



Newsletter 5 - Wednesday 2nd April 2025



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

This is the last newsletter for term one. The term has flown by and we have been able to fit in lots of wonderful learning opportunities. Term one school holidays begin on **Friday 11th April** at 3pm.

Welcome to Heaven (Junior Learning Team), Stanley (Middle Learning Team) and Miracle (Senior Learning Team) Tione, and their whānau who have joined our school. We hope they enjoy their time with us. Our school roll now sits at 56 tamariki with more to come as the year progresses. It is fantastic to see the school continuing to grow. We have farewelled Ariana Young-Gray Ward and we thank her and her whānau for their contribution to our school during their time here and wish them all the best.

Thank you to everyone for supporting our Easter Raffle through buying/selling tickets and donating chocolate items for it. We raised \$1000 from this which is awesome! There were 14 prize draws and all winners have been notified. You can find the results further along in the newsletter.

On **Thursday 10th April from 12-1pm**, we are looking forward to our Cultural Celebration. This term tamariki have been learning about countries around the world. They will be sharing work they have completed throughout this unit of study and we will conclude the event with a shared lunch. Whānau/caregivers/friends attending are asked to please bring along a plate of kai (food) to share that has a special meaning or significance to their whānau. The event begins at 12pm in the Middle Learning Team with a welcome and Assembly awards given out including Term One Caught Being Good awards. Tamariki will then share their learning and at 12.30pm we will move to the hall for the shared kai. Tamariki brought home personalised invites for this event a couple of weeks ago. I have also emailed out a Google Form I need you to fill in with numbers of your whānau attending, if you are coming to the event. Tamariki are welcome to go home with their whānau at the conclusion of the celebration. We look forward to seeing lots of our community next Thursday to celebrate this study and our cultural diverseness.

Thank you to everyone for their support of our school throughout term one. I hope you all manage to enjoy a break together at some stage over the holidays. Have a lovely Easter as well!

Kā mihi
Melissa Ward
Tumuaki/Principal

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

School Notices

PINE HILL SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

There are board meetings on **Monday 19th May** and **Monday 16th June** 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.

JUNIOR LEARNING TEAM (JLT) UPDATE: MISS WARD & MRS ALVAREZ FARIAS

How busy has it been the past few weeks?! The end of term has snuck up on us, and we are lucky to welcome a new ākonga (student), Heaven, into our classroom. We have been exploring different countries around the world, looking at their cultures and different facts. We've also been working hard at creating pieces of art for these countries, and we can't wait to share these with you at our Cultural Celebration next week. During writing time, we have been learning about describing objects, people and environments and adding adjectives into our writing. Tamariki have been great at challenging themselves, developing interesting pieces of writing. The JLT have also been working hard on their maths, learning about our before and after numbers, and counting in two's. Tamariki are showing great responsibility with their rotations, ensuring they ask questions if they need help. We have been encouraging peers within the classroom to help connect further with each other. During PE, we continue to practice striking skills and catching and throwing a ball. All tamariki have shown great progress with this! The JLT wishes everybody a well deserved holiday and we look forward to seeing everyone back for term two!

MIDDLE LEARNING TEAM (MLT) UPDATE: MISS DUNCAN

The tamariki in the Middle Learning Team and I can't believe the term is almost over already! We have had such a great term of getting to know one another, making new friends, trying new things, and most of all learning together as a team. We have also had one new ākonga join our class, welcome Stanley! In writing, we have been learning all about descriptive stories and what to include in them such as; similes and adjectives. The tamariki have done such an amazing job with these and have created some fantastic stories each day! Like the rest of the school, we have also been learning about different countries, their cultures, facts, food they eat, and landmarks they have. Tamariki have made some awesome posters and decorations about these countries which they are very excited to share with you at our upcoming Cultural Celebration. Our reading rotations have been going really well. Tamariki are showing great initiative and responsibility when going around their different rotations, and are always making sure they are doing the right thing. This has been a great way for tamariki to connect with their peers, while also having responsibility for their own learning and making sure they are doing the right thing. We hope you all have a well deserved holiday and tamariki come back recharged and ready to continue learning!

