



“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

Our first term is almost over and with that comes a well earned break. This term has been a full and exciting term. From the first day the learning environment at St Martins looked different outside with the removal of the ‘Funky Block’ and the swimming pool, and it looked different from the inside with a number of minor modifications being made to accommodate collaborative teaching practices. The term has been met with excitement from both children and teachers and there have been many rewarding learning experiences.

We were hoping that some other minor alterations may have been able to be carried out during the break, however the Ministry of Education have not been able to complete the process with the council and it is unlikely that the work will be approved in time.

To compliment the physical changes our staff have also been working very hard to ensure the best outcomes are being achieved through the changes we have made. Our ‘in-school’ Professional Development has continued to focus on Effective Teaching and Collaborative Practices. It has meant a few more meetings, conversations and reflections on outcomes - all to make sure that what we are implementing is creating a rich and effective learning environment. We have also been lucky to have members of our Senior Management team hear some key international experts, like Michael Fullan, Carol Dweck and most recently Linda Kaser and Judy Halbert, deliver their thinking, and for us to hear directly from those whose research we have only read is quite special. But it is comforting to know that we are very much on the right track and in many ways right up with the best of thinking in New Zealand and internationally in terms of learning practice in education.

I do hope that you will be able to have a break with your children over the Easter weekend, and that the children enjoy their break and come back recharged and energised for another full term of exciting learning.

Travel safely if you are on the roads over Easter and we look forward to seeing you in Term 2.

Kind regards

Rob Callaghan

Whānau Group

The next Whānau Group meeting is in Term Two and will be held on Friday 1st May. It will be held in the school staffroom starting at 6pm.

You are most welcome to bring your family to the Whānau Group meeting. We hope to see you there.

Term Dates to Remember

April 2

Last day of term

TERM TWO

April 20

School starts back for

Term Two.

April 27

Anzac Day celebration day

School closed.

April 30

Canterbury Duathlon

May 6

School Cross Country

Year 5 - 8

May 7

Winter sports starts - Yr7/8

May 8

Winter sports starts Yr5/6

May 20

Zone Cross Country

June 1

Queen's Birthday

School closed for the day

June 10

Canterbury Cross Country

June 18 and June 23

Year 0 -3

Reporting Conferences

School News

Smart Governance - News from the BoT

The BoT meets monthly and reports back to the school community via this newsletter and the website, to give you an idea of what we do and why we do it. Find out more at smartins.school.nz > About > Board of Trustees.

At this month's meeting we:

- Formulated all Strategic Plan goals based on feedback from our school community consultation. Next step will be to "tease out" these goals into specific action points, timelines, etc.
- We approved the 2015 budget.
- We expressed our continued support of the S'Mart Community. There will be BoT attendance at the S'Mart Community AGM on 31st March.
- We will be consulting with Ngāi Tahu to assist us in finding a new Kaumatua for our school.



KIDS' LIT QUIZ

We were thrilled with the results from the two teams who took part in the Canterbury heats of the Kids' Lit Quiz at Cobham Intermediate on Monday 23rd. Evie Boyd, Louie Howell, Jake van Keulen and Ella Patterson were equal 11th, whilst Ruairi Boyd (reserve), Max

Croucher, Leila Dunlop and Rosa Opie were equal 14th - from 64 teams! Thanks to reserve Cora Scott for attending practices and commiserations to Dominic Muller who was sick on the day (Reserve Ruairi ably stepped in). A fantastic result, well done to you all - get reading for next year!!

Y3/4 Garden to Table Term 1

This week the Y3/4 students celebrated a successful end to the first term in the garden by picking the pumpkins. The massive pumpkin patch has yielded close to 30 pumpkins! Most of these have been put into storage, so that they



can be prepared and cooked into delicious dishes by the students throughout next term.

On Wednesday the names of all the Y3/4 students were put into the hat. Two lucky students from each class had their names drawn out and got to choose a pumpkin to take home.

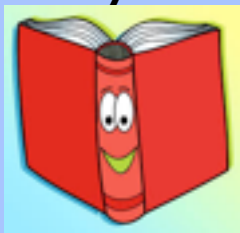
PERFORMANCE ART - ST MARTINS

The Performing Arts team at St Martins have been having a fab time this term! Mrs Kenel's teaching and learning programme has comprised of teaching and devising Sasa dances. Miss Rowe's teaching and learning programme has comprised of teaching and devising beats and raps using plastic cups as an instrument. Mrs Murray's teaching and learning programme has comprised of teaching and working in beat.

We have loved working with every student in the school and have loved to see the creativity, expression, risk taking and giving things a go. The Arts are amazing!

We look forward to Term Two being a big term for the Arts!

