

PANORAMA

PROUD OF WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE KNOW, AND WHAT WE CAN ACHIEVE

SUMMER ISSUE

2024

GRADUATION PARADE

A new Pinehurst tradition has begun.
For article go to- **PAGE 31.**





Panorama is the official bi-annual magazine of Pinehurst School.

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EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL MESSAGE

One of the questions Senior Leaders often discuss is: "What next?" Sometimes, this refers to the simple day-to-day routines of school life and what we can do to ensure that each student is presented with opportunities to grow. At other times, it is a more philosophical discussion, considering the wider improvements we need to make in order to continue providing outstanding education. It is the latter interpretation that has focused our recent attention.

Like all schools, we are confronted by an ever-changing education environment, requiring us to consider the evolving needs of students and staff against the backdrop of societal and technological change. Given these complexities, consistency in our approach is a clear cornerstone for success in teaching and learning. At Pinehurst, we are working to embed the use of Rosenshine's Principles of Instruction alongside Tom Sherrington's practical

interpretation of this work. Together, they offer a roadmap for building shared language and approaches that have the potential to transform student outcomes.

Over recent years, the quantity and quality of research into education have increased significantly. However, much of this research is challenging to apply due to its narrow academic focus. Barak Rosenshine's principles of instruction are widely recognised for their simplicity and effectiveness. By reviewing a broad research base and breaking it down into ten accessible strategies, Rosenshine provides approaches that apply across all year groups and subjects. Practically, this means students experience a predictable and well-structured learning environment, while staff benefit from a shared framework that fosters collaboration and supports professional growth.

When students move between classes or year levels, consistency in teaching methods helps

reduce cognitive load. They know what to expect and can focus on learning rather than adapting to different teaching styles. For example, coherent approaches to regular questioning, guided practice, and scaffolding help students engage with material confidently. When applied effectively, these strategies can be spiralled with increasingly challenging content as students progress through the school.

One key advantage of a Year 1 to 13 environment is the long-term knowledge we have of our students. Through effective data use, we can track progress from New Entrants to graduation. Once again, consistency of approach pays deep dividends, as we know what does and doesn't work for each individual. As a result, staff can adapt their practices with the confidence that these adjustments will positively impact student outcomes.

On the teaching side, John Hattie's research highlights that collective teacher efficacy is one of the most important factors influencing students' success in the classroom. This is described as a shared belief among staff in their ability to positively affect student learning. The key to this efficacy is shared belief. We can build this belief by establishing a clear, common purpose. Shared goals improve collaboration and focus our professional learning efforts.

When teachers collaborate, they pool their expertise, share best practices, and develop innovative solutions to challenges. Collaboration enhances lesson planning, promotes consistent teaching strategies, and ensures all students benefit from high-quality instruction. It also provides a supportive environment where teachers can reflect on their practice, receive constructive feedback, and grow professionally.

Building on the shared application of Rosenshine's principles, we will formalise Learning Walks across the school, where Sherrington's work will be particularly valuable. Unlike traditional observations, Learning Walks are developmental, collaborative, and focused on whole-school improvement. Sherrington breaks down complex approaches into manageable strategies, offering a framework for feedback and coaching conversations. Learning Walks represent a powerful tool for improvement, centring on students and the outcomes of every lesson.

From a leadership perspective, a unified approach enables clearer decision-making. In a world of limited resources, we are always faced with choices about how best to direct professional learning. Through our planned developments, we anticipate a greater ripple effect from all training, as staff share their learning with colleagues across the school, confident that these ideas will be well-received and applicable in diverse contexts.

A reasonable critique of this unified approach might question whether it diminishes individual creativity among teachers. In reality, the opposite is true: it provides a strong foundation for individualism. The goal is not uniformity but unity. Teachers retain their individuality while operating within a consistent framework that ensures high-quality teaching for all students.

As we evolve, we will not forget our roots as a school created to provide outstanding value for families seeking the best for their children. By embedding our shared philosophy throughout the school, we will honour that promise, supporting Pinehurst students in achieving excellence in all they do.

MIKE WALLER

EXECUTIVE PRINCIPAL





HEAD PREFECT REFLECTIONS

NATALIE RAPHAEL

As I sit down to write this, it's hard to believe that we've reached the end of another school year. It feels like only yesterday I stepped into Pinehurst filled with anticipation for what lay ahead.

Now, we stand at the threshold of new beginnings, having experienced a year full of growth, challenges and truly unforgettable memories. This year has truly been unlike any other.

Together, we've faced academic challenges, celebrated victories, and supported each other through the ups and downs. Whether it was in the classroom, on the field, or during school events, we've built a community that I am incredibly proud to have been a part of.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the teachers, who have been more than just educators—they've been mentors, guiding us not only in academics but also in life. Their dedication has been unwavering, and their impact will stay with us long after we leave the school grounds. To my fellow students, I've seen your resilience, your hard work, and your determination. You've inspired me

every day, and I know that as we move forward, whether to university, work, or other adventures, you'll continue to achieve great things.

My time at Pinehurst has truly taught me so much and challenged me for the better. I used to think that everything in life had to be planned out to perfection otherwise I would be unprepared however this year taught me that the most unexpected things may sometimes come in your favour. Although we don't know what the future has in store for us it is important to be open-minded and to sometimes embrace the uncertainty in your life with open arms. We may not know what the future holds for us but it's important to keep moving

forward and never lose sight of your goals!

Lastly, let's not forget the friendships we've formed. This year has brought many unexpected friendships and relationships for which I am incredibly grateful. It reminded me to cherish those around you and to not take the people around you for granted. The bonds we've created will be one of the most lasting legacies of our time here. As we go our separate ways, I encourage all

of us to stay connected and support one another.

As this chapter closes, a new one begins I can certainly say that I'm ready to embrace the

future with an open mind and heart.

Pinehurst will forever be my second home with my second family, and I will be forever grateful for nurturing me and imparting the lifelong lessons that will stay with me forever.

DYLAN MCKAY

To be entirely honest, I don't feel like it's the end. The full realisation that this long and beautiful chapter of my life is over has yet to hit me. When that wave of emotion comes to shore, I just know I'll be holed up inside my bedroom with ice cream and with tears. I have spent a third of my life in Pinehurst and it's going to be tough moving on; becoming an adult, but deep down I know that if one truly loves something, they must be able to let it go. Good thing I don't love Pinehurst! (I'm kidding of course).

My time here has been characterised by nothing but incredible and exhilarating moments. From the first moment I stepped foot on school grounds to the last, I have always felt

at home in Pinehurst. I'm aware the 'one big family' idea is very cliché, but it is an accurate feeling to describe the unity, comfort and respect one can find in Pinehurst.

The comedian Eric Idle of Monty Python fame said, "Always look on the bright side of life." It isn't simply an overly optimistic quote, it's an acceptance that life is so short, we shouldn't be taking everything so seriously. While I am leaving, and I know everyone will be sad to see me go (another joke), this end of my chapter means the beginning of another one. While my time in Pinehurst has taught me so much and helped me grow into somebody that I am proud to be, I have to be looking forward into a foggy future. I don't know what life has in store for me, but I know that no matter what happens, thanks to Pinehurst, I'll have the courage to always push forward through the thick and thin, and never ever stop looking on the bright side of things.

While I am leaving, this means the birth of thousands of new opportunities for me – I might even come back and become a teacher here!

Either way, I can say with certainty that I am excited to embark on my voyage across the ocean of responsibilities and into the fog of uncertainty, and I have Pinehurst to thank for giving me the skills, perseverance and ambition that allows me to hoist the sails and catch wind.

SOUTH KOREA EXCHANGE



Twelve eager Pinehurst students, alongside Miss Park, Ms. Chen, and Mrs. Cadag, embarked on a life-changing exchange trip to South Korea, forming lasting memories and connections with their peers at Imae Middle School.

The journey began with a long but thrilling flight to Incheon Airport, where the bustling energy of Seoul immediately captivated the students. "The vibrant cityscape was a striking contrast to New Zealand," remarked one student. Their first stop was Suwon, home to Samsung Electronics and brimming with historical and cultural treasures. Highlights included visits to the Yungneung and Geolleung Royal Tombs, the majestic Hwaseong Fortress, and the renowned Starfield Mall, celebrated for its stunning library.

