



Newsletter 2 - Wednesday 19th February 2025



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

The weeks are flying by! It is hard to believe we are in week four of term one already. The weather has been amazing since we have been back at school and it has been great to see all our tamariki enjoying their break times outside and classes doing lots of physical education!

Thank you to everyone who came along to our Orientation/Meet the Teacher event on Thursday last week. It was great to see everyone and for whānau to meet classroom kaiako (teacher) and learn about classroom routines and programmes, along with reconnecting with other school whānau. As explained at the event, we are on a very busy journey with the new mathematics and literacy curriculums this year. Kaimahi (staff) are busy undertaking professional development to further our knowledge of Structured Literacy using the iDeal approach. We are also busy with professional development learning about the Numicon approach to teaching mathematics. The Government required us to choose an approach to implement mathematics from a range of options and we chose Numicon. Currently we are waiting on the resources for this approach to be delivered to school and it looks as though they will be here around the end of term one. The new mathematics curriculum does not have to be implemented until the beginning of 2026, however we will be beginning our journey with teaching Numicon in term two. Attached to the newsletter is some information around Structured Literacy and Maths for you to read, that was given out at Orientation/Meet the Teacher.

Our Transition to School programme commences this term. There are three dates across the term that this programme runs and it is for all four year olds to come along and have a taster of school. Tamariki that are going to attend Pine Hill School will have their own four transition to school visits around about a month before they start school and these are organised with whānau. Please see more information further on in this newsletter regarding our termly Transition to School programme.

All tamariki at Pine Hill School attend the University of Otago Dental School for dental appointments. Paperwork for appointments are sent to whānau/caregivers in the mail and include consent forms where required. The Dental School is now very strict with tamariki only being seen if they have their signed documentation with them on arrival at their appointment. In the past verbal permission via a phone call has been allowed, but this is no longer the case. Please ensure you are aware when your tamariki has their appointment and you send the paperwork to school with them, signed where applicable. At the start of the year, we send through contact information including addresses for posting documentation, however if your details change during the year, please contact the Dental School to inform them.

We are looking forward to our Beach Education trip this Friday at St Kilda Beach. Tamariki need to have warm clothes, their swimming togs/costume, a towel, water bottle, morning tea and their lunch (if they do not eat the provided lunches). Thank you to those who are coming along to help on the day.

We will be holding Goal Setting Interviews on **Monday 3rd** and **Tuesday 4th March**. On Monday there will be times available from 3.30-5.45pm and on Tuesday there will be times available from 2-7.30pm. All tamariki will stay at school this afternoon and can go home with whānau if their interview is before 3pm. Tamariki must be present at their interview. Information for these interviews including booking times will be sent out tomorrow.

*Ngā mihi nui, Melissa Ward
Tumuaki/Principal*

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

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There is a board meeting on **Monday 24th February** at 6pm at school and **Monday 31st 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 26th of February, Wednesday 12th of March, and Wednesday 2nd of 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 Miss Ally Ward at school.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

We have Before School Care available every Monday to Friday morning from 7.30-8.30am. Please text the school phone or email the office to tell us if you require this service. Bookings can be taken up until the day before and the cost is \$6 per child, before 8am and \$3 per child after 8am.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

You can contact Kaimahi on the following email addresses:

ally@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Ally Ward: Junior Learning Team (year 0-2) Kaiako/Teacher	valentina@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias: Junior Learning Team (year 0-2) Kaiako/Teacher
tait@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Tait Duncan: Middle Learning Team (year 3 & 4) Kaiako/Teacher	olivia@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Olivia Culbert: Senior Learning Team (year 5 & 6) Teacher/Kaiako
principal@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Miss Melissa Ward: Tumuaki/Principal	office@pinehilldunedin.school.nz Mrs Nikola Ballard: Secretary

REMINDERS

Friday 21st February	<i>Beach Education - St Kilda Beach 9.30-2.30pm</i>
Monday 24th February	<i>Board meeting, 6pm at school</i>
Friday 28th February	<i>Assembly, 2.30pm in the Hall</i>
Monday 3rd March	<i>Goal Setting Interviews - 3.30-5.45pm</i>
Tuesday 4th March	<i>Goal Setting Interviews - 2-7.30pm</i>
Friday 14th March	<i>Assembly, 2.30pm in the Hall</i>
Monday 24th March	<i>Otago Anniversary Day - school CLOSED</i>
Friday 28th March	<i>Assembly, 2.30pm in the Hall</i>
Monday 31st March	<i>Board meeting, 6pm on Zoom</i>
Friday 11th April	<i>Assembly, 2.30pm in the Hall</i>
Friday 11th April	<i>Term one school holidays begin</i>
Monday 28th April	<i>Term two begins, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am</i>