SENIOR LEARNING TEAM (SLT) UPDATE: MISS CULBERT

Wow, what a term it has been! Time has flown by, and we have been incredibly busy in the Senior Learning Team with a wide range of exciting learning activities. This term, we've welcomed a new ākonga to our team—Miracle! We're excited to have you with us. Our country study focus has taken us on a journey around the world! We have been researching different countries, exploring their landmarks, cultures, and fun facts. Tamariki have worked hard to create engaging posters about their chosen countries, which we can't wait to share with you at our upcoming Cultural Celebration on the 10th of April. In writing, we have been diving into descriptive and narrative writing. One of our most exciting projects has been creating our very own Superheroes! Tamariki have written detailed descriptions of their characters and brought them to life using AI-generated images in Canva. It has been such an exciting and engaging way to combine creativity and technology, and the tamariki have really enjoyed using Canva in the classroom. On Monday afternoon, the Senior Learning Team were fortunate to have a visit from two of the Otago Nuggets basketball players, Mikey and Jono. They led us through a series of drills, taught us new skills, and even gave us the chance to put them into practice in a game of Golden Child. Have a great upcoming holiday break!

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 allow tamariki to become familiar with our school environment. These sessions are held over three different dates each term, and the dates for **Term 2** are: **Wednesday 14th May, Wednesday 11th June** and **Wednesday 25th June**. 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.

SCHOOL SWIMMING - TERM TWO: WEEKS 4-5

All tamariki will be participating in daily school swimming lessons from **19th-30th May** at the Dunedin North Intermediate (DNI) swimming pool. Tamariki must come with a separate bag with their swimming togs, a towel and goggles (if they have these), every day over this period. We will be going to lessons by bus and there is no cost to whānau for swimming lessons as they are paid for under the School Donation Scheme funded by the Government. JC Swim School will be taking the tamariki for their lessons. Please ensure you are organised with what your tamariki needs for these upcoming lessons.

KAPA HAKA TUTOR

We are looking for a Kapa Haka tutor for our group. Unfortunately our tutor who was meant to be returning to Dunedin this year, has had a change in circumstances and isn't coming back. If you are able to help out with this, or can put Melissa in touch with someone who may be able to take the group, please contact her at school.

LATENESS TO SCHOOL/ABSENCES

There are a number of tamariki coming in late to school. Arriving late is really disruptive to the classroom programme and the tamariki coming in late are flustered which is not fair on them. Please ensure your tamariki are getting to school on time. The first bell rings at 8.55am with the bell to start school for the day ringing at 9am. If your tamariki are absent from school please contact school to inform us. It is very frustrating when Nikola has to spend time chasing whānau in the morning to find out where their tamariki are. If we are unable to get hold of you and you do not notify us of where your tamariki are, they are marked as truant. Whānau of those who continue to be late or are absent will be followed up with. Truancy, continual lateness or continual absences can also be reported to Otago Youth Wellness to follow up with whānau. Thank you for your understanding.

ASSEMBLY AWARDS

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



	Junior Learning Team	Middle Learning Team	Senior Learning Team
Principal Award - Aiming High	Arlo Caley	James MacGillivray	Joseph Sipa
Classroom Certificate	Hope Burgess-Wells	Zain Chaudhary	Max Gale-Hargreaves

EASTER RAFFLE RESULTS

Congratulations to the following people who won raffles in our Easter Raffle fundraiser: Aileen, R Murphy, Jamie, Bronwyn, Ilaisipa, Bella, Judy, Ally, Molly, Hope, Brie, Reden, Muhammad, Moeke whānau. All winners have been notified.



REMINDERS

Thursday 10th April
Friday 11th April
Monday 28th April
19th-30th May
Monday 2nd June
Monday 9th June
18th & 19th June
Friday 20th June

Cultural Study Celebration, 12-1pm at school
Term one school holidays begin at 3pm
Term two begins, tamariki welcome at school from 8.30am
Daily school swimming lessons - DNI Pool
*King's Birthday - school **CLOSED***
*Teacher Only Day - school **CLOSED***
Senior Learning Team camp - overnight stay at Otago Museum
*Matariki Public Holiday - school **CLOSED***



Pine Hill School
Est. 1872

'Reaching for the Top!'

Kia Ora!

Have you considered
Pine Hill School
for your child?

At Pine Hill School we offer:

- Low student to teacher ratios
- A highly skilled teaching team
- Personalised and engaging learning opportunities
- Integrated learning programmes
- Sporting and cultural groups
- Exciting 'Education Outside the Classroom' programmes
- Before and after school care
- Expansive grounds
- A family focus and community engagement
- A friendly, welcoming environment



Get in Touch!

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Find us on
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