A day of high-energy adventure followed at Everland Theme Park. From exhilarating roller coasters to an eerie haunted maze, the students packed their day with unforgettable

experiences. Laughter and camaraderie solidified their bonds as a group.

Midweek marked the heart of the trip: their arrival at Imae Middle School. Some students reunited with old friends, while others met their host buddies for the first time, but all were struck by the warmth of their reception. Over four days, the Pinehurst group shadowed their buddies at school and immersed themselves in Korean culture, with highlights like a visit to a traditional folk village.

Seoul offered the perfect capstone to their adventure. Students marveled at Gyeongbokgung Palace in traditional Hanbok, toured elite universities, and explored lively shopping districts like Hongdae Street. The mix of history, education, and leisure gave them a comprehensive glimpse into Korean life.

The exchange program was more than just a cultural excursion; it was a bridge that fostered international friendships.

"This trip taught us about a different lifestyle, but most importantly, it created bonds that transcend borders."

As the students returned home, they carried with them not just souvenirs, but a treasure trove of memories and new-found perspectives. The trip underscored the value of global connections and cultural exchange, leaving an indelible mark on all who participated.



ARGENTINA EXCHANGE



Over the winter break, ten students from Years 9 to 13 embarked on an unforgettable journey to Córdoba, Argentina, to participate in an intercultural exchange with our partner school. This trip offered our students a unique blend of education, culture, and adventure, providing them with experiences they'll cherish for years to come.

Staying with local host families, our students were fully immersed in the daily life of Argentina. They attended classes alongside their host siblings, gaining insight into the Argentine Cambridge education system while forming lifelong friendships. The warmth and hospitality of the host families, paired with the opportunity to practice their

Spanish, allowed our students to embrace Argentine culture in ways that went far beyond the classroom.

The first week kicked off with a special welcome ceremony, where our students performed a Waiata to signify the start of the exchange. The excitement continued with a series of memorable experiences: Tango lessons at school, a visit to the local football stadium and museum (where Lionel Messi has played three times!), and trips to two fascinating locations – La Cumbrecita, a mountain village where students enjoyed a traditional Argentine lunch, and Los Tirones National Park, home to the majestic Condor Eagle and stunning rock formations.

Outside of these excursions, the students spent quality time with their host families, enjoying traditional "Asado" barbecues and adapting to the different cultural customs, especially around mealtimes.

Week two provided even more rich experiences. The group ventured into Córdoba's city centre, where they visited historical sites such as Jesuit buildings, Argentina's oldest university, and a breathtaking Gothic-Romanesque church. A highlight was a visit to the Argentinian Art Museum at Palacio Ferreyra, a French-designed palace, where students not only admired the artwork but also





learned about the country's history, including lessons on the military dictatorship of the 1960s and 70s.

Sports played a key role in the exchange, with our students participating in a football match (New Zealand vs Argentina, of course!) and teaching their host buddies a mixed touch rugby lesson. The friendly competition was a chance to bond and share aspects of Kiwi culture.

This trip was much more than a typical school excursion; it was a transformative experience. Our students embraced life outside their comfort zones, gaining a deeper understanding of a different culture while discovering new perspectives about themselves and the world around them.

We are incredibly proud of their enthusiasm, curiosity, and adaptability. This exchange has laid the foundation for what we hope will become a lasting partnership with our Argentine friends.





A MESSAGE FROM THE PRIMARY

The Power of Positive Reinforcement

There is a saying in New Zealand that you catch more flies with sugar than you do with vinegar. The meaning behind this is that through being positive rather than negative you will more likely motivate people to go the way you want them to. Positive reinforcement is a powerful educational tool that can significantly impact the behaviour and learning outcomes of primary students. At teacher training institutions around the world, we learn about behaviourist theory. Through the work of Pavlov and Skinner we learned about the use of positive reinforcement through rewarding

desirable behaviours to increase the chance of those behaviours being repeated. This approach not only fosters a positive learning environment but also enhances student motivation, engagement, and importantly in the age we live in, self-esteem.

Positive reinforcement is based on the principle that behaviours followed by positive consequences are more likely to be repeated. In the context of a primary classroom, this means that when students display desirable behaviours, such as participating in class discussions, they receive some form of reward. These rewards can be tangible, like stickers or

certificates, or intangible, like verbal praise or extra play.

Positive reinforcement affects student motivation; when students know that their efforts will be recognised, they are more likely to stay motivated and engaged in their learning. This is important in primary school, where developing a love for learning can set the foundation for future success. It improves on task behaviour which helps to create a calmer and more orderly environment. By rewarding effort and improvement, positive reinforcement helps students develop a growth mindset. They learn that their abilities can be developed through perseverance, which is

crucial for their long-term academic and personal growth. Recognising and rewarding students for their achievements, no matter how small, boosts their self-esteem and confidence. This positive self-image encourages them to take on new challenges and persist in the face of obstacles.

Positive reinforcement can take many forms and be tailored to the individual child. Simple words of encouragement like "Great job!" or "Well done!" can have a significant impact on a student's motivation and self-esteem. Verbal praise is immediate and can be given frequently, making it a highly effective form of positive reinforcement.

Items such as stickers, certificates, or small prizes can be used to reward students for their achievements. These tangible rewards provide a concrete acknowledgment of their efforts and can be particularly motivating for younger students. I only need to look at the huge uptake in completing Maths Whizz this year to see the effect of tangible class rewards on engagement.

Recognising students in front of their peers, such as giving them a merit award, can be a powerful motivator. Social rewards leverage the natural desire for peer approval.

Allowing students to engage in a preferred activity, such as extra playtime or a classroom job, can be a great way to reinforce positive behaviours. These rewards are particularly effective because they

provide students with a sense of autonomy and choice.

While positive reinforcement is highly effective, it is important to avoid over-reliance on rewards. Over time, students may become dependent on external rewards and lose motivation. This can be overcome by balancing extrinsic rewards with strategies that foster intrinsic motivation, such as providing opportunities for students to take on challenging tasks and encouraging a love for learning.

As parents we can sometimes struggle with when to be firm and when to take a step back. It is tempting to set ultimatums if our children are not giving their best attention to their school work. As parents we play a crucial role in reinforcing our children's achievements at home. When parents acknowledge and reward their child's efforts and accomplishments, it reinforces the positive behaviours learned at school and helps to create a consistent and supportive environment for the child.

When parents and teachers use similar reinforcement strategies, it provides a consistent message to a child about the importance of positive behaviours. This consistency help embed the behaviours more effectively.

Positive reinforcement from parents helps to build a strong, supportive relationship between the parent and child. This relationship is crucial for the child's emotional and social development. When parents

celebrate their child's achievements, it fosters a love for learning and encourages a child to continue striving for success. This positive attitude towards learning can have long-term benefits for the child's academic and personal growth. Parental recognition and praise can significantly boost a child's self-esteem and confidence. Children who feel supported and valued by their parents are more likely to take on new challenges and persist in the face of difficulties.

Parents serve as role models for their children. When they use positive reinforcement, they demonstrate the importance of recognising and celebrating achievements, which can influence the child's behaviour and attitudes.

Positive reinforcement is a valuable tool for primary school teachers and parents alike, offering many benefits for student motivation, and self-esteem. By understanding the principles of positive reinforcement and implementing it effectively both at school and at home, educators and parents can create a positive and supportive environment that encourages children to thrive.

SIAN COXON
PRINCIPAL OF PRIMARY



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE PRIMARY

Exciting moments shaping our primary journey this year.



SCIENCE IN A VAN

In a fun 45-minute show, our Year 3 - 4 students learned Newton's three laws of motion through exciting demos, like flying Space Chick Steve! They explored forces, gravity, friction, and the difference between mass and weight, with plenty of hands-on experiments and student participation.



STARDOME OBSERVATORY

Senior Year 1 students enjoyed an exciting trip to Stardome Observatory. They explored space in the Space Room, took part in a fun quiz at the Space Gallery, and were captivated by a planetarium show featuring the night sky and distant galaxies. The day left them inspired and excited about the universe!



