



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga
Inspiring a passion for learning



NEWSLETTER 4

24 March 2016

“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

Parking issues and dangerous manoeuvres outside St Martins School have been the talk of the week following the article in The Press over the weekend. We are situated in an area that makes ‘close-parking’ difficult, yet each day there are plenty of examples of inconsiderate behaviours that make it dangerous also!

As a school we do send out reminders about safe and courteous behaviours we would hope to see modelled to our children, but a small few continue to break the law and make before and after school entry to the school potentially hazardous.

Following the article the City Council’s Senior Parking Compliance Officer has made contact to discuss what can be done to address these issues. We do know that we can expect frequent, spontaneous visits to observe and enforce illegal behaviours. More importantly we will be hoping that some longer term solutions to these issues can be worked out.

In the meantime we are relying on **ALL** adults who drop off or collect children from St Martins School to act respectfully, safely and legally. This is **OUR** community issue and it really is our responsibility to manage it for the well being of our children.

We are thrilled to announce that ‘The Homework Club’ before and after school care service will be operating from the school hall each afternoon from the start of Term 2, Monday 2nd May. We believe this is a positive move that will benefit our children and families both from a convenience and safety perspective.

It was a great night on Tuesday at the S’Mart Community AGM. I had an opportunity to share some design concepts and possibilities for the rebuild as they stand at the moment. It was fantastic that we had parents with various forms of expertise offering their support to the Board of Trustees as they move through the design process.

There were also many questions about Collaborative Teaching and how it is working at St Martins. We have previously offered ‘tours’ for groups to see our school in action from the Year 0 to Year 8 syndicates during core learning times. We will continue to offer this to all interested parents and caregivers. If you would like to look at what is happening in our school please email Michele on micheles@stmartins.school.nz . It would be helpful if you could advise what days would suit you best. Parents who have taken up this offer previously have found it a worthwhile experience.

Kind regards
Rob Callaghan



Have a wonderful Easter break - school is closed on the following days:

Friday 25th March, Monday 28th March AND Tuesday 29th March.

Term Dates to Remember

March 25

Good Friday - School

closed for the Easter break

March 28

Easter Monday - School

closed

March 29

Easter Tuesday - School

closed

April 5

School Duathlon

April 7

Canterbury Swimming

April 7

Year 0 - 3 Conferences

3.30pm to 6pm

April 12

Duathlon postponement

date if required

April 12

Year 0 - 3 conferences

3.30pm to 6pm

April 15

Last day of Term 1 - school

ends at 3pm.

May 2

Start of Term 2

Smart Governance - News from the BoT



Key happenings at our recent meeting:

- We welcomed Karaitiana Taiuru as Whānau Group representative in an official Māori handover ceremony. We also farewelled outgoing representative Mike Gibbs. Thank you Mike for the commitment you've shown to our whānau and wider St Martins community.
- We reviewed our student achievement data - we have the data to analyse how our students are doing in key subjects areas for the year, and compare that against previous years. We are pleased to see consistent improvement across all levels of the school and curriculum. You can feel assured that there are solid plans in place to respond to the individual learning needs of all students, to ensure all students are progressing well and achieving their personal best.
- Remember that the Board of Trustees elections are coming up! If you are interested in finding out more, please come along for a cuppa and meet us on either Thursday March 31 at 8.45am or Tuesday April 5 at 6pm in the Staff Room. (You can stay on for the Board meeting on the 5th if you wish)
- We've had an excellent response to the survey (203 responses!) and look forward to sharing the results with you in due course and start planning for 2017.

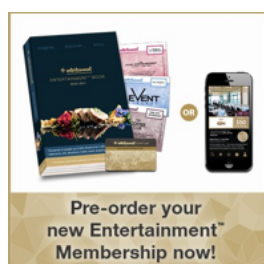
School Notices

St Martins School has two teams entering the Canterbury Lit Quiz on Wednesday March 30th at Cobham Intermediate School. Louie Howell, Orla Dunlop, Rose Opie, Lachlan Stewart, Cora Scott, Jessica Fastier, Jake van Keulen, Evie Boyd, Grace Opie and Dominic Muller have been training each week by reading heaps of books and researching particular genre. They have impressed Ms Saxon and Mrs Hayes with their commitment. Good luck for your big event teams, you rock!



Entertainment Book Fundraiser

Order forms are being sent home soon or you can order online now via the following link: <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/134177w> Digital and print versions, or books for other areas of NZ available too. The link can also be found on the school website under 'Latest News'. \$65.00 per book with \$13.00 profit going to school.



S'Mart Community Social - Put it in your diary!
Ladies Night Friday 15 April at Brickworks from 7:30PM
(Last day of term - come and celebrate that we made it through!)

Since the earthquakes St Martins School has been fortunate to have access to a range of supports that it can use to support children and families when there are emotional or financial hardships. Where we can help we will and where we are unable to help we can usually find someone who can. Confidentiality is assured. Contact Rob Callaghan, Principal or Bernadette May, Deputy Principal.

Off the Shelf



Woo hoo - our new library catalogue (OPAC) is now up and running, a link will be available via the school website and class blogs very soon, we just need to renew some of the news items, book promotions etc. After Easter we'll introduce the children to the new interface and show them how very easy it is to keep track of their loans, place and trace reservations etc. Over the last 6 months or so we've also started to add value to the OPAC by cataloguing websites with links directly to them and also supplementing some title records with relevant websites covering the same subject as the book. This will all be shown to the children, so get them to teach you.... a great way for them to learn.

