



**St Martins School**

*Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga*  
Inspiring a passion for learning



## NEWSLETTER 7

19 May 2016

### **“INSPIRING A PASSION FOR LEARNING”**

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone.

Over the past little while there has been concern about parking and dangerous behaviours by drivers before and after school. The issue of course is much wider.

In the space of one hour in the morning and 40 minutes in the afternoon we have a minimum of 550 adults and students trying to get into or out of a very small space at St Martins School. We have to do this so we should think about doing it in a safe way.

If you do have to drop children off by car then here are some things to think about:

- Plan to be on time to avoid potential congestion.
- Find a place that you know is less congested so your children can walk the rest of the distance to school. Practicing at the weekend could be a good idea.
- Think about car pooling. That way children can walk from one vehicle in a group safely.

If your children walk, cycle or scooter to school:

- Have a pre-determined route and identify any potential hazards they may encounter (hidden driveways, unsafe areas to cross etc). Practicing on the weekend is recommended.
- Organise for your children to walk, cycle or scooter with a friend or walk with them yourself.
- If your children are going to walk, cycle or scooter to school make sure they know the route to travel and again it is best that it is a public route and if possible for children to walk with someone else.

To support this practice Jenny Wood, our Road Safety co-ordinator, would love to hear from any parents who would like to lead a scooter train or walking bus. Please contact Jenny via email:

[jennyw@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:jennyw@stmartins.school.nz)

Much of this comes down to being prepared - planning well and being prepared for contingencies if you can't find an immediate park. Ultimately this is about your children's safety.

Last night St Martins School participated in Stage Challenge at Horncastle Arena. The Year 7 and 8 students involved along with Performing Arts teachers Trudy Rowe, Amy Kenel and Helen Murray had put a lot of work into the choreography to tell their story. There were many practices at school and then at the arena and this showed in the amazing way they all performed on the night. The lighting for the performance topped off a wonderful visual display. (See later in the newsletter for an item about the lighting team).

It is my completely unbiased view that the St Martins School performance stole the show and we look forward to many more wonderful performances from our talented students with the guidance of our fantastic Performing Arts team.

Kind regards  
Rob Callaghan

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***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.***

## Term Dates to Remember

**May 11 to May 23**

Life Education Van at school for duration

**May 27**

Teacher Only Day - school closed for instruction

**1-3 June**

Book Fair in Library

**6 June**

Queen's Birthday holiday

**22 June**

Canterbury Cross Country

**24 June**

School Disco

Juniors 5.30pm - 7pm

Seniors 7.30pm - 9pm

**28 June**

South Music Festival

**30 June**

Year 0 to 8 Reporting

Conferences from 3.30pm

**5 July**

Year 0 to 8 Reporting

Conferences.

School closes at 12.30pm

for all students.

**8 July**

Last Day of Term 2

## School Notices

### Smart Governance - News from the BoT

- At our recently meeting we were thrilled to receive a presentation by Sam, Cara, Jess, and Grace from Room 8/9 about the Engineering projects they're working on as part of the "Neighbourhood Engineers Awards". We were very impressed by their creativity, problem solving, and presentation skills and look forward to seeing their projects develop.
- It was the last meeting for two of our Board members: Deirdre Richardson (6 years on the Board) and Richard Boon (3 years on the Board). Deirdre and Richard have been valued members of our Board and we will miss them.
- By now all families should have received nomination forms for the upcoming Board of Trustees election in the mail. We look forward to having two new parent representatives on our Board. It's an exciting time to be involved and have a real opportunity to make a positive difference for our school community. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.



A huge thank you to Megan and Carl Cozzone from Green Melon Photography for taking photos for the school website. We appreciate you both taking time out of your busy days to come and help the school to update our look!

**A reminder that on Friday 27th May school will be closed for the day due to a Teacher Only Day while staff undertake Professional Development.**



### Student Led Conferences

The next round of conferences will be held near the end of Term 2. On Thursday 30th June there will be Reporting Conferences for some Year 0-3 students (check with your class teacher if your child is having one) and Interim Reporting Conferences for all Year 4-8 students. These will also be held on **Tuesday 5th July and school will close at lunchtime** (12.30pm) on this day so some appointments can be held in the afternoon. Online bookings are open until Friday 29th June. Go to the School Interview website [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz) and use the code **za4w6**. Otherwise contact Bridget in the library or Michele in the office to make a booking for you.

### Parent Reading Programme

Parents or grandparents, if you have a spare hour per week would you consider helping with our reading programme? We have some wonderful volunteers already working one to one with children who need extra practice with their reading. If you are able to commit to one hour (between 9am and 10am) per week, I would love to hear from you. Please phone the school office with your contact details and I will be in touch. Thank you. Cate van Leuven - Reading Recovery Teacher.

# Off the Shelf



We're VERY excited to be heading up to Wellington this weekend for the NZ finals of the Kids' Lit Quiz and we have everything crossed for Orla, Rosa, Louie and Lachlan, we know you'll do us proud. (Did you see the article in the Press about the team?)

We were also excited last week to take 30 Year 3 and 4's to hear Liz Pichon, author of the Tom Gates books, speak - she told us about where she gets her inspiration, how she creates her monsters and how she doodles her way through the Tom Gates books, helping the children achieve some wonderful "Pichonesque" artwork of their own! Her tips for writing were: think of an idea, put pen to paper and write, making sure you finish your story, then read it out loud before you EDIT, EDIT EDIT!