YEAR 3 AMBURY FARM VISIT

P9, P10, and P11 set off to Ambury Farm with great excitement! Having read *Charlotte's Web* as their shared novel in Term 3, they were thrilled to finally see real farm animals, something many of them had never experienced before. Plus, it was a fantastic opportunity to spend the day outdoors, enjoying the fresh air with all their Year 3 classmates and friends.



YEAR 0-2 SOCIAL

One hundred and eighty-one Year 0-2 children celebrated the end of the school year at BOUNCE, enjoying the trampoline park's climbing walls, foam pits, and high ropes course, with a ball pit for New Entrants. Year 1 children bounced first while Year 2 and New Entrants had snacks, then they swapped over. Despite the heat, the day ended with smiles, sweaty foreheads, and no injuries— a perfect conclusion to a successful year at Pinehurst School.



SCULPTURE TRAIL

AT BRICK BAY

Year 5 students had an unforgettable trip to Brick Bay's Sculpture Trail, exploring a stunning collection that enriched their Design Technology and Art studies while staying active in the sun. They observed construction techniques and reflected on the sculptures' significance, with perfect weather providing inspiration for their classroom creativity.



PREP MARKET DAY

P7 successfully completed their PREP journey, working in teams to produce creative products using recycled materials. Each team, led by a manager, CFO, and resource managers, collaborated on every stage—from design and production to pricing—while learning key financial concepts like income, budgets, and expenses. The journey culminated in an exciting Market Day, where students showcased their hard work, creativity, and new business skills, making the event a memorable success for everyone involved.



AUCKLAND BOTANIC GARDENS

P4 and P5 visited the Auckland Botanic Gardens to learn how plants adapt to different climates. Educators shared fascinating facts about flowers, seed dispersal by birds, and the protective spikes of cacti. The children explored unique plants, shone torches through monstera leaves, and poured water on elephant fig leaves. They also practiced yoga poses inspired by vines, and each student planted a succulent to take home, fostering a personal connection to botany.



ONZA MARIMBA FESTIVAL

Pinehurst took part in the ONZA Marimba Festival, joining over 500 students from the region for two vibrant concerts. Our students showcased their musical talents, contributing to a joyful day of rhythm and collaboration. We are proud of their dedication to this event, which celebrates the unifying power of music.



YEAR 5 EXPLORE SUSTAINABILITY

Year 5 students visited the Waitakere Waste and Refuse Centre, learning about recycling, waste sorting, and sustainability. They explored waste separation, engaged in hands-on activities, and were fascinated by the worm farm's role in composting. The trip inspired them to adopt eco-friendly habits and share their knowledge to help protect the environment.



TE WIKI O TE REO MĀORI

The Primary celebrated Māori Language Week 2024, themed "Ake, ake, ake – A Forever Language!" With a vibrant assembly featuring Māori phrases, instructions, and waiata. Teachers incorporated te reo Māori into lessons, while students explored its history and relevance today. The week was filled with engaging activities, including online games and vocabulary lessons.



ROAD PATROLLERS RAINBOWS END

Our Year 6 Road Patrol students enjoyed a well-deserved trip to Rainbow's End Adventure Park, celebrating their hard work in keeping our school community safe. The relatively quiet day meant they could enjoy multiple rides early on, including favourites like the Corkscrew roller coaster, Log Flume, and the thrilling Invader. The Fear Fall and Stratosphere challenged the bravest, while bumper boats, Dodgems, and Go Carts added driving excitement. Sweet treats from the candy shop and shared laughter made the day even more memorable.



YEAR 2'S TRIP TO KELLY TARLTON

Year 2's trip to Kelly Tarlton's gave students an exciting glimpse into Antarctic scientific exploration. Through an imaginative journey to the South Pole, students applied their science learning in a real-world context, exploring environmental differences, and understanding habitats. The students were captivated by the exhibits and amazed by the range of sights on display.



LEGO DAY

Students eagerly built, created, and honed problem-solving skills. From a Lego photo booth to exciting challenges, the day was packed with fun. Years 5 and 6 coded Lego mazes, Years 3 and 4 built ziplines and Olympic stadiums, while Years 1-2 engineered sturdy bridges. With stop-motion animations and scene-building, the day was a huge success!



JUNIOR YEAR 1 TRIP TO AUCKLAND ZOO

Junior Year 1 students from P1 and P2 enjoyed a fun-filled trip to Auckland Zoo, exploring diverse animal habitats as part of their Science topic on living things. They learned about animal classification from a zoo educator, spotting features like feathers, scales, and fur. Highlights included watching otters eat, rhinos roam, monkeys swing, and lionesses bask. A lively visit to the South America area and a close encounter with spider monkeys rounded off an exciting day of discovery.



APO MENTORS INSPIRE PRIMARY ORCHESTRA

Our Primary Orchestra was mentored by members of the Auckland Philharmonic Orchestra (APO). The day started with a performance of "Anchors Aweigh," followed by sectional rehearsals on challenging pieces like "In the Hall of the Mountain King" and "Peter and the Wolf." The students ended the session with a final run-through, showcasing their hard work and progress in a fantastic performance.

THE TEDDY BEARS PICNIC!

Our school grounds transformed into a lively wonderland as students celebrated the much-anticipated Teddy Bears Picnic! With cuddly companions in tow and excitement buzzing in the air, our Primary students embarked on a day of adventure and fun—expertly organised by our enthusiastic Year 6 students.

The festivities began with a delightful picnic on the field. Despite a few early raindrops, the skies soon cleared, allowing students and their beloved teddies to enjoy a hearty feast together. The picnic quickly transitioned into a spirited disco, where laughter and cheers echoed across the Arena. Both students and their furry friends grooved to their favourite tunes, turning the dance floor into a joyful celebration of music and movement.

The day didn't stop there. The action continued on the field with a series of thrilling events. The three-legged race proved to be a show stopper, as students worked in perfect harmony to dash toward the finish line—all while clutching their teddies safely. It was teamwork at its finest!

Next came a heart-warming visit to the Teddy Bear Hospital. Year 6 students stepped into the role of junior medics, skilfully bandaging tattered bears and giving them tender

care. With first aid kits in hand and big smiles on their faces, the young "doctors" provided a perfect mix of empathy and creativity, ensuring every bear left the hospital as good as new.

Meanwhile, the vibrant parachute game brought students together in bursts of laughter. The colourful parachute rippled and waved as children lifted and lowered it in unison, creating a whimsical haven for their teddies to play and hide.

To top it all off, the photo booth added a dash of nostalgia to the day. Students posed with their teddies, capturing priceless moments that will forever remind them of this extraordinary celebration.

A big round of applause goes to our Year 6 students for organising such a memorable event. The Teddy Bears Picnic was more than just a day of fun—it was a heartwarming reminder of friendship, creativity, and the simple joys of childhood.





"It was amazing to see everyone having so much fun—teddies, races, and dancing all in one day! What a great time!"



FROM *the* THEATRE

STUDENT SHAKESPEARE PERFORMANCE

The senior double bill production of *Macbeth* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* captivated audiences with its exceptional performances and compelling storytelling. Directed by Year 12 student Zoe A, the production featured a talented cast who brought their hard work, dedication, and creativity to life on stage, offering a fresh and engaging take on these timeless Shakespearean plays.

A stand out moment in *Macbeth* was the thrilling climactic battle scene, where the students showcased their impressive sword-fighting skills with remarkable precision and intensity. The choreography was dynamic and convincing, creating an electrifying atmosphere that kept the audience on the edge of their seats.

The performances, held on Tuesday 24 and Wednesday 25 October,

were a resounding success. The audience contributed to the school's fundraising efforts by making a gold coin donation for entry, adding a sense of community spirit to the event.

Throughout the evening, the audience was immersed in a world of drama, passion, and artistic expression. From the intense power struggles in *Macbeth* to the enchanting magic of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, the performances offered something for everyone. The talent and commitment displayed by the students were truly remarkable, and the audience applauded their efforts at every turn.

A huge congratulations goes to the cast, crew, and everyone involved in bringing this ambitious project to life. Their hard work and collaboration



resulted in a memorable production that showcased the immense talent within our school community. The success of this senior double bill will undoubtedly be remembered as a highlight of the year's cultural events.



