



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga
Inspiring a passion for learning



NEWSLETTER 1

5 FEBRUARY 2015

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

St Martins School has had a magnificent start to the 2015 school year. Our roll is up again this year, we started with 510 students, and our intake from ‘out of zone’ will remain closed as a result. Children and teachers have returned with renewed energy and excitement, and the minor modifications to classrooms are already being taken advantage of.

Our Orientation and Meet The Teacher evening is being held on Tuesday 10th February at 6.30pm and we will be speaking about the Collaborative Teaching approach and your children’s teachers will share what it means and what it will look like in action in the classroom. This meeting will be opened by the principal and deputy principal in the hall, and this introduction will last no longer than 20 minutes. Please come along, it is an important enhancement to the way we teach and learn.

We opened this year for the first time with a pōwhiri Those who were able to stay have said what a beautiful way it was to begin our school year, welcoming our new children, teachers and families into our school community, and also those who were returning. We did have a few teething problems to overcome. The pōwhiri was planned to be held on the court area, but the rain meant a last minute change to our organisation. With many of the temporary fences only being moved the night before, we arrived to quite a different set up within the playground. It did lead to a little confusion but there has been much learned from this first experience and next year it will be much smoother.

It was amazing to see so many families at our Friday ‘Welcome Back BBQ’. The weather behaved and we are most grateful to Nikki Tod and Julie Young and their team of helpers for organising yet another community get together.

We are still waiting for some fencing to go up and some asphalt to go down to complete the current works. You may have noticed the ‘patchwork quilt’ looking arrangement where the Funky Block used to be. This was not what was expected (it only happened the day before school opened while we were all at a teachers conference) and we were as surprised as anyone to see the result! The problem has been rectified and the Ministry of Education will reinstate the area in asphalt giving us much needed all weather play area for our growing numbers. Watch that space!

Please remember if you have any concerns or questions please don’t hesitate to make contact with the school. For classroom concerns or questions please speak to your child’s teacher in the first instance. If it is something of a more general or serious nature then feel free to contact the principal or deputy principal. We do have a comprehensive website (www.stmartins.school.nz) and a quick look at this might answer many of your questions. It also gives you access by link to our school policy site. You can go there directly by going to <http://stmartins.schooldocs.co.nz/1893.htm> - the user name is **stmartins** and the password is **huntsbury**.

It’s been a great start to the year and we intend to make this another stunning year of learning for our whole community.

Kind regards

Rob Callaghan

Term Dates to Remember

2015 Performing Arts

Kia ora Whānau

TERM ONE

February 6

Waitangi Day

February 10

Orientation and Meet The

Teacher evening 6.30pm

February 25

Year 4-8 Goal Setting

Conferences

School closes at 12.30pm

February 26

Year 4-8 Goal Setting

Conferences

School closes at the

normal time of 3pm

March 2 to 4

Year 7-8 camp

March 11

Canterbury Triathlon

March 18

Zone Swimming

Year 5-8

March 24

School Duathlon

March 26

Year 0-3 Reporting

Conferences

The Performing Arts team is expanding!! YAY!!

Mrs Helen Murray is joining our dynamic teaching team, and will be teaching Music on a Tuesday.

Mrs Amy Kenel will be teaching Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons.

Miss Trudy Rowe will be teaching Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday afternoons and Thursdays in the Arts. She will be teaching in Room 9 on Fridays.

In conjunction with the school-wide inquiry topic this term, we will be exploring into Pasifika through the Arts. We invite any community members who have knowledge in this area of Pasifika mythology, music, dance and movement, and who would love to share it with us and our students, please make contact with us.

Mrs Kenel will be exploring into Pasifika dance and movement.

Miss Rowe will be exploring into beat and rap! BOOM! Bring on the battles!!

Mrs Murray will be exploring into beat and rhythm.

We are continuing with our Year 7 and 8 Arts extension programmes in Dance, Choir, EPAC and an exciting addition of songwriting. These dynamic programmes will be occurring on Wednesday afternoons. Dance will be taken by Mrs Kenel.

Choir will be taken by Miss Rowe.

EPAC will be collaboratively taken by Miss Rowe and Mrs Kenel.

Songwriting will be taken by Miss Rowe.

Mrs Kenel will be taking a Year 3-6 choir on a Wednesday afternoon for Term One and Two.

In Term Three and Four, an opportunity will be given to our Year 5-8 students to perform in the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival. Miss Kenel will be preparing this choir.

Term Two is our schoolwide School Production!! This will be a highly exciting time for all involved! We will let you know more about it over the next couple of weeks.

Whole school singing will continue on Fridays at our amazing assemblies – you are more than welcome to come and have a jam with us as well!

We have exciting teaching and learning programmes being planned and are excited to be working alongside our beautiful students once again in the creative field of Performing Arts. We can't wait to get started!

