

# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

**Term 1: Issue 2: February 24 2021**

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## Message from the Principal

Kia ora e te whānau

### Meet the teacher—thanks and feedback welcome!

Thanks to all those who met with their child's teacher last week via Google Meet. Thank you also for being so understanding as we moved to online meetings. We know this isn't quite the same however with the current rise of Omicron cases, felt it the most prudent cause of action. I know some made alternative arrangements to catch up with the child's teacher online on a different day. It's not too late to meet—contact your child's teacher to make a time that suits you both. These meetings are a starting point to us working towards our strategic goal of *expanding and strengthening connections* and we will be using the information we learnt about your child and whānau as the year progresses.

### Staying safe with Covid-19

As covid cases increase in our community, we will inevitably have increasing numbers of children and staff isolating at home. It is important that everyone in our school community follows Ministry of Health guidelines in terms of what to do if you are a close contact to a positive case. We are working on our learning from home activities and will share these with students who need to isolate on a case by case basis.

### To support us in preparing for the possibility of learning from home, we need all families to:

1. Email Phillipa at principal@pinehaven.school.nz by Wednesday 2nd March if your child will not have access to a device to support learning at home (there may be some support that we can access/offer for these children).
2. Ensure the office has up to date contacts for you if these have changed. Email Pamela at office@pinehaven.school.nz
3. Email Phillipa at principal@pinehaven.school.nz if you will be in a situation where all adults in your household are critical workers (if we get to a point of having to reduce numbers of children learning on site, we need to know who you are).
4. Please also familiarise yourself with the information from the Ministry of Health about close contacts:  
<https://covid19.govt.nz/testing-and-tracing/contact-tracing/close-contacts/>

### Digital Technology—Being ready for online learning

It might be worth checking your internet speed at a website such as <https://www.wirelessnation.co.nz/speed-test/>. A good internet speed is anywhere between 50 and 100 Mbps. Speeds of 50 to 100 Mbps allow a few people to stream in HD or even 4K, stream music, game, browse social media, and work from home. If you find your devices freezing or taking a long time to load video it might be worth a check in with your internet provider to see if you can get a modem/router upgrade.

### Concerns

Firstly, thank you for the positive comments which have come our way related to the hard mahi our staff are doing to engage our students at Pinehaven School. As mentioned above, these are difficult times to manage however our staff are committed to doing their best for our children each and every day. I want to thank them for their continued efforts and dedication.

At times however, a concern is raised with us. I thought it timely to share our processes regarding concerns and complaints. In the first instance, it is best to contact your child's classroom teacher. Issues can often be resolved via email or a phone call. However, if you have a concern which requires more investigation after speaking to the teacher, contact the Hub Leader then Leadership Team. For more information, our Concerns & Complaints Policy is attached to the email that contained the link to this newsletter.

Have a great weekend ahead everyone!

**Phillipa**

# Key Dates

24 February—14 March	Bee Healthy Dental Van on site
2 March	School Photos
14—18 March	Movin' March Week

## New Students...

A warm welcome to Jimmy, Jeremiah, Gene and Alexander who have started school in Room 1. It is lovely to have you and your families joining our school!

## School News

### Let's Get Movin in March!

We are a Movin' March school and we are looking forward to the start of the 2022 challenge on Monday 14th— Friday 18th March. We will be stamping passports in classrooms as part of the **Walk or Wheel Passport Challenge**. Walking or wheeling to school is a great way to get active, know your neighbourhood, kick start learning for the day AND take care of the environment. Remember if you live a long way from school, ask to be dropped off a little further from school so you can walk, wheel or ride. When students complete their passports they need to hand them in to the office with their name and school on the back to go in the draw to win a \$400 MYRIDE voucher at the end of March.

### School Photos—Wednesday 2nd March

School photos will take place as planned however with a few adjustments to reflect our bubble status. More information was included at the bottom of the email with this link.

### Sunhats

A reminder that during Term 1, children need a sunhat that protects their face and neck from the sun.

### Lunch Online

We have lunch deliveries available on Tuesday (dumplings), Wednesdays (sushi), Thursday (Tricky's) and Fridays (Pita Pit). This is an ongoing fundraiser for the school and orders can be made via lunchonline—[www.lunchonline.co.nz](http://www.lunchonline.co.nz)

### Sick Children

Just a reminder that if your child is sick, they must stay away from school. It is quite common for children to become unwell during the school day, in which case we phone you to get them collected. If your work is a distance away or prevents you from collecting your child, you need to ensure you have made arrangements to have an emergency person to collect your child if they become unwell.

### No Boundaries Eggs

With the support of Jason and Sarah van Dyk at No Boundary Eggs, we are selling free range eggs for \$8.00 a dozen. A percentage of sales are donated to the school. Orders are to be emailed to the office by 1pm Tuesdays for collection from the office on Thursday afternoon. Please make sure payment is made at the time of ordering, directly to: No Boundaries Eggs  
Acc: 38 9017 0071842 00 Reference: Pinehaven / Code: Customer Name

## Library News

The National Library of New Zealand has a Te Reo Māori collection, a small (but growing) Pasifika Language Collection as well as a World Language Collection. The World Language Collection (so far) includes Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Dari, Farsi, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Somali, Spanish and Urdu books. If you are interested in requesting books from these collections please email our librarian, Claire Blackadder [claire@pinehaven.school.nz](mailto:claire@pinehaven.school.nz)



## Introducing The Team!

### Rachel Johnston Deputy Principal

Rachel has been at Pinehaven for just over 3 years. While Rachel doesn't have a class of her own, she supports teachers and students across the school with extension and learning support needs.



### Melanie Wakeham Associate Principal

Melanie leads our Kereru Hub, so is a point of contact for any parents of children in Rooms 1-5. Melanie also leads our focus on Te Ao Māori across the school and coordinates our Whānau Hui.