TERM 4 PRIMARY PERFORMANCE SHOWCASE

The spotlight was on our talented primary school musicians as students from Years 1 to 6 took center stage for the Term 4 Primary Performance Showcase. The event celebrated the incredible musical talent within our school, showcasing the hard work and dedication of young performers.

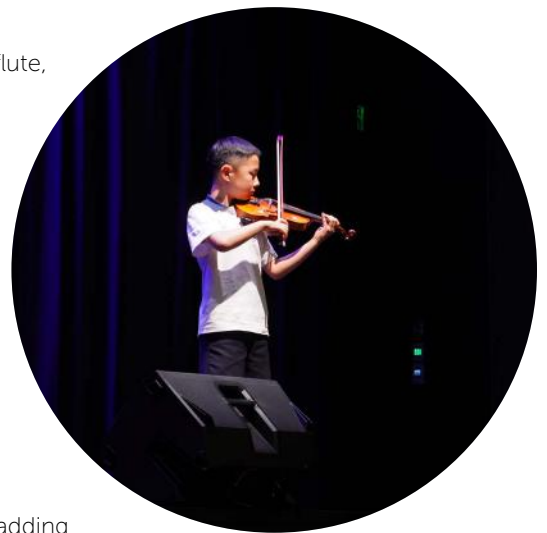
The concert began with an energetic performance by the Year 2 and 3 Choir, led by the passionate Ms. Du Toit. The choir delighted the audience with a vibrant selection of songs, including a fun rendition of "Lollipop," complete with sound effects and accompanied by Ms. Pope on the ukulele. The performers' enthusiasm set the tone for the afternoon.

Following the choir, solo performances highlighted the diverse musical talents of our students, from singing to instrumental performances

on xylophone, piano, violin, flute, and clarinet. Each student captivated the audience with their skill and confidence, providing a unique opportunity to express themselves individually.

Guiding the event were four outstanding Year 6 students who served as Masters of Ceremonies, providing smooth transitions between performances and adding warmth and charm to the showcase.

The concert was a celebration of music and a testament to the dedication and courage of our performers. It takes great effort to prepare for a public performance, and we applaud each student for their hard work, talent, and bravery in stepping onto the stage. The afternoon reminded us of the power



of music to unite and the incredible potential of our young performers.

A big congratulations to all involved, and a special thank you to the teachers and staff who made this showcase possible. It was an afternoon filled with joy, creativity, and the promise of even more musical achievements ahead.

PRIMARY PRODUCTION OF

Disney · PIXAR FINDING NEMO JR.

Our Primary Production of *Finding Nemo Jr.* was a resounding success, with Year 5 and 6 pupils diving into their roles with enthusiasm and energy. In the lead-up to the performances, the school was buzzing with excitement, filled with the sounds of singing, acting, and dancing as our talented cast brought this beloved underwater adventure to life.


The production highlighted the exceptional abilities of our students. Whether mastering a tricky dance, delivering a powerful line, or singing a perfect note, every child contributed to what became an unforgettable show. Their commitment and teamwork were evident throughout, making the entire process both inspiring and enjoyable to witness.

The excitement around the school was palpable, with many still humming the catchy tunes long after the final curtain call. *Finding Nemo Jr.* certainly made a splash, leaving both the audience and participants thrilled.

We couldn't be prouder of our students' dedication. With two successful performances on 3 and 5 September, the show was a truly spectacular event for the whole school community.







Pinehurst School's
Production of

Seussical



Our school production of *Seussical*, inspired by the whimsical works of Dr. Seuss, brought to life a musical tapestry woven from at least 15 of his beloved books. The show enchanted audiences with a delightful blend of Seuss' most iconic characters, who, for the first time, met in a fantastical world where they fell in love, embarked on daring adventures, and even saved the world. Dr. Seuss' themes of friendship, perseverance, and the power of imagination were beautifully embodied on stage. To complement the vibrant story, we focused on intricate light plotting and innovative projections to create a visually stunning experience. Despite the demanding process, the cast's patience and dedication shone through, making the production both a visual and emotional triumph.



PINEHURST'S FIRST PIANO COMPETITION

Pinehurst School's Theatre was filled with melody and excitement during the school's inaugural Piano Competition, a marquee event of this year's Arts Week. With an audience of eager students, families, and staff, the evening became a celebration of musical talent and creativity, showcasing the school's vibrant artistic spirit.

Twelve gifted students took to the stage, each performing a carefully chosen piece that demonstrated their skill and individuality. From timeless classical compositions to a remarkable original work, the performers kept the audience spellbound throughout the night. Adding to the evening's allure was a special guest appearance by Pinehurst alumna Yuzhang Wu, whose mesmerising performance underscored her growing success as a pianist. Yuzhang is set to embark on her Bachelor's Degree in Piano Performance in Hannover, Germany—a true inspiration for

the budding musicians in attendance.

The competition was judged by renowned piano teacher and musical director Juan Kim, who faced the challenging task of selecting winners from an exceptionally talented pool. Ultimately, it was Kathleen Fu who triumphed, earning first place with her exquisite interpretation of Haydn's *Sonata in C Major*. David Zhu's expressive performance earned him second place, while Anthony Huang's dynamic playing secured him third. Winners were presented with KBB Music vouchers, generously provided by the competition's sponsor.

As much as the competition highlighted individual brilliance, the evening also served as a broader celebration of the school's artistic community. Each competitor brought a unique energy to the stage, making the event not just a contest



but a collaborative celebration of music and dedication.

The success of the inaugural Piano Competition has set a high bar for future events and cemented its place as a key feature of Pinehurst's Arts Week. For those who attended, it was an unforgettable evening of musical magic that left everyone eagerly anticipating next year's showcase.



AUCKLAND LIVE SHOWDOWN AWARDS WINNERS

The excitement was palpable as members of our college's cast and crew gathered at the Bruce Mason Centre for the prestigious Auckland Live Showdown Awards. The event, which recognises excellence in school theatre, brought together 23 schools from across Auckland to celebrate the hard work, creativity, and talent displayed in this year's productions. Our college's staging of *Seussical* was no exception, and we were proud to be among the nominees.

The highlight of the evening was Year 12 student Kita Weir's incredible win for **Best Supporting Actor in a Minor Role (Musical)** for her enchanting performance as a Who. Kita's ability to bring charm and energy to her character captured the judges' attention, earning her well-deserved recognition. Her win reflects not only her personal dedication but also the collective efforts of the *Seussical* team, whose passion for theatre

shone through in every aspect of the production.

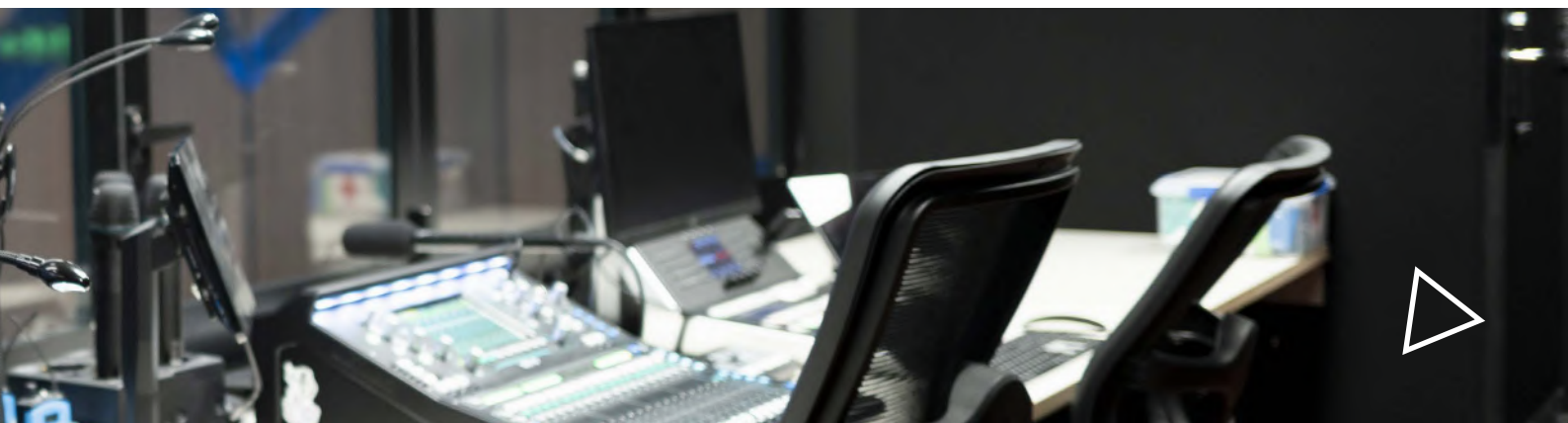
This recognition came on the heels of an exciting nomination line-up for our school. In addition to Kita's nomination, Year 12 student Tara Sabor was celebrated for her role as the Cat in the Hat, receiving a nod for **Best Performer in a Lead Role in a Musical**. The production itself was acknowledged in major categories, including **Outstanding Musical, Best Set Design, Best Props Design, Best Lighting Design, and Stage Management**. These nominations speak volumes about the extraordinary teamwork and creativity that went into making *Seussical* a success.