## School Notices

**Trackpants are available** in the school office for \$10.00. These are navy taslon track pants, lined and with side zips. Great for sports, gardening or just getting out and about. There are a few size S and more in size M and L. Please note these are adult sizes so would suit older children and adults. If you would like to purchase some see Diane in the office.

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### School Talent Show

#### Dear Parents, Caregivers and Students.

On Monday 23rd May we are going to be holding a Talent Show in the hall at lunchtime for Year 3 to 8 students. We have got enough people to perform but we would love anyone who is keen, to be an audience member for our amazing performers. It will be a gold coin to come and watch. All funds we raise will go directly to World Vision so they can help the refugees.

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### Setting up the lighting at Horncastle Arena.

On Monday 16th May (the day before the Stage Challenge performance) John Doyle-Sims, Ruairi Boyd, Bruno Clausen, Adam Kennedy and Mrs Rowe went to the Horncastle Arena to set-up the lighting for Stage Challenge the next day. We as a group went into the hallway past several rooms with people working in them. Then we went into a room ourselves, in the room there was a big board with lots of buttons on it on the top half of the board there was a screen on it. On the screen were a lot of squares and on the squares they had words like stage wash, gobos and cycloramas, it was like a completely different language, one we knew but only more complicated. There was a big screen on the wall opposite us and it looked like a stage with several people on it.



We started with things like stage wash and then we got on to the gobos (gobos are bigger than spotlights, you can have them in several patterns and they can move in sync) and then spotlights. John liked the animation tool the most, Bruno liked the variety of lights the most, Adam liked the control board and Ruairi liked the character imitation.

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### Sonnet 56 - Jessica Hickling Room 8

The solitary leaf eddies to the frozen ground  
Leaving a skeleton of dismay  
Cowering from the cold.

The shrivelling boughs that once held sweet choirs  
Now stand silent  
Glistening with dew  
As a final shrill call echoes over the horizon

Shadows dance  
As twilight arrives  
Pale silhouettes engulf the land  
Begging for mercy  
But the dark lord of Autumn never forgives  
Behold the birth of Autumn.





# Community News

## Film Set Albert Terrace

Some of you will have noticed recent activity on the Mt Vernon Park land at the end of Albert Terrace. A film set is being built on the flat land before the gorge. Former Christchurch woman Emily Corcoran, who now lives and works in London, has written and is producing "The Stolen", a film set in the 1860s (See the May 7 Your Weekend section of The Press). The set will represent an early West Coast gold mining settlement, so there will be facades of building, campsites, mud etc. The interiors for the movie are being shot at Ferrymead.

The film crew are likely to be there until early July, and public access along the track will be maintained as much as possible. However there will be times, especially when they are shooting, that access will be closed. They have said that closures won't happen at weekends.

As the set develops it should create a lot of local interest.

Howard Keene - Mt Vernon Park Management Committee Chairman.

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## Mobile Phone Appeal has a new Charity

St Martins School is still collecting old mobile phones and you can drop them into the school office but the charity has now changed to Sustainable Coastlines. Their mission is "Enabling people to look after coastlines and waterways they love" Here is a bit more about them.

*"We love our coasts and we work with our sleeves rolled up to keep them beautiful. We coordinate and support large-scale coastal clean-up events, educational programmes, public awareness campaigns and riparian planting projects. We also help group run their own events. Through these efforts we motivate volunteers and communities around Aotearoa and the Pacific to look after the beaches and rivers we love."*

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## Cashmere Netball Club - Looking for Year 6, 7 and 8 players.

Would you like to give netball go this year? It is not too late to join our club for the winter season. If you are a Year 6, 7 or 8 student and would like to play netball, please email us at

[cashmerenetball@hotmail.com](mailto:cashmerenetball@hotmail.com) We are a family friendly club and welcome players of all ages and abilities. For more information please go to our website, [www.sporty.co.nz/cashmerenc](http://www.sporty.co.nz/cashmerenc) or Facebook page, search for Cashmere Netball Club.

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**It is High School Open Day season so here is a list of schools who have informed us of when they will be open to view. If the school you are interested in is not listed here please contact them directly for details.**

## Cashmere High School Open Day

Tuesday 24th May from 4pm to 6.30pm. The Principal, Mark Wilson, will address visitors in the school's Performing Arts Centre (PAC) at 4pm and again at 5pm. Guided school tours will then be available at 4.30pm and 5.30pm

Prospectus, enrolment and scholarship forms available from school or [www.cashmere.school.nz](http://www.cashmere.school.nz)

## Shirley Boys' High School Open Days

Community Open Night Thursday 26th May 6.30pm to 8.30pm starting in Assembly Hall

CV Gallagher Trust Scholarship Exam Thursday 9th June 1pm to 3pm in Assembly Hall.

[www.shirley.school.nz](http://www.shirley.school.nz) ph 37507057

## Steiner School Open Night

You are invited to the Steiner School Open Night on June 2 from 6pm to 8pm. Only a few places in Year 9 for 2017. 19 Ombersley Terrace, Opawa. Phone 337 0514 for more details.

## Avonside Girls' High School Open Evening

Tuesday 31 May from 5pm to 7pm starting in the Gymnasium at 5pm. Come and hear about the plans for our brand new state of the art school, opening at the beginning of 2019.

## Ao Tawhiti Unlimited Discovery Open Night

Wednesday June 1st from 6pm to 8pm. This will be held at the Unlimited Campus at the Wairarapa Block, University of Canterbury, Cnr Parkstone Ave and Oak Drive. [unlimited@aotawhiti.school.nz](mailto:unlimited@aotawhiti.school.nz)