



Newsletter 2 - Wednesday 22nd February 2023



Kia ora, Hello, Kia orana, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Bula vanaka, Marhabaan, Salaam, Namaste

The beautiful summer weather seems to be sticking around! We are enjoying the warm days at school, and we definitely like that we can turn on the air conditioning to cool everyone down! Our thoughts are with those who have been affected by the extreme devastation in the North Island due to Cyclone Gabrielle.

Welcome to Parua Ellison and his whānau. Parua has joined the Junior Learning Team and has some extended family members at Pine Hill School - Teroina, Priya (JLT) and Marcel (SLT). We hope Parua and his whānau enjoy their time with us.

We have 40 tamariki on our school roll and this number will continue to grow as the year goes on. It is fantastic to see our roll growing again.

Thank you to all those that attended our Meet the Teacher/Orientation Afternoon on Wednesday 8th February. This event was attended by a large number of whānau which was fantastic. It really does reiterate how supportive our community is of our school. It was a great opportunity to meet teachers and hear about classroom programmes from teachers, along with catching up with other school whānau. If you have any questions regarding your school for your tamariki, please get in touch with classroom teachers in the first instance.

Mrs Alvarez Farias and myself are undertaking Better Start Literacy (BSLA) training for six months through the University of Canterbury, outside of school time. BSLA is an integrated approach to developing vocabulary, oral, listening, spelling, writing and reading skills in the first year of learning. We are excited to be part of this training and look forward to implementing our new learnings with tamarki in the Junior Learning Team as the year progresses.

Staff are continuing with Local Curriculum Professional Learning Development through CORE Education this year along with Healthy Active Living Professional Learning Development through Sport Otago. These two contracts are extremely beneficial to our school and we look forward to building on the work we have done with them both throughout 2022.

This week at our first Board of Trustees meeting for the year, Kirstyn Stanaway stepped down as a trustee. We are thankful to Kirstyn for her efforts during her time as a board member, especially in the Presiding Member role. We welcome Amie Hawkins into the role of Presiding Member.

Our theme study this term is *'All Around the World'* and tamariki have begun learning about this, this week. We will be celebrating this theme study with shared kai from different cultures on **Thursday 23rd March** at 12.30pm at school. There will be more information to follow but please get this date on your calendars so you can come and join us to celebrate.

Ngā mihi nui - Melissa Ward

CARING RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY AIMING HIGH

School Notices

JUNIOR LEARNING TEAM (JLT) UPDATE - MRS ALVAREZ FARIAS

What a great start to the year! It has been busy in the Junior Learning Team getting to know each other and starting our new classroom routines. We've welcomed Teroina, Parua and Joseph to our class.

In the JLT, we've started with an amazing Play Based Learning programme for tamariki. We have been working on our fine motor skills, creativity, and problem-solving skills during this time. Every two weeks we have a focus, for example sharing, being responsible, being respectful or being kind. Tamariki have been great at working as a team, taking turns and sharing. In the past few weeks, the JLT have been learning about our new daily routines.

During reading time, we have been working on several different stations such as literacy games, buddy reading, cut-and-paste literacy activities, and reading big books etc. Tamariki have been working hard on being independent with their tasks and trying their best with them. In maths, we continue to work with different activities and our tamariki are completing work according to their abilities.

Everyone has been putting their best effort into the junior room responsibilities and they are getting better at taking care of our classroom things. Every Monday and Friday we have been enjoying catching up with the Senior Learning Team, doing some buddy reading where we explore all sorts of different books and sometimes learn about new things! We are looking forward to continuing to work hard, putting our best effort into our learning!

SENIOR LEARNING TEAM (SLT) UPDATE - MR COOK

It has been an excellent start to 2023 for the Senior Learning Team, what a lovely bunch of tamariki! It has been very exciting welcoming Nembeka, Privilege, Ivy and Alex into the SLT and also a number of tamariki from the Junior Learning Team. I have also been made to feel very welcome and the tamariki have been awesome helping me to get to know school routines etc. I like the PB4L system here at school and it goes well with one of my favourite sayings '*Do the Mahi, get the Treats*'.

We have been thoroughly enjoying all of the amazing weather and getting outdoors and doing PE and fitness regularly. Pine Hill School is blessed with a wonderful array of spaces and also has so much fabulous sports equipment which really enhances our PE sessions.

It has been great to re-establish the buddy reading programme and it is lovely to see the fantastic tuakana-teina approach in action here at school.

