

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

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There is a board meeting on **Monday 23rd February** at 6pm at school and **Monday 30th March** 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.

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 will allow new tamariki to become familiar with the school environment. These sessions are held over three different dates each term, and the dates for **Term 1** are: **Wednesday 25th February, Wednesday 11th March, and Wednesday 1st April.** 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.

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 (staff) on the following email addresses:

valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias: Room 1 (year 1) Kaiako/Teacher	ally@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Ally Ward: Room 2 (year 2 & 3) Kaiako/Teacher
tait@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Tait Duncan: Room 3 (year 3 & 4) Kaiako/Teacher	tara@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Tara McGoff: Room 4 (year 5 & 6) Kaiako/Teacher
principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Melissa Ward: Tumuaki/Principal	office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Nikola Ballard

REMINDERS

Friday 20th February	Assembly, 2.20pm in the Hall
Monday 23rd February	Board meeting, 6pm at school
Wednesday 25th February	Transition to School - all 4 year olds in the area
Monday 9th March	Goal Setting Interviews - 3.15-6pm
Tuesday 10th March	Goal Setting Interviews - 1-6pm
Wednesday 11th March	Transition to School - all 4 year olds in the area
Friday 13th March	Assembly, 2.20pm in the Hall
Monday 23rd March	Otago Anniversary Day - school CLOSED
Friday 27th March	Assembly, 2.30pm in the Hall
Monday 30th March	Board meeting, 6pm on Zoom
Wednesday 1st April	Transition to School - all 4 year olds in the area
Thursday 2nd April	Assembly, 2.20pm in the Hall (Thursday due to Good Friday)
Thursday 2nd April	Term one school holidays begin
Monday 20th April	Term two begins, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am