



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga
Inspiring a passion for learning



NEWSLETTER 1

9 February 2017

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

The year is now in full swing across the school and children are keen to get down to their learning. You can support your children with this by making sure that they arrive in plenty of time each day. This is important for socialisation but also to ensure that each child is ready to start the day's work. Children who arrive late can often feel disconnected from their class and take more time to get up to speed. So plan that trip to school so that your children arrive with time to spare.

It is wonderful to see so many children walking, scooting and cycling to school. This is a great option for our environment and it eases traffic congestion in the mornings and after school.

Please, if your child has a scooter, can you find a way to 'tag' it with a name or a cell phone number. So often scooters are left behind at school and reuniting them with their owners can take weeks, even months. We do ask that children walk their bicycles and scooters into and out of the school grounds for safety reasons. Please support us with this, especially after school when everyone is leaving over a short space of time and there is not sufficient space for safe cycling or scooting in a very tight area.

Parking outside of school - As we start this school year please remember some simple courtesies.

- Please refrain from parking over driveways
- The "Drop off Zone" is just that so please refrain from parking in this area.
- Be patient and wait until you are in the "Drop off Zone" before letting your children leave the vehicle, it is a ticketing offence and the Christchurch City Council wardens will be visiting at random intervals.
- If you or your child has a disability that makes walking distance difficult, please speak to us about an 'in school drop off option'.

Thank you for your support in keeping our children safe.

Kind regards
Rob Callaghan
Principal

Family Picnic - Friday 17th February 4.30pm

By Adventure Playground (postponement date 24th Feb if wet)

Thanks to the Board of Trustees for supplying 300 free sausages.

Twirly Potato Man, Mr Whippy and a coffee van will also be there for you to buy yummy treats!

Bring a picnic, picnic blanket and a warm jacket.

There will also be a slippery slide so wear your togs and bring a towel if you want to have a go!

We would love to see you and your family there.



Term Dates to Remember

15th February

Year 5-8 Duathlon

17th February

Family Picnic 4.30pm in

the school grounds.

21st February

School Photos

22nd February

Meet the Teacher and

Orientation evening for

Parents and Caregivers

starting in the school hall

at 6.30pm

24th February

Postponement day for

Family Picnic

27th Feb to 1st March

Year 7-8 Camp at

Glentui Meadows

9th March

Year 4 to 8 Goal Setting

Conferences. School

closes at 12.30pm on this

day. More information to

come.

Meet the Teacher Evening

Dear Parents and Caregivers.

The staff of St Martins School would like to invite all Parents and Caregivers to participate in the 2017 Orientation and Meet the Teacher Evening. This event will be held on **Wednesday 22nd February**.

Orientation - 6.30pm

A brief orientation will be given in the school hall. You can expect to hear from our Senior Leadership Team who will outline key initiatives for 2017. At 6.50pm you will then move off to your children's collaborative pod.

Meet the Teacher

You will have two opportunities to meet your children's teachers.

7.00 - 7.20pm

All Year 0 - 8 teachers will be present in their collaborative pods. They will give a general overview of the pod programme and specific details on how you can support your child's learning.

7.25pm - 7.45pm

All Year 0 - 8 teachers will be present in their collaborative pods. They will give a general overview of the pod programme and specific details on how you can support your child's learning.

Please remember that the 'Meet the Teacher' evening is for you to develop a better understanding of how your child's collaborative pod works. If you have 3 or more children we hope you will have a partner or relative who can visit one of the pods for you as it is not practical to have more sessions. If you wish to discuss specific aspects of your child's learning please make an appointment to see the teacher at another time.

We hope that you find this evening enjoyable and informative.

Warmest regards

Rob Callaghan, Principal

Bernadette May, Deputy Principal

Student Achievement

We have just found out that **Isabella**, a Year 5 student in Room 15 and **Ezra**, a Year 5 student in Room 17, competed in the Wonder League Robotics Competitions last October and November. It is a Worldwide competition and there were over 5000 teams in their age bracket. Isabella and Ezra spent 2 to 3 hours a week completing the task set in the competition programming a robot via an app. They achieved 170 out of a possible 210 points and came first place in New Zealand in their age bracket! What a fantastic effort Isabella and Ezra. We look forward to hearing about any further Robotic endeavours!



Off the Shelf



Welcome back to the Library, I hope you've had a summer with an abundance of reading! I read the new David Walliams, *The Midnight Gang*, which I can see proving to be very popular. If any children still have books from last year, or their summer loans, we'd love to have them back as soon as possible, great to start the new year with a clear borrowing record. If you're looking to volunteer at School and have a spare hour or so, we'd love to hear from you. There is always work to be done with shelving, processing new books etc, some obviously needing to be done in the Library, but other work can be taken home so a bit more flexible for those who can't commit to regular times at School! If this sounds like you call in and see us, or drop an email to bridgeth@stmartins.school.nz

School News

Auditions for the St Martins School Percussion Group will be held Wednesday 15th February at 10.30am in the music room. Those children wishing to try out need to bring along their instruments (piano is provided) and perform a short piece they have been working on. Wednesday 22nd February will be the last chance to audition for those who are unable to make the 15th. Any queries please phone Helen Murray on 027 278 0232

