



Newsletter 5 - Wednesday 10th April 2024



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

The last few weeks have had a 'muddy' feel to them with Otago Anniversary Day and Easter public holidays built in. We are on the countdown to term one holidays, with these commencing at the end of this week. It has been a busy term at Pine Hill and we look forward to lots more exciting learning and events happening in term two!

Currently, the school building block that used to house our library and art room, is receiving upgrades as we have the Resource Teachers of Learning and Behaviour (RTLBs) moving onto our school site, to be based here. They are currently based at Dunedin North Intermediate (DNI), but due to roll growth, DNI need the classroom spaces the RTLBs occupy. Our old library will be the RTLBs new work space and our old art room is being turned into a brand new library space for us. The hall toilets are being upgraded and double glazing is also being put in right across the front of this block. We are really excited about having the RTLBs moving onto our site and also about having the upgrades completed. While the upgrades are taking place, our library is temporarily set up in our spare classroom in the main block of school we use, and the hall is unable to be hired. The upgrades are scheduled to be completed for the beginning of term three, which is when hall hire will be able to recommence.

The curriculum refresh sector Advisory Group from the Ministry of Education, has set two Teacher Only Days for schools in 2024. These are for the purpose of supporting kaiako (teachers) through significant changes in curriculum and assessment. These Teacher Only Days provide schools with dedicated time to understand, prepare and engage with changes across the New Zealand Curriculum Refresh. They are opportunities for us to share ideas and expertise and to grow in confidence in implementing the upcoming curriculum and assessment changes. The Pine Hill School Board has approved a Teacher Only Day for **Wednesday 29th May**. School will be closed for tamariki on this day. We will be working with advisors from the Ministry of Education to support us in our journey with the implementation of the curriculum refresh. I will inform you of our second Teacher Only Day (term four), once this has been set.

Late last month, we were lucky to have two first year training kaiako from the University of Otago on placement with Mr Lane and the Senior Learning Team for two weeks. Thank you to Summer Anderson and Eamon Wilson for their contributions during their time with us. We wish them all the very best for the rest of their study.

Next term in weeks two and three, we will be implementing the Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme in conjunction with our local Community Constable, Emily Plew. We teach this programme every two years. On **Wednesday 1st May** at 3.15pm there is a whānau meeting about this programme in the Senior Learning Team. Constable Plew will be running this meeting to explain the programme and answer any questions or queries.

As school holidays begin on Friday, I would like to thank everyone for their continued support of our school. We really appreciate everything our community does for us. I hope your tamariki have a lovely break and you all get to have some family time together. We look forward to seeing everyone back at school on **Monday 29th April** from 8.30am.

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

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

School Notices

JUNIOR LEARNING TEAM (JLT) UPDATE - MISS MCGOFF

We've wrapped up a wonderful term where our tamariki have created strong relationships. Our classroom has been a lively space for learning, notably with the SPCA teaching us dog safety skills, and Nathan Hoturoa Gray, an author as well as a Duffy role model, who captivated us with his travel stories. These experiences have enriched our learning. Our focus on recount writing has enabled us to share our experiences, enhancing our ability to connect with others through storytelling. In maths, we have continued to master the concept of time, linking it to our daily routines in a practical way that resonates with the tamariki, while also sharpening their basic facts. Exploring the seasons has been a highlight, with the tamariki learning their sequence, the distinct changes each brings, and expressing this knowledge through a beautiful art piece that showcased the seasons. Have a safe and joyful break!

SENIOR LEARNING TEAM (SLT) UPDATE - MR LANE

The SLT continues to charge along towards the end of term. We were fortunate enough to have two student teachers in Miss Anderson and Mr Wilson join us from the University of Otago. They spent a lot of their time helping us out during literacy and maths activities and ran some PE lessons. Speaking of PE, we have been focussing on hockey and the skills needed to strike, dribble, pass and trap the ball. Everyone seems to think it's a bit harder passing and catching balls with a stick rather than using our hands or feet! In Maths we have been learning how to read 'old school' analogue clocks which has been great for practicing our skip counting and fractions while problem-solving some time questions. We have spent a lot of our time thinking, researching, illustrating and writing about the Pine Hill community and what makes it so special to us. It has been really nice to see the ākonga's thoughts on this front and don't be surprised if they want to go exploring around the neighbourhood over the holidays to take a look at some of the landmarks and special places we have talked about. Have a great break!

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following tamariki for receiving classroom awards at our most recent Assembly:



	Junior Learning Team	Senior Learning Team
Principal Award - Aiming High	Jasper Saunders	Charleen Nath
Classroom Certificate	Ava Gardiner	Laksh Sharma
Term One Duffy Outstanding Behaviour Certificates	Indi Moeke Ribha Sharma Rawia Matar	James Lees Taksh Patel Grace Fa'alave

REMINDERS

Friday 12th April

Monday 29th April

Wednesday 1st May

Wednesday 29th May

Monday 3rd June

Thursday 27th June

Friday 28th June

Term one school holidays begin

Term two begins, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am

Whānau meeting for the Keeping Ourselves Safe programme with Constable Plew

*Teacher Only Day - school **CLOSED** to tamariki*

*King's Birthday - school **CLOSED***

Matariki celebration, time TBC

*Matariki Public Holiday - school **CLOSED***