Our contact details are:

Amy Kenel – amyk@stmartins.school.nz

Trudy Rowe – trudyr@stmartins.school.nz

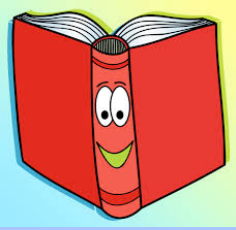
We are looking forward to a fabulous year of creativity, exploration, quality learning and teaching, extension and fun

Creative regards

Mrs Kenel, Mrs Murray, and Miss Rowe 😊

<http://performingartsatstmartinsschool.blogspot.co.nz>

Library News



Firstly I'd like to welcome our new Senior Librarians Ella Patterson and Lydia Cross, looking forward to working with you girls! By now the other Librarians should know who they are and I know there will be many disappointed children - we had over 60 great applications for 24/25 places so hard decisions had to be made!

The Library is promising to be a busy place this year with a schedule of lunchtime activities as well as our support for reading and inquiry work. The collaborative teaching is exciting and looks as if it will provide us with more opportunity to teach the children information searching strategies and help hone their online searching skills, important skills for today's citizens.

If you would like to do some parent help, but don't have time to commit to a classroom, we'd love to hear from you! We constantly need help with shelving, covering books etc so there's always a job to be done and we can offer more flexibility - even 30 mins a week is a great help.

School News

Year 4 to 8 Goal Setting Conferences Term 1 - 2015

Wednesday 25th February - 1.30pm to 8pm
(Year 4 only available until 6pm)

(School closes at 12.30pm for ALL students)

Thursday 26th February - 3.30pm to 8pm
(Year 4 only available until 6pm)

Booking online

Website: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Event code: **UAWV** Bookings are open now. If you do not have internet access please phone the school and a booking will be made for you. Phone 332-6121 and ask for Bridget in the library. (Please phone between 8.45am and 10am only) A creche will run in the library during the conferences for siblings you do not wish to take into the conferences.

Please note the Year 0-3 Reporting Conferences are later in the term and information will come out closer to the time.



We have just been advised by SCIRT that there will be major works in the school grounds commencing in about a fortnight.

This will take place in the area around Centaurus Park and the school adventure playground. Because of this, once the work commences the adventure playground will be out of use for approximately 2 weeks until the work is completed. We will keep you updated whenever we get further information from SCIRT.

Sun Safe - all students need to have a school sun hat with a brim for wearing during break times and for any activities outside. Hats are needed for Term 1 and 4. These can be purchased at the school office for \$15.00. Students are also advised to bring sunscreen lotion to school which they can put on during the day. Teachers will remind them to do this at lunchtimes.



Afternoon Road Patrol help - we are desperately looking for help with both the Albert Terrace and the Centaurus Road Patrol any day after school.



This would involve being there before 3pm when the students are setting up and it would finish about 3.20 pm. If you are interested in helping please send an email to - jennyw@stmartins.school.nz

School News continued

Itinerant Music lessons will start for 2015 from Monday 16th February. There are still a few spaces available for Trumpet lessons so if you are interested please see Diane in the office. All other lessons are currently fully booked.



School Swimming Sports for Year 5 to 8 is to be held on Tuesday 24th February at Wharenui Pool. This will run for the morning and children will return to school at lunchtime.

Community News

Circuit Training with Janelle Waldron on Tuesday and Thursday mornings starting at 8.45am at the School hall. Everyone is welcome. Be fit, lose weight and tone up. All levels of fitness are catered for. \$8.00 per session. Come along and have a go! Janelle is a registered Personal Trainer. Call her on 337-1200 or 027-4642041 for more details.

The Homework Club - Before School Programme is now being run from the school hall each school morning. We are pleased to be able to have The Homework Club on site for their Before School programme and hope that in the future when more space becomes available that we will also be able to have their After School programme on site as well. For bookings or to find out more about The Homework Club before and after school care see their website - www.thehomeworkclub.co.nz or phone 021 274 1962.



Cashmere Technical FC registrations are now open for all Junior Football players. Register online at www.ctfc.co.nz or at The Woolston Club on Wednesday 25th February 5.30pm - 8.30pm, or Sunday 1st March 9.00am - mid day. Trial dates for 10th - 18th Grades are on our website too. Registration closes on Sunday 15th March 2015 and the season begins for all grades on 18th April 2015. Join us! www.ctfc.co.nz

Play football for Ferrymead Bays in 2015! Ferrymead Bays Football Club - registration days: Sunday 15th February and Saturday 21st February, 1.00 – 3.30pm. At Ferrymead Park. Boys, girls and new players welcome. For more information, visit www.ferrymeadbaysfootball.com



Orienteering Day 2015 at the Groynes, Receptions Lakes, Johns Road - Sunday 22 February - walk, skip or run - suitable for individuals, groups and families. Mass starts regularly from 10.30am to 1pm (Course closure at 2pm) Tips/advice from Peninsula and Plains Orienteers. Phone 941 8999 or visit www.bethere.co.nz for more details.



Term 1 art classes will begin on Tuesday 10th February in Room 18 from 3pm to 4.30pm. There are still spaces available with classes suitable for children aged 6 to 12. We cover a fun range of subject matter and complete a piece of artwork every session. The cost for the term is \$144.00. (8 weeks) For more information or to book in please contact me at: joloughnan@xtra.co.nz

Drum lessons are available at school from tutor and rock band mentor Danial Neale. For more information please see Diane in the office or contact Danial directly on 930 3666.