Our maths work has largely been focused on basic facts and looking at the relationship between adding and subtracting and also the relationship between multiplication and division. We will be working on consolidating our knowledge of place value over the next few weeks. The SLT ākonga (learners, students) enjoyed our work around Chinese New Year at the start of the year and we are looking forward to our upcoming social studies topic work which will see us research various countries around the world. We are going to be researching countries we either have an interest in or a special connection to. I have been impressed with our current affairs news oral language sessions at the start of the day. There have been a variety of topics discussed and some of the questions and ideas shared have been excellent. Keep this up SLT!

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

There is a board meeting on **Wednesday 22nd March** at 6pm 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 of our meetings.

CARING RESPECT

RESPONSIBILITY AIMING HIGH

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

After school care is up and running at Pine Hill School through Te Kaha Kids. Tamariki can use this service full time, part time and on a casual basis. This service is available to whānau from our school and Liberton Christian School. Please go to www.tekahakids.com to register your tamariki.

TRANSITION TO SCHOOL - FOUR YEAR OLDS

We have Transition to School visits for all four year olds 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 three different dates each term and the dates for term one are: **Wednesday 1st March, Wednesday 15th March** and **Wednesday 29th March**.

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 after the class session with being collected at 1pm. If you would like your child to attend, please RSVP to Valentina Alvarez Farias at school.

ENROLMENTS

If you know of or have any tamariki that will be attending Pine Hill School in the future, please let Melissa know at school. We have a number of tamariki pre-enrolled already for this year which is fantastic!

Enrolment information is very helpful with planning for the immediate and distant future. Enrolment packs can be picked up from the school office.

SCHOOL FINISHING EARLY/TEACHER ONLY DAY

On **Friday 10th March**, school will be finishing at **12.30pm** as kaimahi (staff) will be undertaking professional development in the afternoon.

On **Monday 24th April**, school will be closed for a Teacher Only Day. ANZAC Day is on **Tuesday 25th April** and tamariki will be back to school for term two on **Wednesday 26th April**.

WAYS TO CONTACT/FIND US!

School phone number: 03 473 9148	School cell phone number: 027 528 7198
Website: www.pinehilldunedin.school.nz	Search Pine Hill School on Facebook and give us a like!
Download the Skool Loop app from the Google Play or Apple Store on your phone and search for Pine Hill School	Seesaw - please see your child's classroom teacher for login information

ONLINE PLATFORMS

Staff are slowly introducing our online platforms of Reading Eggs (JLT, SLT), Mathletics (SLT) and Seesaw (JLT, SLT), back to our tamariki for 2023. As we have new staff and staff new to teaching different classroom levels, they are busy learning how to work these platforms for their respective classes. When we have Seesaw back up and running, home logins will be sent home.

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following tamariki for receiving classroom awards at Assembly last week:

	Junior Learning Team	Senior Learning Team
Principal Award	James MacGillivray	Ivy TeAmo
Classroom Certificate	Eli Casey	Jensen Pesa

EMAIL ADDRESSES

You can contact us on the following email addresses:

valentina@pinehilledunedin.school.nz Mrs Valentina Alvarez Farias: Junior Learning Team Teacher	tim@pinehilledunedin.school.nz Mr Tim Cook: Senior Learning Team Teacher
principal@pinehilledunedin.school.nz Miss Melissa Ward: Principal	office@pinehilledunedin.school.nz Mrs Nikola Ballard: School Secretary

REMINDERS

Wednesday 1st March	<i>Transition to School - all four year olds</i>
Thursday 2nd March	<i>Hooked on Cricket - all year 5 & 6 students: Edgar Centre 9am-2pm</i>
Friday 3rd March	<i>Assembly - 2.30pm in the school hall</i>
Friday 10th March	<i>School FINISHING at 12.30pm</i>
Wednesday 15th March	<i>Transition to School - all four year olds</i>
Friday 17th March	<i>Assembly - 2.30pm in the school hall</i>
Monday 20th March	<i>Otago Anniversary Day - school CLOSED</i>
Wednesday 22nd March	<i>Board of Trustees meeting - 6pm at school</i>
Thursday 23rd March	<i>Cultural Celebration for theme study, shared kai - 12.30pm @ school</i>
27th March - 6th April	<i>School swimming lessons @ DNI pool for all tamariki</i>
Wednesday 29th March	<i>Transition to School - all four year olds (10.40-12pm due to swimming)</i>
Thursday 6th April	<i>Term one school holidays begin</i>
Monday 24th April	<i>Teacher Only Day - school CLOSED to tamariki</i>
Tuesday 25th April	<i>ANZAC Day - school CLOSED</i>
Wednesday 26th April	<i>Term two begins</i>
Tuesday 13th December	<i>Final Assembly @ 11am in the hall, school finishes for the year</i>

