



St Martins School

*Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga* Inspiring a passion for learning



Newsletter 20

14 December 2017

## Inspiring a passion for Learning

### Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

During last week we had the pleasure of a visit from the Education Review Office (ERO). The team of four spent most of the week evaluating St Martins School and its performance. Last Thursday the Board of Trustees received informal feedback from the review team and this was very positive. We are very excited about receiving the final report which should arrive in the New Year.

#### **Build Update:**

Best laid plans of mice and men!! The Board has just been informed that the Ministry of Education did not meet the deadline for placing the tender for the building work for St Martins School. This means that the tenders are now likely to close at the end of January to early February, so it is most likely the building will start in the holidays at the end of Term 1. We have asked the Ministry to keep us informed of updates and as we receive information you will also be informed.

#### **End of Year Assemblies:**

On Monday and Tuesday of next week we have our final assemblies. On **Monday 18th December starting at 1.30pm** we have our Rehearsal/Penultimate Assembly. At this assembly will be presentation of certificates for students who participated in Road Patrol, Peer Mediators, PALs, Librarians, Jump Jam Leaders and Student Council. There will also be the presentation of some cups, trophies, medals and certificates for students from Years 3 to 8.

**Tuesday 19th December** is our final assembly which starts at **10.30am**. However the hall will be open for seating from 9.30am and students will be playing musical instruments for your listening pleasure. This is a very special assembly as it is a time where we celebrate the achievements of students in all syndicates and a time to celebrate our Year 8 students and farewell them as they go onto high school - make sure you bring your tissues! We welcome you to attend these assemblies to help us celebrate and congratulate the students who will be receiving awards and also to celebrate all our amazing students at St Martins School.

Kind regards  
Rob Callaghan  
Principal

Year 8 Graduation - last Friday night the Year 8 students and their whānau enjoyed their graduation at the Cashmere Club. For many students, they have been at St Martins since New Entrant, so it marks the end of a long association with the school. A big thank you to everyone who made the event possible: the Year 8 Graduation Committee, Michael our caretaker, Diane and all our beautiful office staff, the Year 7/8 teaching team, the parents who lent us antique items for decorations, those who helped to set up and the Blighs who returned the items to the Malthouse. We wish our Year 8's all the best for high school. Thanks for a great year!

## Off the Shelf

As well as the opportunity for students to borrow from the School Library over the summer Christchurch City Libraries will be running their annual Summertime Reading Club programme which is aimed at children aged 0-13 years. The competition has finishes on 19th January 2018, the following is the information they've provided to us: Children and families are encouraged to share their reading experiences this summer. All kinds of reading are to be celebrated! Pick up a challenge sheet from any Christchurch City Libraries or download a copy from the library website: <https://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/summertime-reading-club/> The emphasis this year is on encouraging shared family experiences - have fun together as you celebrate the joy of reading! Children will be asked to get a teacher, librarian, or parent to 'stamp, sticker, or tick' the five experiences they have had. Looks like great fun! Enjoy!!

## School News



**Term dates have been set for 2018** - school starts back on **Monday 29th January 2018**. For full details of all term breaks and statutory holidays for the 2018 school year please check the school website [www.stmartins.school.nz](http://www.stmartins.school.nz) >Information>Term Dates

**Sun Smart behaviour is important at this time of year. We'll be adding tips to each newsletter.**

### Use your head - wear a hat

When you're outside protect your face and neck by always wearing a hat with a wide brim.



### Get straight A passes for wearing dark glasses

Too much sunlight can damage both the eyes themselves and the skin around them. A close-fitting, preferably wrap-around style is best.



Over the holidays we are needing families to help manage our beehive. If there are any experienced beekeepers who will be available between 20th December to 10th January could you please contact Alice Perry on [alicep@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:alicep@stmartins.school.nz)



**UNIFORM SHOP** - The School Office will be open on **Friday 26th January 2018 from 10am to 2pm** for your last minute uniform shopping needs before the start of the new school year. Payment is by cash, cheque or Eftpos (excluding credit cards). If you pay into the school bank account we need to confirm the payment has been received before releasing the uniform items purchased.



