



NEWSLETTER 17

29 October 2015

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

The term seems to be whizzing by! By the time you see this newsletter we will be about one third of the way through the term. To add to the excitement of the final term the Board of Trustees has been offered to begin the Master-Planning process for the design of our rebuild one term earlier. This part of the process will be intense and you will be kept well informed and communicated with as we proceed.

With 2016 approaching we have begun the planning for the New Year. Thank you to all those who have indicated their intention not to return in 2016. This helps us with the organisation of classes. Our zone remains closed at this point in time to out of zone enrolments, but it is important that we have advance notice of all potential in-zone enrolments. This advance warning allows us to manage our staffing and growth more effectively. If you do have a child turning 5 who is intending to attend St Martins then please contact the school, and ask your friends to do the same.

Once again thank you to those parents who have taken the time to speak to us about class placements for 2016. The response has been steady and is very useful as it has also provided strong, positive feedback about the collaborative approach that has been initiated across the school this year. This part of the process will close on Friday 6th November. Please make sure that you have made contact by this date. Classes are very difficult to make after we have completed this task, so please take the opportunity to engage with the school in this process.

To do so please make contact directly with Bernadette May, who is collating the information, or email classplacements@stmartins.school.nz with information or to make an appointment. **Please remember this invitation is open until Friday 6 November.** We look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Rob Callaghan

Year 0 - 3 Reporting Conferences - Term Four

THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER AND TUESDAY 8TH DECEMBER FROM 3.30PM

Booking online - Website: www.schoolinterviews.co.nz Event Code: **TUMUC**

Bookings are open now and close on Friday 27th November at 2pm. Please follow the easy online instructions to make your booking. If you do not have internet access you can phone the school and a booking will be made for you. Phone (03) 332 6121 and ask for Bridget in the Library. Please phone between 8.45am and 9.30am.

A creche will run from the School Library from 3.30pm on both conference days. The creche is for other siblings you do not wish to take to the conferences.

The aim of the conference is to share and celebrate your child's achievement sensitively and help them set future learning goals and develop a sense of personal best. If you require more detailed information or wish to discuss sensitive issues please make another time to meet with your child's teacher outside the conferences dates.

Term Dates to Remember

October 29

Christchurch School Music

Festival rehearsal and performance.

November 9

Year 7/8 Science Fair

November 11

Zone Athletics

November 12

Year 5/6 Inquiry Sharing

November 13

Show Day - School closed

November 16

Cycle Safety starts for

Year 5/6 students

November 16

Itinerant Music Concert

November 16

Cycle Safety starts this

week for Year 6 students

November 17

Students v Teachers

Hockey Game

November 19-20

Science Roadshow in hall

December 1

Students v Teachers

Football Game

Student Achievement

Inter-Regional Cross Country 2015

Great effort from our St Martins runners who represented Canterbury last term. Year 5 girls Cara (19th) and Emily (24th) helped their team claim the silver and bronze medals.



Emily and Cara



Leila and Chloe

Canterbury dominated the Year 7 girls with Chloe (19th) and Leila (6th) helping claim the gold and bronze team medals. Well done girls!



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga
Inspiring a passion for learning

Smart Governance - What's the Board of Trustees been up to?

An extensive internal review has been done of the new collaborative teaching arrangements. The BoT was thrilled to watch a presentation of our teachers' reflections on the year to date, including the benefits, challenges, and next steps. The results were overwhelmingly positive - the collaborative learning environments are having a positive impact on teaching and learning at our school.

This year St Martins School had Ministry of Education funding to be part of a program called Mutukaroa. Mutukaroa is about working with families to understand how their child is progressing in learning in the first year at school. This program has proven to be very effective, with excellent feedback from parents and teachers. The BoT has agreed to fund this program for 2016.

Our master planning process has begun. We're working with architects and the Ministry of Education on the design for our school. There's a huge amount of planning to be done, with works scheduled to begin mid-late 2016.

Planning is underway for year end, and new year, activities for our students, staff, and our community.

Off the Shelf



Recently we had Zac McCullum from Christchurch City Libraries visit to talk to our Year 5/6 pupils. Zac recommended some of his favourite recent reads, many of which we have available via the Library. Amongst the titles he talked about was the wonderful new title from **David Walliams, Grandpa's Great Escape** linking into the war theme but with a very comical approach. **The Bad Guys** from the wonderful picture book author **Aaron Blabey** looks like a funny quick read and the **Timmy Failure** series (**Stephen Pastis**) should appeal to our Captain Underpants fans. If horror is more your genre of choice Zac recommended **Scream**, a series by **Jack Heath** akin to Goosebumps and on a totally different note he read us **Pirannah's Don't Eat Bananas**, again by the wonderful **Aaron Blabey**, if they don't eat Bananas what do they eat? Thanks so much Zac, we loved your visit!

