



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga
Inspiring a passion for learning



NEWSLETTER 18

12 November 2015

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

Summer is certainly on its way, and we need to be aware of the intensity of the sun, especially on those days when it shines unexpectedly. We ask parents to keep an eye on the daily forecast and apply lotion on those mornings which it is likely that the sun will be out. At school we do have emergency sunscreen, but it is advisable for children to have their own supply.

Teachers, and from time to time the office, will give reminders to children to apply lotion before breaks. It is important that children do wear their hats when outside. (Names on hats are most helpful also!)

In the next little while a new sunshade will be erected over the amphitheatre steps in the lower playground. We had expected this sooner but there have been some engineering issues. We believe these have been resolved and expect that one day soon the new shade will suddenly appear!

Thank you to the parents who took the time to provide information to assist us with the class placement process for 2016. This is now closed, and we have moved to the next stage of our process.

It is with regret that we inform you that Mr Tony and Mrs Gretel Roberts will not be returning in 2016. Tony and Gretel have decided to travel in Europe during the 2016 year. We acknowledge their amazing contribution to our senior school and wish them all the very best for their ‘travelling adventure’ next year. An appointments process is in place and as soon as the position is filled and notified it will be announced to the community. We expect that this will be by very early December.

St Martins School is now very close to being connected to the ‘Fibre Optic’ network. We are hoping that this will happen before the end of this year. This will certainly improve speed and also open the door for other exciting technological initiatives. It is very exciting for us. We will keep you well informed as things develop.

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

November 12

Year 5/6 Inquiry Sharing

November 13

Show Day - School closed

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

December 2

Canterbury Athletics

December 3

Year 0-3 Reporting

Conferences

December 4

Year 8 Graduation

December 8

Year 0-3 Reporting

Conferences

Student Achievement

The Christchurch Schools' Music Festival was held over three evenings from October 28th to October 30th. The school choir performed on Thursday 29th October while a group of very talented musicians played at each performance. These six students were **Amy (Oboe) and Jake (Clarinet), both in the Concert Band, while Jonas, Leila, Orla (all on violin), Daniel (Cello) and Amy (Oboe) were in the Symphony Orchestra.** Amy who was in both Concert band and Symphony Orchestra was also a section leader. These six students had to audition for these positions and practiced in the weekends and school holidays. These talented musicians show that their hard work and dedication was well worth the effort. Congratulations! Well done to the St Martins School Choir for their wonderful efforts - you were all amazing!



Orla, Jake, Amy, Leila and Jonas



Daniel



Louis, who is a Year 7 student in Room 22 was a competitor in the **'Top of the South Taekwondo Championships'** He won a Gold and two Silver medals and is currently training for his Black Belt. Well done Louis on this amazing achievement!

St Martins School Student Council, Ms McGowan and some other students wanted to get involved in the **SPCA cupcake day.**

Between them they made \$772.60 from the cupcakes they made. The total amount raised nationwide was \$383,372.40. Lauren met with Shelby who works for SPCA to hand over the cheque. Lauren then got to meet all the animals that SPCA care for until they find a forever home.



Students practiced **Heart** event. They set friends to sponsor them those goals.

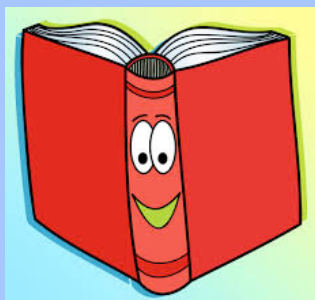
St Martins School raised this great cause so well support. A special following students who received a prize for their efforts. **Chloe Archibald Room 5 (\$170.00), Dominic Croucher Room 8 (\$120.00), Liam Harrison Room 16 (\$80.00), and Amy Clough Room 23, Nico Perry Room 14 and Brooklyn Allan Room 4. (All raised \$60.00 each).** Amazing!



hard for the **Jump Rope for** goals and got family and as they set out to achieve

a huge amount of \$2234.00 for done to everyone for your mention needs to go to the raised the largest amounts and

Off the Shelf



It's hard to believe that it's that time of the year again - that time when we stop lending books in order to get our stock check done - but it's here, this is our last week of borrowing! All books currently on loan to students will be due back in 2 weeks, with the final date for returns being 27th November. On a more positive note, we have a new version of Access-it (our Library catalogue) to update to later this term - a visually attractive version with a dashboard for users to easily navigate reservations, renewals etc. Much more straightforward to use and a clearer display, we will be introducing all students to it next term, but you will be able to take a look at home later this term. We're excited and hope you will be too.