Reflecting on the journey to the awards, it's clear how much dedication and effort went into this year's production. From the vibrant sets to the seamless stage management and the outstanding performances, every member of the



cast and crew played a vital role in bringing Dr. Seuss' whimsical world to life.

We couldn't be prouder of Kita for her achievement and of the entire *Seussical* team for their remarkable accomplishments. Last night was a celebration of their talent, resilience, and passion for the performing arts. With such incredible success this year, we're already looking forward to next year's Showdown Awards. Who knows what more we can achieve with the talent and determination of our students.





A MESSAGE FROM THE COLLEGE

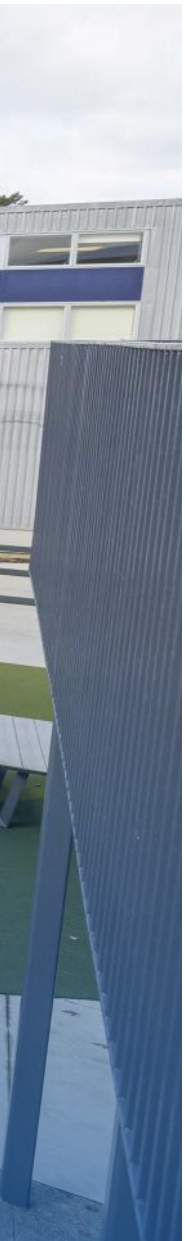
The development of the skill of self-reflection can be extremely powerful for young people and the end of a school year provides the perfect opportunity to put this into practice. In New Zealand schools, for which the end of the school year is also the end of the calendar year, self-reflection feels even more appropriate. I would encourage all Pinehurst students to spend some time over the break thinking about

their school year; the good things that made them happy and felt like wins and the more difficult situations where they needed to face problems and how they worked through those times.

One useful exercise is to start by thinking about all the good things that have happened this year; what caused them and what made them feel like good experiences? Taking time to work through them rather than brushing over the experiences is

important. Then imagine you have a time machine that can take you back to the start of the year, what would you do differently and why? From there, it becomes possible to make aspirational plans and set realistic goals for the year ahead whilst bearing in mind that there will be inevitable challenges.

Young people need to be encouraged to see challenges and setbacks they have encountered in the past year as opportunities



for growth. The development of a growth mindset creates the possibility to discuss and recognise mistakes and failures without seeing them as something over which they have no control. When young people can acknowledge and discuss their mistakes in a safe space, they build self-esteem and resilience. Ultimately, we interpret our actions and experiences, whether consciously or unconsciously. By actively reflecting, it gives us ownership over our experiences and allows for positive shifts towards growth, rather than dwelling upon negative elements.

Of course, reflective practice is not solely about recognising mistakes and failures. Celebrating success and past achievements are very important aspects of self-reflection. Sometimes seemingly small things can be hard to navigate for a young person journeying through school and we need to take the time to ensure that they know we have noticed and are proud of their smaller wins along with their big achievements. This skill of putting things into perspective is extremely important, something that will carry students through school life and beyond.

The creation of a safe space for reflective practice also has other benefits; it can help to develop positive 'self-talk'. Effectively, self-talk is the constant internal dialogue we have, which is not value neutral. It is a helpful exercise for students to review their own self-talk – is the voice in your head kind, or does it tend to be a harsh critic? Self-talk can have huge impacts on the wellbeing of a young mind and the ability to put this self-talk to beneficial use can be hugely empowering. Internal dialogue which speaks of positivity, optimism and hope reduces stress and clears the mind for opportunities to think differently, solve problems and face challenges head on. Positive self-talk requires practice and forethought. The belief that they are capable, able to change their mind, able to try new things and grasp new opportunities will go some way to realising those beliefs. After reviewing their self-talk, learners can practise generating alternatives to any negative or limiting beliefs. For instance, a common limiting belief is "I can't do this," whether this is a particular subject or topic. An alternative thought would be "I can improve if I just make a start." It is surprising how much micro-changes in our mindsets can affect our lives.

The skill of reflective practice is valuable and can set students in good stead for life-long learning. Students aiming for tertiary study should focus on this skill, as it is an important part of any university curriculum. However, reflective practice will enhance self-development for anyone, regardless of their future plans. There is no one way to be reflective. For some people, a thought exercise is sufficient. For others, putting it in writing is helpful, and there are plenty of tools available for reflective writing. Some might even want to try incorporating reflection into their art. Regardless of the method, making some of our implicit thoughts explicit and thinking deeply can be beneficial not just academically, but also personally.

DAWN SULLIVAN

PRINCIPAL OF COLLEGE



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE COLLEGE

This year's stand out moments in our college experience.



BUDDY CLASSES

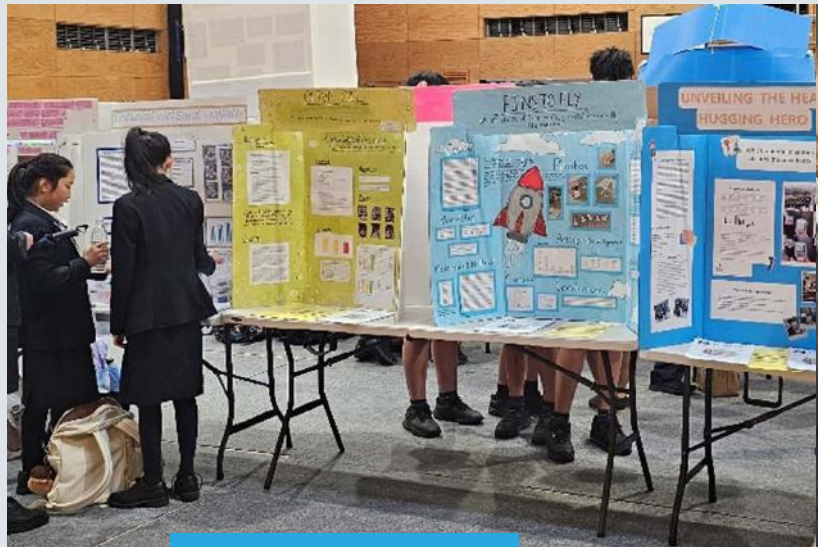
The College recently welcomed their Primary class buddies for a special visit, and the day was a huge success. Events like these, where older students engage with younger ones, play an important role in strengthening our school community. Last term, this connection was especially evident during the inaugural Graduation Parade, when Year 13 leavers walked through the Primary school, celebrating their journey while inspiring the younger students.



A-LEVEL

GEOGRAPHY TRIP

The A-Level Geography groups had an exciting trip to Rotorua, diving into tourism, tectonics, and settlement dynamics. They enjoyed a mix of thrilling activities like the Luge and Agrodome, explored Māori culture at Te Puia, and learned about the Kiwi reintroduction program. With a fantastic talk from Rotorua Museum staff and plenty of geothermal wonders (and smells), the students made great connections to their studies in a fun, hands-on way!



SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY FAIR

A group of Year 7-8 students participated in the 2024 NIWA North Harbour Science and Technology Fair, an exciting opportunity for hands-on learning that builds science literacy, investigative skills, and problem-solving abilities. The event helped students gain confidence and presentation skills as they interacted with judges and peers from other schools. We are proud of our five award winners: Abby C, Jinseok Y, Nina H, Xavier W, and Ethan K.



