

# Pinehaven School 2024

School Newsletter No. 16 Term 4 2024

1 November 2024

Kia ora e te whānau

## Kapa Haka Cultural Festival Performance

Our Performance Kapa Haka group will be performing at the Upper Hutt Cultural Festival at Harcourt Park on **Thursday, 7th November**. The morning performance will begin at 9am with a powhiri and finish at 12:25pm. Pinehaven is scheduled to perform at 10:52am. As with any event of this nature this is an approximate time so if you plan to come and watch please arrive early as you may miss it. Entry for whānau to the festival is by koha (gold coin donation). Thank you to Melanie Wakeham for leading our Kapa Haka group and the day's organisation. Special thanks also to Kim Nikora, our MAC (Māori Achievement Collaborative) facilitator who has been supporting our group with their performance also.

## Class Placements

We are currently determining class structures for next year. This is never an easy job as each year group differs in size, ranging from 25-38 children! We are considering different options and will settle on the one that best meets the needs of all learners. We are not sure yet about the exact class make up (e.g. mixed/straight year level) and this may vary as we are still confirming year levels of teachers. We will soon begin thinking about class placements. When placing students in classes, we make every effort to ensure classes are well balanced (gender, ability, social/emotional and academic needs), as well as ensuring students are placed with others who they work well with. It is worth noting they do not always work to their full potential alongside their friends. We aim to place students in classes where they can be catered for effectively, where they will be happy and well matched to teacher strengths. I acknowledge that parents can have information about their child we may not be aware of, that can support us in making effective class placements. There is an opportunity between now and **Tuesday 12 November** to advise me in writing of anything that might be helpful in compiling class lists. As situations change, I do not hold this information from year to year, so you will need to use this process to inform me of anything historical that still applies. I ask that you email me directly [principal@pinehaven.school.nz](mailto:principal@pinehaven.school.nz) as opposed to talking to teachers or other staff. Please include the educational reasoning behind the information you are sharing with me. As a staff, we will then use this information to assist us in making placements. Please note that there are a range of factors to consider in this process and I cannot guarantee to accommodate all requests. What one parent might suggest could be cancelled out by the needs of other children/classes or teacher objective knowledge. Our timeframe for class placements is tight, therefore I ask that you meet the deadline above. It is likely to be too late to consider any information coming in after this date. Towards the end of the year, it is also a time when families make changes and we sometimes have people moving out of the area. If this is the case for your family, the sooner we know this, the easier it is for us to plan class numbers for 2025.

**Disco Fundraiser—Friday 22nd November from 6.00-7.30pm** Save the date, we have a disco fundraiser coming up later in the term. More details to follow.

Enjoy your weekend,  
Phillipa & the Pinehaven team

### Upcoming Key Dates:

- Interschool Athletics – Tuesday 5 November
- Kapa Haka Festival @ Harcourt Park – Thursday 7 November
- Swimming – Monday 18 November – Thursday 28 November
- School Assembly – Friday 22 November
- School Disco – Friday 22 November
- Year 6 Celebration - Monday 9 December
- Term 4 Ends, 12.30pm – Tuesday 17 December

