



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga Inspiring a passion for learning



NEWSLETTER 7

18 May 2017

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

Earlier this week you will have seen the School Links email message warning about an incident where one of our students was approached by a stranger.

These sorts of events, while unsettling, do remind us that we do need to prepare our children so that they are safe going to, or coming home from school, or when walking at other times.

We understand that it may not always be possible to walk with your child, so here are some tips to consider.

Children should:

- Walk with a friend when possible
- Pick a safe route, and review the route regularly to ensure there are no dangers (like new roadworks)
- Make sure children know that they must stick to the route, and resist the temptation to take shortcuts or different routes with friends
- Never take a ride from a stranger, and if offered a lift make sure this information is passed on immediately to an adult (parent - school)
- Teach your child how you wish them to respond to strangers who they might encounter
- Identify some safe houses along the route, where family friends live where they can stop in case of trouble
- Keep in mind other 'everyday' safety messages about crossing roads, knowing where to cross roads, and to cross safely, safe use of scooter or bicycle. They are things children will need to know to keep themselves safe.

The big message is really that of awareness. When children know what to do and why, there is always a much greater chance of good choices being made.

Having regular conversations and checking that children are continuing to act safely in how they come to and from school, are important things to do.

Kind regards

Rob Callaghan
Principal

School Notices

Reporting Conferences for all students - Important Information

Reporting conferences for the Year 0-3 classes and Year 4-8 classes will be held on:

Tuesday 27th June from 1.30pm to 8pm (SCHOOL CLOSES AT LUNCHTIME 12.30PM)

Tuesday 4th July from 3.30pm to 8pm (SCHOOL CLOSES AT USUAL TIME OF 3PM)

Bookings: Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz and enter the booking code **t96zq** to start the booking process. **The bookings open on Monday 22nd May and close on Friday 23rd June.**

If you do not have internet access please contact Michele in the office to book an appointment. Creche will be open in the library for siblings of students involved in the conferences.

PLEASE NOTE SCHOOL WILL CLOSE AT LUNCHTIME (12.30PM) ON TUESDAY 27TH JUNE FOR ALL STUDENTS TO ENABLE AFTERNOON CONFERENCES TO BE HELD.



Hello from the School Office

Diane and Rachel are our lovely 'Front of house' office staff with Michele and Pam supporting from the back. If there is anything you are unsure of that is not related to your child's classroom learning then please do not hesitate to ask us for help.

The school office is open each school day from 8am to 4pm. Please remind your children to drop their cellphones into the office before school each day.

Did you know that you can leave absence messages on our website? Go to www.stmartins.school.nz and in the top banner click on 'Report Absence'. Please ensure you advise the reason for the absence in the 'Message' area.

There are times you may need us to get a message to your child, and we are always happy to help as the welfare and safety of your children is our top priority. If you are running very late, or an unexpected or emergency situation has occurred, please phone us. If possible, for any planned changes, we ask that you make your after school arrangements with your children before they go to school.

We do not hold a lot of cash onsite. We do not have much petty cash so please try to have the correct money for Subway, term costs and other events. Remember you can pay your term costs by Eftpos or online.



World Vision - 40 Hour Famine. This year the Famine is taking place over the weekend of June 9 to 11. Those students who are 8 years old can take part in a 20 hour event, while older students can take part in the 40 hour event. Funds raised go to children who have had to leave their homes in Syria. Going online to set up your fundraising profile makes it easier for your sponsors to donate money. If for some reason you are not able to take part, please return your booklet to your teacher.

Off the Shelf



This week we were lucky enough to have Bob Doherty (www.bobsbooksnz.wordpress.com) talk to our Year 7/8 syndicate to kick off their reading challenge and bring some inspiration with new titles. Into the white by Joanna Grochowicz tells the story of Scott and Amundsen's race to the South Pole, the children were particularly appalled/enthralled by the 200 dogs who left with Amundsen and the 11 who returned - walking fridges! War, as a theme, appeared in a number of the novels. The blue cat, 1917 Machines of war and Flight path all sounded inspiring reads and all are available in our library. For dystopian readers Bob recommended Flawed and many of the children, and staff, were intrigued by Nightfall which now has a healthy waiting list - off now to see if I can find a second copy!!