FRUIT FOREST PLANTING

On Thursday 27 June, we celebrated Matariki by planting our new school food forest! 60 students volunteered to plant 80 fruit trees of 22 different varieties. Led by Dilan S and Leo H from the Environmental Council, this new space will offer students a place to relax, study, and perform, while bringing nature into their daily lives and enhancing outdoor learning.



YEAR 7 MATHEX COMPETITION

Two Year 7 Mathex teams from Pinehurst participated in the Casio Competition held at Barfoot and Thompson Stadium. Team A secured first place, marking the first time a Pinehurst team has won the trophy - a remarkable achievement.



CULTURAL MARKET SUCCESS!

The annual Cultural Market was a stand out event, brimming with flavour and excitement! The gym buzzed with energy as everyone sampled diverse foods like crispy fried chicken, mouth-watering noodles, waffles, bubble tea, and more. Lively music and a thrilling Masterchef competition added to the fun. By the end, I was so full I couldn't eat another bite, and the Student Council raised over \$2,000 for the Starship Foundation!



BRONZE DUKE OF EDINBURGH

After ferrying to Rangitoto, the group hiked toward Home Bay on Motutapu Island. Though the summit views were obscured by clouds and showers, spirits remained high. At Home Bay, they set up camp, with some braving a brisk swim in the Hauraki Gulf. Despite Friday's rain, sore legs, and blisters, the students trekked back to Rangitoto Wharf, showcasing resilience and determination. Their sense of accomplishment was clear as they boarded the ferry home.



MEDIA STUDIES TRIP TO TVNZ

The AS Media Studies class visited TVNZ to explore the media industry, touring the newsroom, filming studios, and hair and makeup department. Journalists Daniel Faitaua and Chris Chang shared insights on career paths and challenges in New Zealand media. Students also sat at the news desk and on the Seven Sharp couch.



YEAR 9-10 MATHEX COMPETITION

The Auckland Mathex for Year 9 and 10 was held on August 21 at the Barfoot & Thompson Stadium, with over 110 teams competing. Our teams did great, all scoring at least 80 points and having fun! Special shout out to Stanley, Matthew A, Yifan, and Jerry from Year 9 for scoring a perfect 100 and placing third.



SHADOW A LEADER EXPERIENCE

The Shadow a Leader Experience exposed students to various business and legal fields. At JW Legal, they learned due diligence and company law; at EY (Ernst and Young), they observed leadership and client meetings. A visit to NPDL provided insights into logistics and compliance. The program offered valuable perspectives on different industries and successful business collaboration.



YEAR 9 MARKET FOR GOOD

The Year 9 Market Day was a great success, raising \$1900 in support of the KidsCan charity. Our Year 9 students worked hard to create a range of unique, sustainable products. Visitors had the chance to buy an assortment of items, including candles, soaps, pet rocks, jewellery, plush toys, flower bouquets, and beeswax wraps. Each purchase helped support KidsCan, making the event both fun and impactful. The dedication and creativity of our students truly shone, making this Market Day one to remember!



KBB MUSIC FESTIVAL

The Pinehurst College Orchestra delivered an outstanding performance at the KBB Music Festival on 13 August at Holy Trinity Cathedral. Showcasing works by Beethoven, Ravel, and Bernstein, the ensemble of 47 students, including talented newcomers from the school's instrumental scholarship program, earned a Highly Commended award for their captivating program and exceptional ensemble cohesion.



RAINBOW ROYALE QUIZ NIGHT

On Monday evening, staff, students, teachers, and parents gathered in colourful costumes for the Student Council's Rainbow Royale Quiz Night. The event was a huge success, thanks to the enthusiasm of everyone who attended. A special congratulations to the overall winning team, The Red Poet's Society, and the other spot prize winners.



LANGUAGES WEEK

The last week of Term 4 was a lively celebration of Languages Week, starting with fun quizzes that tested our language knowledge and shared cultural facts. Thursday featured Spanish Day, with a chef preparing Paella in the Amphitheatre for everyone to enjoy. On Friday, Chinese Day was marked by the sale of Tanghulu, a sweet candied fruit treat sold by Year 7 students, which quickly sold out in just 4 minutes! It was a fantastic way to end the term, bringing students and staff together to enjoy the diverse cultures celebrated throughout the week.



YEAR 7, 8 AND 9 SPEECH FINALS

Thirty-four finalists from Year 7, 8, and 9 delivered engaging speeches this week on a wide range of topics, from 'Why you should geocache' to 'Why mushrooms are epic.' The Year 8 and 9 speeches included a mix of humour and thought-provoking ideas, covering subjects like auto-correct, a four-day school week, and the value of cheese. The event showcased the impressive creativity and public speaking skills of students across all year levels.

A NEW TRADITION BEGINS

Pinehurst School's Inaugural Graduation Parade for the Class of 2024

This year marked a momentous occasion at Pinehurst School as we proudly celebrated our very first Graduation Parade and Ceremony—a heartfelt tribute to the incredible Class of 2024. What made this event truly special was not only the recognition of our Year 13 students but the creation of a new tradition that will resonate for years to come.

The day began with a beautiful and emotional parade through the Pinehurst grounds. Our graduating students took their final walk through the college, soaking in the cheers and applause from their peers in the specially designated “Cheer Zone.” The energy was palpable, as classmates who had shared so many memories together offered their support and admiration one last time.

The celebration continued as the graduates made their way through the primary school, where our youngest students

lined up with enthusiasm. They eagerly handed out high-fives, waved handmade signs, and shouted congratulations, reminding us all that they too will one day follow in these footsteps.

Finally, the parade concluded at the front of the school, where an eagerly waiting crowd of proud parents and family members welcomed the graduates with open arms. Hugs, tears, and laughter filled the air as families celebrated this milestone achievement, reflecting the love and pride shared by everyone in the Pinehurst community.

But the celebration didn’t end there. Following the parade, a formal graduation ceremony took place, where each student was presented with their hard-earned graduation certificate in front of their friends, family, and teachers. The ceremony was not only a recognition of their academic achievements but also a poignant farewell to the place that has shaped them

into the remarkable individuals they’ve become.

As we congratulate the extraordinary Class of 2024, we look forward to seeing this event become a cherished tradition at Pinehurst, a celebration of the journey and the accomplishments of every future graduating class.





Celestial SCHOOL BALL



On [Insert Date], Pinehurst School hosted its dazzling Celestial-Themed School Ball welcoming Years 11 to 13 students and their guests for an unforgettable evening.

The venue transformed into a starry wonderland, with cosmic decor and glowing lights setting the stage for

a night of dancing, delicious food, and celebration. Students embraced the theme with stunning attire, creating a picture-perfect atmosphere.

The ball was a true highlight of the year, celebrating friendships and school spirit in a magical setting that will be cherished for years to come.





GRADUATION DINNER 2024





On the evening of 13 November, the picturesque Markovina Vineyard Estate set the stage for Pinehurst School's Year 13 Graduation Dinner. This annual event brought together students, families, and staff to celebrate the achievements of our graduating class and reflect on their journey at Pinehurst.

The evening was a delightful blend of heartfelt moments and joyous celebration. Guests were treated to exquisite musical performances by Year 13 students Lingyao Qu on the Guzheng and Tony Yu on the saxophone, showcasing their exceptional talent and adding a touch of elegance to the occasion.

A highlight of the night was the inspiring speech delivered by the departing Head Students Dylan McKay and Natalie Raphael. They reflected on the challenges, triumphs, and growth they experienced during their time at Pinehurst, sharing valuable lessons and cherished memories they will carry forward into the next chapter of their lives.

Another stand out moment was the much-anticipated video presentation—a nostalgic and entertaining recap of the students' journey. This visual keepsake captured the essence of their time at Pinehurst and will surely be treasured for years to come.

As the evening concluded, there was a palpable sense of pride and optimism for the future. Well done to all our graduating students—we wish you every success as you embark on your next adventure. Wherever life takes you, remember the strong foundation and lifelong friendships you built here at Pinehurst.

HIGHLIGHTS IN SPORT

From the field to the court, enjoy top sports highlights you won't want to miss.