St Martins School Concert Band started this Thursday 9th February at 10am in the Music Room. New players are welcome to come along to the next practice to find out more. **Recorder lessons** are also starting again and if you are already booked you will be emailed the details. For any more information about Concert Band or Recorder lessons please email Susan McKeich at sjmckeich@icloud.com

Private piano lessons at St Martins School - Yvonne Tikao (ATCL) has vacancies for piano/keyboard lessons this term. Lessons are for 30 minutes and can be taken at lunchtime or during school time. A wide range of styles is taught. Please contact Yvonne for more info on 027 356 6462 or 388 3360 email yvonne.tikao@xtra.co.nz

La Petite Academie French Beginners' Class Year 2-8. An 8 session fun French taster course is being offered at St Martins School this term and beyond, conveniently based at school, at a time to suit those who are interested. The major emphasis is on communicating orally through fun games, song and activities. For more information please email admin@Lpa.co.nz or contact us on 022 358 2211

Remember to be Sun Smart on these warm, sunny days. Use your head - wear a hat. When you're outside protect your face and neck by always wearing a hat with a wide brim. In Terms 1 and 4 all students must wear their school hat when they are outside during the school day. It is especially important for students to remember to take their hat on school trips.

Tru Talent Youth Theatre Company

Tru Talent Youth Theatre Company is coming to St Martins School in 2017. Tru Talent Youth Theatre Company will be a space and place for youth to explore and share their own stories through drama and performance arts.

It is an innovative project, led by Trudy-Anne Rowe, who is highly skilled and experienced in Arts education and an experienced performer and professional director. Trudy-Anne Rowe is Head of the Performing Arts at St Martins School.

Sessions will be held at St Martins School, in the Learning Room on Mondays, starting Week Three, Term One.

**3.15pm to 4pm 5 - 8 year olds 4pm to 4.45pm 9 - 12 year olds
4.45pm to 5.30pm 13+ year olds**

Term 1 start up - \$80.00, one off special. Term 2 to 4 - \$120.00 per term
Contact Trudy-Anne Rowe on trutalent@xtra.co.nz or check out the Tru Talent Youth Theatre Facebook page

<https://m.facebook.com/TruTalentYouthTheatreCompany/>

Limited spaces available

School Health Notices

2017 Year 8 School Based HPV Vaccination Programme.

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common viral infection which can cause several cancers affecting both men and women later in life. Early HPV immunisations offers the best protection against contracting this virus. **Both girls and boys in Year 8** will now be offered free HPV vaccination through the school based programme.

A new updated version of the vaccine will cover more strains of the virus, providing cover with 2 instead of 3 doses. The vaccination will continue to be available at your GP however the Public Health Service encourage the school based programme. Parents of Year 8 students should receive a consent form this week. If you would like your child to receive the HPV vaccination at school then the consent form needs to be completed and returned to school by Wednesday 15th February. **The Public Health Nurse has asked that all forms are completed and returned, even if you do not wish to make use of this programme.** For more information about the vaccine, contact Public Health Nursing Service at 383 6877 ext 99469 or 99698, talk to your doctor, practice nurse or visit www.health.govt.nz/hpv

Free Dental Health Care with special information for Year 8 students

One of our Community Dental Service preventative mobiles is currently at St Martins School. We are aiming to see that all school aged children enrolled with the Community Dental Service have their dental check-up in the dental mobile while it is at school.

The dental therapist will check, x-ray and clean teeth and apply protective treatments (including fluoride) if required. If your child requires further care such as fillings they will bring home a 'Care Plan' which will explain treatment and appointment times. You will then need to arrange an appointment to take them to the Community Dental Service to have the treatment completed.

Please let us know ASAP if you do not wish your child to have any of this care. You can talk to the staff in the mobile or phone/email the Call Centre phone 0800 846 983 email comm dental@cdhb.health.nz

Year 8 students - All Year 8 students enrolled with the Dental Service are transferred from the Community Dental Service to a FREE private dentist from Year 9 until their 18th birthday. To help with this transition please ensure you have informed your child of their family dentist (not orthodontist). This will enable us to transfer your child onto the correct dentist for Year 9 onwards.

Community Notices

It is the season for the Winter Sports registrations - see below for details

Cashmere Technical Football Club - Registration now open. Please register online at www.ctfc.co.nz Registrations close on 12th March. Trial dates for 10th grade and above are on our website.

Halswell United Football Club - Summer Football online registrations for Term 1. Please visit our website for details. Winter Season online registrations open now for ALL players aged 4 to 70+. The season starts 1st April. Grading days for 9th to 14th grades are Sunday 12th and 19th February. For full info go to our website www.hawkfootball.org.nz

Christchurch United Football Club - Registration opens in mid February. For more information and to register please go to www.cufc.co.nz/programmes/#community

Ferrymead Bays Football Club - for kids who want to play football this year Ferrymead Bays Football has a lot to offer. Check out our website www.ferrymeadbaysfootball.co.nz for details of Term 1 programmes and information regarding the season and registration procedures.

Sydenham Rugby Club - Junior registrations will be held in the Sydenham Lounge at the Cashmere Club, 88 Hunter Terrace on Wednesday 1st March 4pm to 8pm and Sunday 5th March 10am to 2pm. See www.sydenhamrugby.co.nz for more details.