### FORTNIGHTLY POWER TIP FROM THE YEAR 5/6 ECO ACTION GROUP

**Have a tech free day or two each week over the holidays and save power!**

# Student Poetry

As I bid my final farewell  
The sun continues its journey  
Casting a silhouette behind.

My last hope leave a trail  
Leading to an opening  
An opportunity

The walls cave in  
Leaving only the bare traces  
of what was once my place  
The opportunity stands  
alone beckoning  
As the future unfolds

**By Sophie Perrem-Tait**  
**Room 17 - Year 6**

My final farewell lingers  
As a dark dawn approaches  
A mirror gleams in the light  
My past reflects behind me  
I have retrieved more than I could return  
The stars guide me towards the future  
As a blinding light engulfs me  
I am free

**By Eli Nixon**  
**Room 17 - Year 6**



## Farewell from the Frews



Goodbye everyone! We are leaving Christchurch in January to live in Papamoa Beach (near Tauranga). We are excited about living near our grandparents and extended family. We want to say a HUGE thanks to the wonderful St Martins School Community for a fantastic 7 years. We have enjoyed everything: sports, cultural activities,

Garden to Table, camp, the Fiesta, but mostly we have enjoyed the friendships. We will miss you so much. Merry Christmas and enjoy the summer! Jeremy, Ezra and Isla Frew.



**Look at these amazing cupcake creations** made and decorated by the girls in Room 11 - a Year 7/8 Syndicate class. Looks like they had a lot of fun decorating them and we are sure they would have tasted amazing too! Watch out Cupcake Collection - looks like you have competition!

**Room 11 Year 7 and 8 students** have been buddies to the New Entrant students in Room 10. The oldest students in our school love interacting with our youngest students - focusing on tuakana/teina - the teaching and learning relationship between an older (tuakana) and younger (teina) person. So many benefits and learning experiences for them all.



# Student Achievement

Taekwondo Achievements of 2017 - The Cardinals Taekwondo have told us of some fantastic achievements by some of our students. They had their end of year grading and the following belts were awarded: Isabella Levestam (red belt - now just 2 gradings away from a junior black belt) Isabella Gordon (yellow belt green tip) Abigail Wheeler (green belt) Priya Parlane (green belt) Holly Waldron (yellow belt green tip) and Ben Waldron (yellow belt green tip) Isabella Levestam secured 2 bronze medals at the South Island Champs, and a gold, silver and bronze at the Top of the South Championships - amazing!



## Community Notices

**Dental Care over the School Holidays** - the Community Dental Service will be providing emergency dental appointments from 19th to 22nd December at the Hornby, Northcote, Woolston and Aranui Community Dental clinics and from Hillmorton Community Dental Clinic from Tuesday 9th January to Friday 12th January. Hillmorton and Northcote Community Dental Clinics will also be open Monday 15th January to Friday 19th January and Monday 22nd January to Friday 26th January. This is by appointment only and you can phone 0800 846 983 to book. If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your own dentist.

**Year 8 2018 School Based Vaccination Programme** - Canterbury DHB will continue to offer a School based Vaccinations to Year 8 boys and girls, who have not completed their 11 year old vaccinations in General Practice. We will offer the two dose HPV vaccinations. To enable students to receive the vaccinations at school, a vaccination pack will be sent home in Term 1, parents/caregivers will need to complete and return the consent form to school.

**Aqua Gym hiring now!** Fun and rewarding work with a great team of people. Swimming instructor (within school hours Monday-Friday). Swimming Instructor (after school and weekends) Training provided. Email your CV to [info@aquagym.co.nz](mailto:info@aquagym.co.nz) attention Robyn Timings.  
Book now for January holidays and Term 1 Learn to Swim and coaching programmes.

**Have you heard about the fantastic movie Kiwi Christmas?** It is showing now in cinemas and is definitely worth seeing. It's all about Santa doing a runner to New Zealand and if you want to find out more you will have to go and see it! Did you know that the director Tony Simpson is one our St Martins School dad's? Even more reason to go and check out this movie and support one of our school families!