Student Achievements

The Canterbury Children Athletics Association 2016 Championships were held on March 12-13 at Aorangi Park in Timaru. Well done to the following Port Hills Athletics Club members from St Martins School who competed: **Torian Barnes, Jenna Davison, Leila Dunlop, Orla Dunlop, Tristan Dunlop, Grace Howell, Louie Howell, Leah Jones, Emily Jones, Ben Waldron and Holly Waldron.** The following students placed in the top 10 of a track final or field event.

- Leah Jones:** Girls Grade 7 - 60m - 7th, 100m - 5th, 200m - 2nd.
Orla Dunlop: Girls Grade 9 - 200m - 8th, Long Jump - 4th.
Jenna Davison: Girls Grade 10 - 100m - 2nd, 200m - 6th, 400m - 9th, Long Jump - 9th, 4x100 Relay Team - 2nd
Emily Jones: Girls Grade 10 - 800m - 10th, 1500m - 7th.
Holly Waldron: Girls Grade 11 - 4x100m Relay Team - 3rd.
Leila Dunlop: Girls grade 12 - 400m - 8th, 800, - 3rd, 1500m - 3rd.
Ben Waldron: Boys Grade 9 - 4x100m relay Team - 2nd, Long Jump - 5th, Discus - 5th.
Torian Barnes: Boys Grade 12 - 200m - 8th, Hurdles - 4th, 4x100m Relay Team - 1st, Shot Put - 10th, Discus - 8th
Louie Howell: Boys Grade 12 - 800m - 1st

Leah Jones and Jenna Davison were selected to represent Canterbury against Tasman, Otago and Southland at the 995 meeting (Grades 7-11) on March 20th. Here are their results:

- Leah Jones:** Girls Grade 7 - 100m - 5th, 200m - 4th, 4x100m relay Team - 2nd
Jenna Davison: Girls Grade 9 - 100m - 3rd, 200m - 4th, Long Jump - 4th, 4x100m Relay Team - 1st



Well done to all competitors and a special note to Leah and Jenna for doing so well in the Canterbury team!



Weetbix Tryathlon 2016

What an amazing day a group of our students had at the 2016 Weetbix Tryathlon! Thanks to the S'Mart Committee team who supplied funds for our BBQ. Also great news - we won a prize! 15 free entries for the Tryathlon next year. Well done to all involved, from students to parents alike.

School Lunches - have your say!

Subway lunches have been available on a Wednesday and Friday for some years now. We have been approached on occasion by parents wondering if there were alternatives that we could explore as a possible 'upgrade' to our lunch system.

A company called Lunch Online is already being used very successfully by some local schools with Sydenham Bakery being the supplier. Lunches are ordered online by parents and delivered to the school in time for children to collect at lunchtime.

Please look at their website and see what you think. They have a variety of food from filled rolls, sandwiches, pies, sushi, fruit and sweet treats. As a school we can then decide if we want all or just some of the options available and what days we would have this service available - at this stage we see no reason to change the Wednesday and Friday system.

The website is www.lunchonline.co.nz We would be interested to hear your views - email Michele on micheles@stmartins.school.nz with your comments.

Student Contributions

We have a wonderful selection of poems from Room 22 and 23, two Year 3 and 4 classes, all with delightful animal themes.

My Cat

Sharp claws scratching,
Cute body itching,
Fast legs galloping,
Slobbery tongue licking,
Fluffy stomach purring,
Furry body itching,
Floppy ears drooping down,
Big mouth biting,
Big eyes staring,
My cat.

George Johnson Year 4, Room 23



My Cat

Pointy ears listening,
Swift feet scattering,
Soft body jogging,
Fluffy tail wagging,
Wet nose sniffing,
Little legs jumping,
Best friend cuddling,
My cat.

Ezra Frew Year 3, Room 22



My Tiger

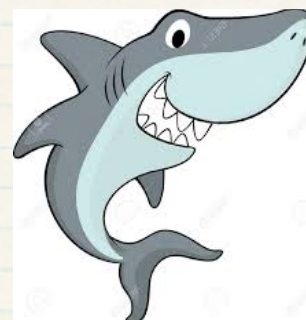
Soft legs running,
Button nose sniffing,
Giant paws pounding,
White teeth shimmering,
Long tail wagging,
Big teeth munching,
Stripy face glistening,
Silky fur shining,
Big mouth dribbling,
Loud roar amazing,
Pink tongue flapping,
Black nose watering,
Giant face amazing,
Giant paws running,
My tiger.

Eva Lukes Year 3, Room 23

My Shark

Pointy fin waving,
Gleaming eyes staring,
Smooth nose whacking,
Big tail waving,
Thin jaws snapping
Like a chainsaw biting.
Huge mouth biting,
Sharp teeth crunching,
My shark.

Caleb Thorburn Year 4, Room 23



My Lion

Golden coat shining,
Long legs pouncing,
Big legs moving,
Black nose sniffing, Enormous mouth opening,
Long mane shining,
Big, pink tongue flapping,
Big tummy rumbling,
Brown eyes shining,
Long legs moving, Big face roaring,
Strong legs running,
My Lion

Taylah Russ Year 3, Room 22