School News

This is the time of year that as the weather warms up we spend more time outside. So it is also the time of year that we are more susceptible to getting sunburnt even on days we don't think it is too hot and sunny. For the next few newsletters until the end of the year we will have wee suggestions to remind us how to keep ourselves SunSmart!

Too much UV is not very groovy

Ultraviolet radiation is what makes our skin burn. It is especially harsh in New Zealand. Remember to cover up, seek shade, and wear sunscreen during the summer months.



Lay it on thick

If you have to be outdoors between the hours of 10am and 4pm, make sure you wear plenty of sunscreen - apply it thickly and evenly.



CALLING ALL OLD MOBILE PHONES

It's that time again to rummage around in your drawers and toy boxes and bring into St Martins School any unwanted mobile phones you may have at home.

It is estimated that each year up to three million phones become obsolete in New Zealand, of those only 2% are recycled. Phones collected help our school gain valuable rewards and the environment benefits as well, keeping our landfills free of

mobile phones and their array of hazardous toxic substances. Please drop any unwanted mobile phones you may have in the collection box in the School office.



LIBRARY BOOKS FOR SALE

When you are at the School Community Car Boot Sale on Saturday 21st November, why not have a look at the school library stall. Withdrawn library books will be available at amazing prices. So have a look through the books to find some of your old favourites.

WEETBIX KIDS TRYATHLON

Earlier this year St Martins School entered as a school group in the Weet-Bix Kids Tryathlon. This was a very successful event enjoyed by the children and their families. We have registered as a school again for the next Kids Tryathlon to be held on Sunday 13th March 2016 at Jellie Park. If you register with the school group there is a discounted price.

We had about 45 students entered at the last event so we are hoping to increase the numbers this time. More info to follow including registration information later next month. If you want to find out more now go to www.try.weetbix.co.nz



Community News

Hills Swing Set (blue) free if you come and pick it up. Approx 5 years old. The frame is still in good condition but you might want to replace the swing bits. It has a swing, a trapeze bar and a 2 seater swing. Phone Ruth 027 773 8594.



It is School Fair season - here is a list of local schools who are having fairs in the coming month.



St Marks School Fair - Saturday 31st October from 10am to 3pm
Rudolf Steiner School Fair - Saturday 7th November from 10am to 3pm
Thorington School Bootmarket - Saturday 28th November from 10am to 2pm

But of course the most important event is the **S'Mart Community Market Day on Saturday 21st November from 10am to 12 noon** - make sure you head along to be involved or support our school fundraiser event! For more information see the separate S'Mart Community newsletter.

Kids on Bikes - Community Event

McLeans Island Forest Park - Sunday November 1st from 10am to 3pm. Bike helmets, coaching and group leaders provided but you can bring your own bike and your friends!

Prizes and Giveaways plus sausage sizzle, bacon butties, hot drinks and ice creams available to purchase. For more info go to Facebook - KidsonbikesChCh



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.

Conservation Week - 1st to 8th November - Healthy Nature Healthy People

This year's focus for Conservation Week is Healthy Nature Healthy People and the target audience is families especially with children aged 3 - 13 years. Here are some events that you might like to attend.

Mt Thomas Family Picnic (bring the dog too!) on Sunday 1st November, 11am to 3pm at the Wooded Gully camping and picnic area, Mt Thomas Forest. Guided walks, displays, treasure hunt and lots of activities for children. Dogs are very welcome but keep them under tight control and clean up after them. Contact Sarah Ensor, Community Ranger, (03) 3130820 or waimakariri@doc.govt.nz

Mahinga Kai Exemplar planting day on Sunday 8th November, 10.30am to 1.30pm at Anzac Drive Reserve, Burwood. (access off Corserland Street). Come and help a local community group plant over 700 native plants at the Mahinga Kai Exemplar project. Lots of interactive displays, talks and a barbeque. Bring gumboots and a spade.

Contact avonotakaro@gmail.com www.facebook.com/AvONetwork

Tūhaitara Coastal Park Open Day at Woodend Beach on Sunday 8th November, 11am to 2pm. Stretching along the coast for 10.5 km, the park has a network of biking and walking tracks including a 1.5km track leading to the tranquil Tūtaepatu Lagoon with a bird watching platform. Around the Trust's visitor centre will be a range of activities, displays and information. It will be a fun beach carnival atmosphere with a live band, local kapa haka group performance and refreshments around Woodend Domain. For more information visit www.tuhaitarapark.org.nz

Supporting success in your school.

ASB will donate \$500 to participating schools for new home loans over \$150,000 taken out before 31 December 2015.

ASB's lending criteria, terms, conditions and fees may apply. 20% equity is required in the security property. You must be a parent, staff or member of the participating school. Other terms apply, [click here](#).