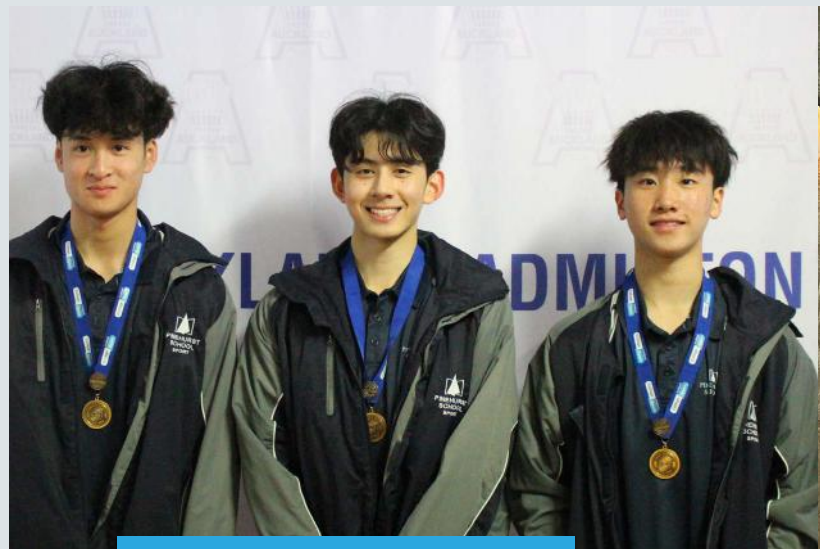
AKSS CLIMBING SERIES

Over the last two terms, 11 competitors participated in the AKSS Climbing Series, which included four rounds, with the final bouldering event at Boulder Co. Pinehurst finished 6th in the School Overall Championship, competing against 40 Auckland schools, with strong individual performances, including a 2nd place overall in the Junior Boys Championship.



HOCKEY SUPER CLUSTER

Our team sailed through the pool games unbeaten and without conceding any goals. In the semifinals, we triumphed 2-0 against Mairangi Bay, setting up a final clash with the formidable Murrays Bay team. Despite a hard-fought battle, we fell 2-0, earning a commendable second place overall.



AKSS BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

The AKSS Championships, a top competition for elite badminton players, saw Pinehurst field its largest team yet, with 19 students competing in singles and doubles. One player won the Senior Boys Singles title, while another pair claimed the Senior Boys Doubles. Despite not all earning medals, the team showed commitment, sportsmanship, and embodied Pinehurst values, securing both the Senior Boys Singles and Doubles titles for 2024.



**COLLEGE
NETBALL**

The college netball season ended on a high note with our College 1 team winning 1st place in a thrilling final against Westlake Girls High School. This victory was a poignant farewell for our five Year 13 players. Additionally, our Year 7/1 team placed 4th in Grade 1, and the Year 8/1 and Year 8/2 teams achieved 2nd and 1st place respectively, marking a season of significant success and growth.



AIMS GAMES

The AIMS Games saw a record-breaking performance across 12 sports, with stand out results in golf, mountain biking, rock climbing, badminton, and swimming. Highlights include top finishes in both individual and team events, such as 1st place in golf, rock climbing, and the 6 x 50m Freestyle Relay, as well as strong showings in badminton and swimming. Team sports also showed significant improvement, reflecting the dedication of all participants.



**SNOWSPORTS
CHAMPIONSHIP**

A total of 21 athletes competed in the Auckland Primary and Intermediate Snowsports Championship, achieving outstanding results. The team earned 3rd place in the Primary Boys Ski Stream and 2nd place in the Primary Boys Snowboard Stream, Primary Girls Snowboard Stream, and Intermediate Boys Snowboard Stream. Notable individual performances included gold medals in the Boys Ski Year 3-4 and Girls Snowboard Year 3-4 categories.



**YEAR 5-8 TABLE
TENNIS OUTSTANDING
RESULTS**

The Pinehurst Blue table tennis team triumphed in the Premier A league during Term 2, demonstrating outstanding skill, coordination, and teamwork throughout the competition. Their hard work and dedication led them to secure the championship, highlighting their dominance in the league.



YEAR 7-8 ATHLETICS ZONE DAY

At the North Harbour Athletics Year 7-8 Zone Day, our athletes delivered an impressive performance, with stand out results including top finishes in the 100m, 200m, and 800m events, as well as a strong showing in the 4x100m relay. A first-place finish in long jump and second place in discus also highlighted the day's success.



BOYS 1ST XI HOCKEY

The Boys 1st XI Hockey team won the North Harbour A1 League title with a thrilling 3-2 victory over Kingsway. Tied at 2-2 for most of the match, Pinehurst secured the win with a late goal from Blake F and held off Kingsway's offense in a tense finish. The hard-fought victory crowned them champions, highlighting their grit, determination, and sportsmanship.



PRIMARY FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

During the holidays, several primary football teams participated in a mini tournament organised by Top Corner Kids, competing against schools from the area. The teams showcased impressive skill and teamwork throughout the event, with two out of the three teams emerging victorious in their respective age group competitions, highlighting their strong performance and dedication.



COLLEGE WINTER TOURNAMENT

Seven Pinehurst teams competed in the New Zealand Secondary School Winter Tournament Week, with stand out results. The Golf team placed 3rd in the National Finals, the Table Tennis team finished 2nd, and one player won the National Girls' Singles title. The Badminton Boys placed 5th, while the Hockey teams and Netball team had strong performances, with the Girls aiming for 15th/16th and the Boys for 17th/18th. The Netball team reached the 5-8th playoff.



**SWIMMING
SUCCESS**

Our swimming team delivered an outstanding performance at the New Zealand Secondary School Swimming Championships, securing 12 Gold, 10 Silver, and 8 Bronze medals. Pinehurst placed 3rd overall in School Points. Additionally, 11 of our 13 relay teams earned medals, capping off an unforgettable weekend.



FLIPPABALL

The Primary Flippaball teams had an outstanding season, with the Year 5-6 Tigersharks finishing undefeated and securing a 7-2 victory in the final against Hauraki. Meanwhile, the Year 5-6 Makos triumphed in a closely contested final, narrowly defeating Campbells Bay 5-4.



**YEAR 6 NETBALL TEAM
WIN FIELD DAY**

The Year 6 Netball team participated in the Field Day Competition, joining 70 teams from across Auckland at the Northcote Courts. Competing in the A grade alongside 20 other top teams, they progressed to the final, where they faced Red Beach, an opponent they had never beaten before. The final was a tightly contested match, with both teams battling fiercely for the win. In the end, Pinehurst triumphed, securing a hard-fought victory and ending the day as champions.



**NORTH HARBOUR
YEAR 7-10 GYMNASTICS
ZONE DAY**

At the North Harbour Gymnastics Zone Day, 20 students from Years 7-10 excelled, winning over 15 individual podium spots. Highlights include top finishes across various apparatus events and impressive team results, with one boys' team placing 1st and another 3rd. The students' hard work and talent were evident throughout, culminating in a fantastic overall performance.



COLLEGE SPORT PRIZEGIVINGS

The Pinehurst School community came together in two remarkable events to celebrate the achievements of our young athletes in 2024. Across both the Year 7-8 and Year 9-13 Sports Prizegivings, students, families, and staff gathered to honour the dedication, talent, and sportsmanship that define our sporting culture.

The Year 7-8 Prizegiving highlighted the exceptional commitment of our junior athletes. Students were celebrated not only for their achievements across a variety of sports but also for their teamwork and outstanding sportsmanship. The event showcased the vibrant diversity of talent within this group, setting a strong foundation for future success.

Similarly, the Year 9-13 Prizegiving reflected on the outstanding efforts of our senior athletes. Teams and individuals were recognised for their accomplishments in an array of sporting disciplines, celebrating both perseverance and triumph. The pride in the room was palpable as students, families, and staff shared in the joy of these achievements.

A highlight of the Year 9-13 event was a speech by student guest speaker Jack P, a New Zealand representative

swimmer. Jack shared insights into his journey at the highest levels of competition, inspiring attendees with his message of resilience, passion, and the rewards of hard work. His words resonated deeply, encouraging our students to pursue excellence both in sports and in life.