Student Poetry

I go out and grab my gun
I tell my friends, it is no fun
We step outside, smoke fills our lungs
Out in Flanders Field.

In the trenches we all stay
All the birds have flown away
Horrible sounds pierce the sky
Out in Flanders Field.

Many perished, and some lost their friends
Some even thought this was the end
I stay and strive onwards
Out in Flanders Field.

Evelyn Low Year 5, Room 16

An old battle field lined with dew
Covered with poppies row on row,
Loved ones lie here that haven't been found,
The gunshots that once sounded, have stopped.
And the shells that went off, consuming men,
Have not gone off in centuries since,
The men all marched to their death,
Fighting for us then falling dead.

Maia Crampton Year 6, Room 16

Lifelines

A solitary leaf
Disconnects from its place
Eddying towards the ground.
Another follows in its wake,
Crimson.

Gusts of wind
Break its path,
Pushing it towards a lake.
Landing upon the dappled waters,
Sending ripples.

Intricate lines,
Embedded in the leaf,
Like hands
A palm
A lifeline.

Ida Scott Year 6, Room 20



Autumn Leaves

Auburn leaves drift to the ground
Shrivelling.

One solitary leaf hangs lifelessly
On a branch
Curled like a taco shell.

Layers of fiery orange leaves
Scatter the ground
Crunching under feet
Clogging drains.

Amy Wallis Year 6, Room 20



Term Dates to Remember

18th May

Year 5 to 8 Winter

Sports begins

5th June

Queen's Birthday

School Closed

14th June

South Christchurch

Music Festival Rehearsal

20th/21st June

South Christchurch

Music Festival

27th June

School closes at

12.30pm to enable

Year 0-8 Reporting

Conferences

4th July

Year 0-8 Reporting

Conferences. School

closes at usual time of

3pm.

7th July

Last day of Term 2

24th July

School starts back

for Term 3.



Update from the Board of Trustees

Over the last two weeks, St Martins teachers and Board of Trustees parent representatives have visited three local schools that have been through the rebuild process. This has been invaluable to help us with the design of the new and refurbished buildings at St Martins.

We are conscious of the rising cost of living and the pressure that this places on families. We are reviewing activities and costs across the school to ensure our programs are cost effective and sustainable.

In saying that, this term there are additional costs for extra curricular winter sport and performing arts. Please contact Michele in the office to discuss payment options. Thanks to the 30% of people who have paid so far!

During the holidays, a chainsaw and leaf blower were stolen from school. If you see any suspicious activity around the school, please advise the police.

Winter Sport starts this week and we have a large troupe of Y7/8s representing St Martins School at Stage Challenge & J-Rock. Go well; we are proud of you!

Community Notices

After School Orienteering

Tuesday 23rd May at Christchurch South Intermediate. Starts between 3.30pm and 4pm. **Tuesday 30th May at Hansen Park. Meet at the playground.** Starts between 3.30pm and 4pm. No pre-entry needed, all welcome. More info on Facebook: Peninsula and Plains Orienteers or Sara Prince 021 499 070

Children's Yoga for 4-6 year olds

We have some spare spots at the Huntsbury Community Centre Tuesdays 3.30pm to 4.15pm for Imagination Yoga. Excellent for mind-body-social awareness, managing emotions, developing confidence and self-expression. Contact Lou on 022 625 0321 or hello@siouxiesolar.com

High School Open Days

A reminder that it is the time of year for many High Schools to run their Open Days for prospective Year 9 students.

A list of some school Open Days were in the school newsletter dated 6th April. You can find this newsletter on our school website www.stmartins.school.nz >Information > Newsletters

We have also been advised that Rudolf Steiner will be having their Open Day on Thursday 25th May from 9am to 3pm. Phone 337-0514 for details. As a huge number of our students go onto Cashmere High School we would like to remind you their Open Day is on Tuesday 23rd May from 4pm to 6.30pm. Please contact other schools directly for details of their Open Days