Library News



We've had some great new additions to Library stock recently so thought I'd just highlight a few here: **Betsey Biggalow** - a series of 4 first chapter book titles by **Malorie Blackman**, usually better known for her titles for older children and young adults. Join adventurous Betsey as she becomes a detective and helps to save the world amongst other adventures! **Audrey goes to town** is one **Christine Harris'** titles about Audrey, a little girl from the Australian outback - worth a read for Year 4 upwards. And finally **Treasure Hunters** by **James Patterson**, better known for his Maximum Ride and Middle School series. A fabulous adventure for Year 5+ with four children searching for gold and their missing parents!! Something for everyone to enjoy - have a great reading Easter!

Student Work

Dashing Dog - by Jack Vetcher, Year 4 - Room 21

Dashing Dog is a devilishly clever dog. He thinks he is very posh and perfect. Dashing Dog is a creamy brown poodle who is preened to perfection. He loves doing the scariest things. He struts up the

street feeling very handsome and proud. He flies and flies through the air like a brown bullet. I think he is a clever, quick thinking tremendous dog because he saved Betty when she fell off the jetty.



Gabriella's Ballet Solo - by Anna Crampton, Year 6 - Room 11



The curtains opened. The lights flicked on. Gabriella was in her position.

The crowd stared waiting anxiously for the barefooted soloist to start. Her floaty light blue dress, seemed to dance along with her. Spin after spin, twirl after twirl. Her timing was impeccable. Everyone at the Middleton Grange Theatre seemed to love Gabriella's barefoot dance but it was all over too soon.

The music came to a soft halt and so did Gabriella.

It doesn't interest me - by Sam Cook, Year 6 - Room 8

It doesn't interest me
The colour of your hair
What matters is how honest you are
And how brave you can be.

It doesn't interest me
How smart you are
What matters is how much fun you can be
And how you can make me laugh.

It doesn't interest me
The clothes you wear
What matters is your personality
And who you are inside.



EASTER EGGS COLLECTION

Thank you to all those who donated Easter eggs for our annual visit to The Activity Room on the Children's Ward at Christchurch Hospital. We had a huge response and were able to deliver lots of eggs to make some children's day a little brighter.

Dorothy, Jane, Diane, Rebecca and Allie are all Hospital Play Specialists at Christchurch Hospital and are with some of our students and a selection of the eggs that were delivered.



Thank you too for everyone who donated money for the Pasifika Mufti Day we had on Wednesday. All money raised is going to help the people of Vanuatu as they start to rebuild after the devastating cyclone. Thank you everyone for your caring and generous nature in supporting these causes.

School Notices

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

We will be selling the ever popular Entertainment books again this year. The information and order forms should be coming out early next term so keep an eye out for it! Information is also now on the school website under Latest News and has been sent via email so you can pre-order now!

Afternoon Road Patrol help - we are still looking for more 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 3.20pm. If you are interested in helping please send an email to Jenny wood - her email is jennyw@stmartins.school.nz



We are still collecting your old mobile phones for Starship Children's Hospital. So far schools throughout New Zealand have collected over 75,000 mobile phones for the appeal - truly amazing! We have a drop box in the school office should you have any old phones to donate.

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.

ART AFTER SCHOOL - with Jo Loughnan

Term 2 art classes St Martins School. Art classes will begin on Tuesday 21st April (Week1) in Room 18 from 3pm to 4.30pm. All classes are strongly based on drawing skills using dye, pastel, charcoal and paint. We cover a fun range of subject matter and complete a piece of artwork every session. The classes are suitable for ages 6 -12. The cost for the term is \$198.00 (11 weeks) Examples of student work can be seen in a booklet in the office.

For more information or to book in please contact me either at 384 7506 or joloughnan@xtra.co.nz

Football Holiday Programme - Mainland Football

Age: 7 to 10 year olds and 11 to 14 year olds. **Dates:** 8, 9, 10 April and 13, 14, 15 April

Time: 9am to 3pm Venue: ASB Football Park

Cost: \$90 for 3 days, \$35 for one day (10% discount for second child)

Link to register: <https://reg.sportingpulse.com/v6/regofrm.cgi?formID=47600>

For more information: www.mainlandfootball.co.nz



Dental Care over the School Holidays

The Community Dental Service will operate an emergency service over the school holidays. This service is to provide relief of pain only and will not undertake 'routine' treatment. The service will be available each working day from 8:30am until 12:30pm from the Hillmorton Community Clinic, Sylvan Street, Christchurch for the following times:

Tuesday, 7th April to Thursday, 16th April 2015 (excluding weekends)

PLEASE NOTE – this service is not operated on Easter Monday or Friday, 17th April 2015.

This service will operate by appointment only and if we are unable to see your child, alternative options will be given. If your child has dental pain as a result of an accident please contact your dentist in the first instance.

You can phone and make an appointment for the emergency clinic by ringing 0800 846 983.

House to rent in St Martins School Zone

3 bedroom home in Riverlaw Terrace with a double garage for long term rental. Phone John on 027 434