Across both prizegivings, heartfelt thanks were extended to the coaches and managers who have been instrumental in guiding and supporting our athletes. Their expertise, dedication, and encouragement have been key to the success of our sporting programs, leaving a lasting impact on the students and the school community.

Congratulations were extended to all award recipients for their hard work and remarkable achievements this year. Their commitment and drive exemplify the values of Pinehurst sport, and we look forward to seeing their continued success in 2025.

A final thank you went to everyone who contributed to the success of the 2024 sporting year. From organisers and supporters to the athletes themselves, the collective effort made it a year to remember. Here's to another year of excellence, sportsmanship, and teamwork in 2025!

YEAR 7-8

Supreme Awards

NH Zone Day Cup - Girls	Amelia Cowley
NH Zone Day Cup - Boys	Noah Roodt
Mete Cup for Sportsmanship	Jimmy Wang
Outstanding Achievement in Sport	Lucas Wang
Team of the Year	AIMS Golf Team
Year 7 - Sportswoman of the Year	Amelia Cowley
Year 7 - Sportsman of the Year	Noah Roodt
Year 8 - Sportswoman of the Year	Alice Yan
Year 8 - Sportsman of the Year	Shawn Li

Athletics Shield	Matai
Cross Country Shield	Kauri
Swimming Shield	Matai
The JC Fiet Cup Interhouse Sports Champion House	Matai



YEAR 9-13

Supreme Awards

Sportsperson of the Year	Jack Potier
All Round Sportswoman	Lilly Stanborough
All Round Sportsman	Alex Hardy
Team of the Year	Table Tennis NZSS Team
Sporting Excellence	Hannah Li
Services to Sport	Katherine Geertshuis

Inter House Shield Swimming	Kauri
Inter House Shield Athletics	Matai
Inter House Shield Cross Country	Matai
Inter House Sport Shield	Kauri
Shield Staff vs Students Sport Challenge	Staff

EVENTS ON 2025

Term

1



TUE
28
JAN

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception



WED
29
JAN

Pōwhiri

9:00am - 11:00am
Gymnasium



FRI
28
FEB

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception

Term

2



WED
30
APR

Pōwhiri

9:00am - 11:00am
Arena



FRI
02
MAY

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception



THU
22
MAY

Pink Ribbon Breakfast

10:00am - 12:00pm
Dance Studio

Term

3



WED
23
JUL

Pōwhiri

9:00am - 11:00am
Arena



FRI
25
JUL

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception



FRI
29
AUG

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception

Term

4



TUE
07
OCT

Pōwhiri

9:00am - 11:00am
Arena



FRI
24
OCT

Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception




MON
17
NOV

Year 13 Graduation Dinner

6:30pm - 10:00pm
Markovina Estate

THE HORIZON


MAR



Parenting Speaker Series

5:30pm - 7:00pm
Theatre

FRI 28 MAR



Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception


WED 02 APR



New Parent Wine and Canapé

6:00pm - 8:00pm
Theatre Foyer

APR



ShoreToShore

8:00am - 1:00pm
Milford Reserve


SAT 21 JUN



School Ball (Years 11-13)

7:00pm - Midnight
Grand Millenniumm


FRI 27 JUN



Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception

JUN



Grandparents Day

11:30am - 1:30pm
Dance Studio

WED 03 SEP



Parenting Speaker Series

5:30pm - 7:00pm
Theatre


THU 11 SEP



New Parent Wine and Canapé

6:00pm - 8:00pm
Theatre Foyer

FRI 19 SEP



Year 13 Graduation Parade

11:00am - 1:30pm
School Grounds


THU 27 NOV



Parent Helper Morning Tea

10:00am - 12:00pm
Takapuna Boating Club

FRI 28 NOV



Coffee Connect

8:15am - 9:15am
Reception

WED 03 DEC



Christmas Picnic

5:00pm - 8:00pm
Back Fields (Rosedale Rd)

WHERE ARE OUR GRADUATES NOW



GABRIELLE TOMOANA

Graduated 2012

Gabby Tomoana, Alumna of the class of 2012, has had a unique journey from Pinehurst to her current position at the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation (Guardians). The Guardians is responsible for managing the New Zealand Superannuation Fund, established in 2001 to help fund the future costs of providing superannuation to all New Zealanders over the age of 65.

Having started her career at the Guardians in the Human Resources team, Gabby is now a member of an investment team that manages a portfolio currently worth more than \$75 billion dollars.

Gabby believes that her time at Pinehurst set her up to be open to all opportunities. She had earned enough credits through Cambridge exams to enter university a year earlier than normal - it was a tempting option, but she elected to finish out year 13 at Pinehurst, where she was able to take her interests as far as she could and excel in all aspects of school life.

University

Gabby took Psychology and Maths as subjects at Pinehurst, which gave her a head start at university, as they included some of the content of her first-year courses. She enrolled at Victoria University, where

she earned a Bachelor of Science with a double major in Psychology and Statistics. Gabby's interest in Psychology was sparked at Pinehurst, and she's thankful to have had great teachers supporting her learning.

Introduction to the financial world

Gabby wanted a degree that would give her options when she graduated.

"A degree in statistics applies to a lot of different fields, so I didn't restrict my choices when I finished university" says Gabby.

That flexibility saw her working in HR for the Guardians, where she worked as a Payroll and HR Administrator for two years before being promoted to HR Analyst.

When a position became available in the investment side of the business, Gabby put herself forward for consideration.

It was a very different role to the ones she had held, but a background in data analysis, a willingness to learn, and being, as she describes herself, 'a known quantity', helped her to land the position.

Catch up on the latest achievements, milestones, and news from our esteemed alumni network. From career advancements to personal milestones, this section celebrates the ongoing success and contributions of our graduates. Stay connected and inspired by the journeys of our alumni as they continue to make a positive impact in their respective fields and communities.

Life as an Investment Associate

Gabby joined a team responsible for executing trades worth millions of dollars every day.

She says that two key aspects underpin the investment team's success.

"First and foremost is the philosophy that we succeed or fail as a team. If something doesn't work out, we don't waste time pointing fingers at each other. Instead, we work together to see what we can learn and how we can improve," says Gabby.

Second is the fund's long investment horizon.

"The government is not going to start taking money out of the Fund for another 10 years or so," says Gabby.

"That means we can invest in long-term assets – assets that might be harder to turn into cash quickly, or that might fluctuate in value over the short term, but that over a longer period are likely to generate strong returns."

Continuing her personal interests

At Pinehurst, Gabby learnt piano and guitar and played as a goalkeeper for the 1st XI hockey team. She says that these were all great learning experiences, which

she furthered during her time in the Duke of Edinburgh programme. Gabby continues to play music and still plays club hockey, recently winning the North Harbour Championship for her grade, almost 20 years after her first game at Pinehurst.

"Pinehurst encouraged us to take up extracurricular activities, and it's important to maintain those passions alongside your academic interests when you go to university," says Gabby.

Gabby's message to students

Having spent the last six years at the Guardians, Gabby believes that keeping yourself open to all opportunities and having an open mind is crucial to success.

"Pinehurst allowed us to pursue our interests and encouraged us to be open to new experiences and opportunities," says Gabby.

"If you can carry that attitude into university and beyond, anything is possible."





STAFF UPDATE

DEPARTING TEAM MEMBERS

As we say goodbye to valued Pinehurst team members, we thank them for their contributions and wish them continued success ahead.

Bryony West
College Mathematics Teacher

Charlie Murray
Head of Department Physical Education & Health

Charlotte Edson
College English Teacher

Chhaya Acharya
College English Teacher

Debbie Parker
College Examination & Timetable Administrator

Delwyn Kruyff
Primary Syndicate Leader

Emma Miller
Maternity Leave

Heather McKechnie
College English Teacher

Jazmin Couper
College Science Teacher

Kelly Clark
Primary Teacher

Leigh Morton
College Science Teacher

Lisa Parker
Digital Communications & Design Coordinator

Pippa Fleming
Part Time Primary Teacher

Sarah Greaves
College Drama Teacher

Tanya Playfair
ALL Teacher

ADDITIONS TO THE TEAM

Please join us in welcoming the new Pinehurst team members next year, each bringing unique skills to enrich our community.

Alexandra Pennycuick
College Teacher (English)

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**Thank you
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