



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga Inspiring a passion for learning



Newsletter 12

10 August 2017

Inspiring a passion for Learning

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

Our term has started very strongly with children excited about this term's exciting events - especially our school Film Festival and the school camp for our Year 5 and 6 students. The roll is also continuing to grow steadily and today we have 565 students, and we should move past 570 before the end of term. For the past two years or more we have been unable to take out of zone students and this has not changed. We are, however, very keen to know about any in zone children who will be coming to St Martins School. If you have a child due to start this year, or next year, or know of someone who is intending to come to St Martins, please let us know as soon as possible. Early notification really does help us plan our staffing and it is very useful when speaking to the Ministry of Education about this.

We have had a couple of enquiries about the 'cohort entry' process that has been allowed since changes were made to the Education Act. The St Martins School Board of Trustees has not yet discussed this as a possibility so at this point in time children can only start as early as their 5th birthday. (The 'Cohort Entry' would allow children to start at the beginning of the term closest to their 5th birthday, or the beginning of a term later. So it would mean a child could start up to two months before they turn 5, while others may have to wait for two months after their 5th birthday). There is a detailed process which includes consultation before any change can be considered. So until further notice it will be status quo for St Martins School.

Kind regards
Rob Callaghan
Principal

The team of five ordered the bread from Couplands, organised for Ms Rowe to pick up the bread, coordinated with Mr Callaghan re sausage numbers, made lists of what we needed, took orders, counted the money, set up with Mike, cooked and cooked and cooked over 400 sausages, assembled, problem solved constantly, made deliveries to classes, cleaned up, swapped responsibilities seamlessly, made suggestions for Week 10 and were so positive and helpful. They made a formidable sausage sizzle team! We raised \$800 to go towards arts based learning experiences. So proud of them and such an awesome authentic learning experience for them! And....we do it again in Week 10!



School Notices

Off the



There was a time when households invested in their children's future by buying an encyclopaedia, those days are long gone! Nowadays though we have 2 online encyclopaedias which can be used both at School and home. Fantastic. Both come in 3 different levels, basically junior, middle school and adult, and thanks to the wonders of electronic information you can switch easily between the levels. Take a look, they're great for reference and browsing too. To access from home head to the Library Accessit dashboard <http://accessit.stmartins.school.nz/#!dashboard> passwords are World Book smart/smart and for Britannica smart/smart1

Harley from World Vision came to our last school assembly to thank all those students who made a contribution during the Famine weekend. This year we raised even more than last year - \$6094.00, which was amazing! Contributions ranged from \$5.00 to \$390.00 and every bit does count. Harley explained that the money raised was going back to the children of Syria who have had to move away from their homes. \$20.00 gives each child a backpack of items so that they can go back to school. \$2500.00 builds a classroom for these children who have not had access to learning for a couple of years. Thanks again to everyone who made a contribution - it certainly will make a huge difference to the children of Syria.



Sewing experts needed! We are in need of some volunteers to help the Plight of the Bees, a Year 5/6 Eco Action team, sew some beekeeping suits. The Plight of the Bees are getting ready to install a beehive in the school grounds and to be prepared we need the correct gear, including protective overalls and hats with veils. We need elastic sewn around the feet and sleeves of overalls, veils sewn onto hats and a zip added to attach the veil to the overalls. If you think you are up for the task please contact Miss Perry on alicep@stmartins.school.nz or call into Room 20.

St Martins School is still collecting old mobile phones to be recycled. If you have any old phones you no longer use please drop them into the drop box in the school office. Great for the environment and the school!



Year 0-3 Reporting Conferences - Term 3, 2017

Thursday 21st September and Tuesday 26th September from 3.30pm

Bookings can be made online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and are open now. Please use Event Code: 6j96h. Online bookings close 2.00pm Friday 15th September. You will have received a notice if your child requires a conference. If you are unsure please check with your class teacher.

School closes at the usual time of 3.00pm for all students. A crèche will be open in the school library for siblings to be cared for while you have your conference time. If you do not have internet access please contact Michele in the office to arrange a booking.

If you have any other questions about the conferences please do not hesitate to talk to your child's class teacher.

Celebrating Student Success

The Zone Winter Sports took place on Thursday 31st July. Many of our Year 5 to 8 syndicate students took part and we had many successes and a lot of fun. Thanks to the parents who came along and assisted on the day, your help is invaluable to us.

These are the teams that will go onto the Canterbury Tournament on Thursday 24th August.

Football - Senior (Year 7/8)

Netball - Junior (Year 5/6)

Netball Senior Blaze (Year 7/8)

Hockey - Junior (Year 5/6) A team

Congratulations to you all on getting this far in the competition and we wish you well for the Canterbury tournament.



Our Junior (Year 5/6) Hockey teams had a great day at the zones. The A team (photo on the left) came first in their grade and not to be outdone the B team also came first in their grade. A fantastic effort by both teams - well done!



Our Year 5/6 football teams are loving their new sports bags!

Craig and Diane McCoy on behalf of HPAC Energy Centre arranged the purchase of these sturdy bags to help protect all our kit. We are hugely thankful for the generosity of the McCoy's and HPAC for donating these to our school.

Community Notices

Mt Vernon Park 2017 planting day Saturday August 26, 9am Where: End of Albert Terrace

You are invited to come along and plant trees and shrubs to help beautify our valley and make it a more attractive place for native birds. We have about 1000 eco-sourced native tree and shrub seedlings from the Department of Conservation nursery at Motukarara to plant. This is our third year of planting in that area, and with the wetter season trees from the first two years are noticeably flourishing. You need to bring: a spade, clothing suitable for the weather, food and drink if you need it. Children need to be supervised. If the weather is awful on Saturday we will hold it on Sunday 27th at 9am.

Please Note. A lot of the planting will be higher up on the valley side between the stands of gorse and broom. The land is fairly rough with hidden holes and under-runners. Care is needed. For the less fit there will be planting areas lower down. It's a good opportunity to be involved in improving your local area, and we'd love to see you there.

Howard Keene, Chairman, Mt Vernon Park Management Committee

TIME FOR TENNIS! Love Tennis Club Open day at Opawa Tennis Club, Cholmondeley Ave, Sunday 3rd September 1-4pm. A chance to check out your local tennis club and for returning members to re-register. Come along and join the fun-a free open day, racquets available, come and have a hit or a sausage from the BBQ and talk to the people in the know. Junior registration fees: \$140.00 for one year club membership which includes 15 weeks of coaching. Hot Shot sessions: Mini Stars (5-7yrs): Sat 8.30-9.15am. Junior Stars (7yrs and up). Sat 9.15-10.15am or Mon 3.30-4.30pm. Interclub \$185-200. Includes weekly coaching session in your team and play on Sat. Contact Andrea ja.opawatennis@gmail.com/text 0212327141 or see you on the day!



******Time is ticking on outstanding earthquake insurance claims******

Canterbury homeowners may lose the right to bring unresolved earthquake insurance claims to court if they do not file proceedings before 4 September 2017.

For more information go to <https://www.harmans.co.nz/about-us/latest-news/important-earthquake-insurance-information/> or call us on 352-2293.

16 August

St Martins School Senior Kapahaka Group perform at matinee session at Cultural Festival - 12.30pm

25 August

Junior School Disco from 5.30pm to 7pm

Senior School Disco from 7.30pm to 9pm

In school hall

21-26 September

Year 0/3 conferences for some students.

27-28 September

Film Festival - look out for more details to come.

29 September

Last day of Term 3 - enjoy the holiday break!

16 October

Term 4 begins - welcome back!