

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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PRINCIPAL'S PEN - A NOTE FROM KAYLENE.....

Kia ora!

Next week, we officially move into week 11 of the term and it's been a while since we've had a term this long!

Level 1 Procedures

It is surprising how quickly winter bugs have moved through the school. Large numbers of children have been away this week and I really appreciate parents keeping them home, even for a slight illness. It is really important to stay home if sick so that bugs aren't shared. If your child develops symptoms of illness during the day, we will phone you.

It is also great to see some of you continuing with meeting your child at the gate or allowing them to walk to meet you. This is a great strategy for creating independence and responsibility, helping children develop skills they need for life.

Reports

On Friday 3 July, your child's report will be available via the Parent Portal. Tomorrow we will resend all parent portal log in details to you and you will need to test these prior to the end of term. If it doesn't work, it will be too late to get it sorted on the last day of school. Learning Conversations will take place early in Term 3 (dates below) and this will provide an opportunity for you to discuss your child's learning with them and their teacher. Booking information will be sent out this term.

ERO

This year, we were due for a visit from the Education Review Office. While this has been deferred (date to be confirmed), they are carrying out a national sampling review of school's responses to Covid 19 and are talking to us as part of this sampling process. They have arranged meetings with both myself and Mike Salmon (Board Chair) and will be asking us about our response to Covid 19, which will feed into a national report. We welcome the opportunity to share our processes, programmes and review information with ERO.

Entertainment Books

Don't forget to purchase your entertainment books - great value for money and an opportunity for us to raise some funds! Go to <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/104196s>

The next page of the newsletter has a lot of really important information on it, so please read it carefully. Have a great week everyone!

Kaylene

KEY DATES

22 June: School Cross Country (ppt 26th and 29th June) 1-3pm

3 July: Last day of Term 2

Reports will also be emailed on this day via the Parent Portal

20 July: Term 3 starts

26 July: Interschool Cross Country (Harcourt Park)

20 July: First day of Term 3

27 July: Year 6 Hands On Visit to Fergusson Intermediate

28 & 30 July: 3 Way Learning Conversations

NEW STUDENTS

Welcome to Lukas D and Latham W who have started school in Rooms 1 & 2 since our last newsletter.

Make sure you've joined our school facebook group where we are sharing lots of information! Email facebook@pinehaven.school.nz with your child's year, your email address linked to the your facebook account.

CAN YOU HELP

Our bi-annual Family Fun Day fundraising event is scheduled for 31 October. We are really keen to make this event a fun day for our families and encourage other community members to come along too. We have a dedicated group of parents planning this event and there are a number of ways you can help:

* Tell your friends to book in the date!

* Do you have saleable second hand goods that can be donated for our White Elephant stall? We have a storage solution coming on site next week, so look out for drop off times!

* Do you have animals that could be part of a petting zoo, or do you know people who could help coordinate a petting zoo? Farm animals are particularly good and we'd love to be able to offer pony rides.

* Do you know any businesses that might be in a position to help donate raffle items?

If you can help with either of the final two items, please contact our planning team by email: pinehavengala@gmail.com

Learning From Home Review

Thanks to everyone who completed our learning from home review survey. This was collated alongside a survey of students and teachers, and presented to the Board of Trustees on Tuesday night. Below is an outline of the key points from the review.

What did the children say?

We asked the children 3 questions about learning from home:

- What was the best thing/biggest surprise?
- What was the hardest/most challenging thing?
- What parts of the learning would you like to see included at school?

Comments were insightful. Large numbers reported there were too many distractions and missed teacher clarification and instruction. They also missed the social interaction, however many enjoyed the additional family time. They really enjoyed the choice and freedom around the order and timing of tasks and would like to see this continue in class, along with more art!

What did you say?

We also asked parents 3 key questions:

- How manageable was distance learning for your family? (1-5 scale)
- What aspects of the programme should we keep if needed again?
- What improvements could we make?

It is clear from your responses that we can't please everyone all the time! Many of the individual/small number responses contradicted each other (e.g. some wanted more choice/others less, some wanted no group hangouts/some more). What came through clearly was that the majority of people found the learning from home to be reasonably manageable with 69% of respondents rating it a 1-3. 39% (mainly within the 4-5 rating) commented that it was mainly due to family situations with siblings and parents also working. The main things parents liked were the menu for learning, google hangouts and teacher workshops/videoed lessons. The 3 key improvements suggested by larger numbers included no improvements, more teacher workshops/vidoes, and the menu coming out on a Sunday so you could plan the week, all of which we could include.

There was a query about whether we will provide distance learning for children home sick. The general answer is no, anyone home sick should be resting. However, there may be individual circumstances where illness requires more time off and it has always been our practice to support these children. Decisions are made case by case, at the discretion of the principal.

What did the teachers say?

We had a number of questions that the teachers reflected on around what worked, what could be improved, supports in place or missing, what we learnt about students and our own development, and how our practice in classrooms might change moving forward. Staff were able to balance their workload with family commitments and we are proud of how we navigated unknown territory. We learnt a lot about technology, children's learning styles/skills/interests, and it was a great opportunity for teachers to develop stronger relationships with you. Moving forward, we are looking at choice in classroom programmes and the use of technology to support learning.

Cross Country

This is planned for Monday 22nd June, with 2 postponement days (26th & 29th). The Interschool event is scheduled for Sunday 26 July.

Monday's event will start at 1pm and finish by 3pm. It will begin with competitive races for those children who opt in (teachers are collecting this information now), followed by a fun run.

Competitive races will be run in year groups, starting with the younger children first. Unfortunately, we are unable to tell you exact times of races as we just move through as each one is compete. The Office will be closed for the duration of the event.

ADVANCE NOTICE FOR YOUR DIARY

We have 3 key events we really need our community support with coming up:

14 September - Community Future Planning event to support the BOT with strategic planning

18-20 September - Arts & Crafts Exhibition - 50th Year Celebration!

31 October - Family Fun Day