School News

The Young Writers Group (Year 7 and 8 students) went to **Plains FM** on Wednesday 4th November to record the radio play that they wrote in Week 1. The play is hilarious and there is even a character named Mr Callaghan! Plains FM is going to work on adding sound effects and in about two weeks the play will be broadcast for all to hear. We will let you know when this will be broadcast.



Last Wednesday, **40 extension Year 7/8 Performing Arts students** performed for our local preschools.

Our dance crew performed two dance pieces that they have choreographed themselves. Our **EPAC (Extension Performing Arts Company)** performed a 25 minute performance piece around nursery rhymes. The students performed for over 60 preschool friends, teachers



and parents/caregivers, over two performances. The students also performed for the school twice. We are so proud of our extension Performing Arts students. They work tirelessly to devise and produce quality performing arts work and performance pieces. We look forward to making this Preschool performance a regular fixture in our school calendar, as it is an awesome way to foster links between preschools and St Martins School, as well as it is being a great way to give back to our community. The Performing Arts are very much alive and well at St Martins School.

EXCITING NEWS FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS AND ST MARTINS SCHOOL!!

Our Year 7/8 Extension Dance crew have been selected to perform at **Christchurch Airport's "12 schools of Christmas"** promotion. We have been given the amazing opportunity for our Extension Dance Crew to share what they do best at St Martins School in the Performing Arts, to thousands of travellers at our local airport!!

On **Wednesday 2nd December**, our dance crew students will be performing **at 12.30pm**. They will be dancing two of their devised choreographed pieces.

Alongside this mega exciting performance, we have been given an opportunity to decorate a large Christmas Tree - this will also be on display at the airport! A team of beautiful Room 8 and 9 students are working alongside Ms Dempster to create this masterpiece.

The school also gets an early Christmas present of \$1000!!! for their involvement in this promotion.

We are so excited and so proud to be part of this promotion - and being able to share our amazing Performing Arts students, with the many travellers that move through the Christchurch airport!

Trudy Rowe and Amy Kenel

School News



Congratulations to the St Martins Jump Jam Team who competed in the National Competition on Friday 6th November at St Margaret's College. They had worked hard in preparation and were all super excited, but found some 'Zen' moments in the Green Room. The team can be very proud of their accomplishments receiving certificates for both Technical Precision and Presentation. Well done!

The annual Itinerant Music concert is to be held in the school hall this coming **Monday 16 November**. It will start at **6.30pm** and conclude before 8.00pm. This is an opportunity for our Itinerant students to showcase their talents. The school community is welcome to attend. If you require any further information regarding lessons for 2016 please contact Diane in the school office.



The Rearrangement Puzzle

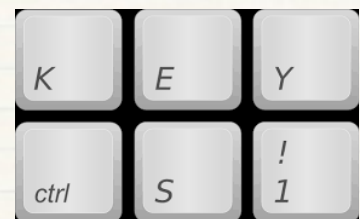
Mr Roberts runs a Maths Club and set the following puzzle to be solved. This was solved by Max Croucher (Year 8 student) in under 5 minutes complete with proof and no calculator needed. So as not to spoil the problem for the readers Max will provide the answer and proof in the next newsletter.

The number 1,525,354,555,657,585,950 is, as it happens, evenly divisible by 99. Fix all the 5s digits where they are in the number, and rearrange the other digits randomly. What is the chance that a rearrangement of this form is still evenly divisible by 99?



The term dates are being confirmed for the 2016 School Year. We can advise you that school will start back on **Monday 1st February 2016**. We are still finalising our end date. This will be on or after Thursday 15th December, and we will be able to confirm this once any Teacher Development training is confirmed.

Do you have any old PC keyboards that you no longer use and are happy to **donate to the school library**? Our creative librarian, Bridget Hayes, has a cunning plan to use the keys from the keyboards in the library next year. Please drop old PC keyboards into the library - if the library is closed then pop them into the school office.



There's strength in numbers

There's a reason for the numbers on your sunscreen. They tell you how much protection the sunscreen gives you from the sun damage. The bigger the number, the more protection. The Cancer Society recommends SPF 30.



Plenty of cloud?

Even on a cloudy day, UV radiation is all around you. Light cloud in a blue sky can even make sunburn worse as the UV radiation reflects off the clouds. Remember to cover up, seek shade and wear sunscreen when outdoors.