

Newsletter 6

12 April 2018

Inspiring a passion for Learning

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

With Term 1 coming to an end it is exciting to announce that Hann Construction have been selected to build our new school. The Ministry of Education will finalise the contract over the next few days. Provided everything goes to plan, and we expect it to do so as Council consents have been approved, then the site 'safety fencing' will be erected during the second week of the school holidays. So while it is very exciting it does mean that with the holidays happening you will need to keep a very close eye on our school website and watch out for special School Links news notes providing you with important information.

This information will hopefully help ensure that drop off in the mornings and pick up in the afternoons can happen smoothly. Be prepared to NOT get a park close by the school. Our school car parking will be compromised and so there will be extra pressure on street spaces. Once you have been notified it would be a great idea to drive or walk by the school so that you can show your children the best way to enter the school, using the directions we will send out to you. Right through this build process, it will be important to attend to school emails, check our school website and expect emergency texts when something especially important is to happen. We will endeavour to provide timely and clear communications to you throughout the build process, and we will be happy to receive feedback also.

The Homework Club will still be operating during the rebuild and we strongly recommend that if your children arrive early that this service is utilised. For Health and Safety reasons we will be asking that children do not enter the school site proper before 8.15am. Our school gates will be closed at 3.30pm and until further notice, because of the expected increase of work vehicles after school, (there will be significant traffic restrictions prior to the school bell and immediately after school from the work site) but our access ways have the potential to be more risky after 3.30pm. Consequently, until we can be confident about safety, the upper Junior School playground will be closed from 3.30pm.

We ask that you work with us while we establish what is safe and reasonable and hope that you understand our cautious approach to the safety of our children. With so much unknown we intend to be 'super safe' rather than 'very sorry'!

So exciting times ahead for St Martins School. Keep an eye on your emails, the website and watch for special text alerts from the school. Enjoy the holiday break with your children and be ready for the adventure of our new school build.

Kind regards Rob Callaghan Principal

Off the Shelf - News from the Library



This term we've been showing many classes how to use our 24 hour library catalogue that is how to use the web app both from school and home. From here they can see what books we have, manage their borrowing and reserving, keep up to date about what's happening in the Library and book world, use quick links to relevant websites and search our online encyclopaedias. Save a link to the <u>web app</u> so they, and you, have it for quick reference - there's even a video on the front page as to how to use it. While there take a look at the quick lists, our parent collection is listed there with books you may like to borrow plus on the front page find an interesting <u>blog post</u> about the place of "fun" reading for children - enabling them to become lost in a book

Student Achievement

Wednesday 14th March saw 2 teams of Year 6-8 children involved in the Canterbury heats of the Kids'Lit Quiz - the sport of reading. They competed in the second largest regional heat in world with 62 teams and had to answer 100 tricky questions from a range of reading - comics to classics, popular to picture books - all without a reading list!! One team with Orla, Jessica, Hugh and Grace came a very respectable 5th, only 5 points behind the winners and our other team of Rose, Jenna, Mya and Tristan were 17th. All round a fantastic result, congratulations to you all - you worked hard!





Four students from St Martins School, Jimmy and Emma who are Year 8 students and Katie and Elsie who are Year 5 students, competed in the Huxster Mountain Bike race at McLeans Island on Wednesday 4th April. It was a relay event over 3 hours and teams had to see how many laps they could do in the allotted time. Jimmy and Emma were 2nd in the mixed event and Katie and Elsie were 4th in their event. What a fantastic result for all of you well done!

High School Open Days

St Margaret's College, Christchurch, Open Day - Friday 11 May 2018 Time: 10:30am to 1:00pm Principal's Address: 11:45am featuring current principal, Gillian Simpson, and incoming principal, Diana Patchett For those looking at boarding options, we have an SMC Boarders' Sleepover on Friday 11 May at 4:30pm to 10:00am on Saturday 12 May. Pre-registration for this is required by emailing <u>lizzie.d@stmargarets.school.nz</u>

Shirley Boys' High School Parent Information Evenings - Meet Headmaster John Laurenson for an informal chat over a cup of tea or coffee. Monday 7th to Thursday 10th May 6pm to 7.30pm. SBHS Spartans Room (PE Block, entrance off North Parade)

Community Open Night Thursday 24th May 6.30pm to 8.30pm Commencing in the Assembly Hall. Website: www.shirley.school.nz Email: office@shirley.school.nz Phone: 375 7057

School notices

In the Performing Arts this term, we have been inquiring into what does it take to be the best performer that I want to be?

We have been reflecting on our work as a performing arts learners, as we have been working in Process Drama together.

Year 0-2 students have been exploring into the mythology of Kupe and the Giant Wheke and have devised their own performance pieces with the myth of Te Ika a Maui - The Fish of Maui.

Year 3-4 students have been exploring into the mythology of Lake Wakatipu and have devised their own performance pieces with the myth of Maui raua ko Mauhikia - Maui and the Fingers of Fire.

Year 5-6 students have been exploring into devising stunning and emotive works associated with the Wahine Disaster, which commemorated its 50th year anniversary this week.

The Year 7/8 students have worked as student directors and have experienced first hand what it is like to be a director, exploring issues such as No nuclear testing in the Pacific.

We will continue this inquiry throughout the year and see what we learn about ourselves and others as performing artists.

Next term.....Dance! Woooooo!!

Miss Rowe :)

HOD Performing Arts and Publicity.

Senior Students Uniform deal! With the wintry weather upon us what would be better than a soft and warm senior scarf to keep you cosy and warm? Top it off with a Senior Badge for the perfect look for a Year 7 and 8 student. You can buy these separately at \$20 for the scarf and \$12 for the badge - but for a limited time, and with limited stock, you can purchase both together for the crazy price of \$27!! See Diane and Rachel in the office to take up this great offer.



S'Mart Community Notices



Coffee Morning Catch up and Second Hand Uniform Sale. Final secondhand uniform sale and coffee morning for the term is on this Friday 13 April!

Come along to the school hall at 9 am for a cuppa and chat, and grab a bargain while you're there (cash only). See you then!

Community Notices

AquaGym 459 Cashel St Ph:381- 0299 Learn to Swim

& Coaching

Book now for April Holiday Courses <u>& Term 2.</u>

Leaders in Aquatic Education



Our Year 0 to 4 students had a lot of fun during the Small Sticks programme at school run by **Southern United Hickey Club**. If your child wants to look at playing hockey for a club then why not check out this club. <u>www.suhc.co.nz</u> Their home turf is Sydenham Park. You can also email junior@suhc.co.nz or phone Bernie 021-0616-614

Speak Spanish - Spanish Language School offers Spanish Clubs in primary schools. Children learn Spanish in a fun and relaxed way focused on a topic: games, crafts, roleplays, songs are used to teach children. We are looking at the possible option of starting up a lunchtime session at St Martins School on Mondays.

Contact us if you are interested. We are starting our classes in Term 2 (\$15 per session - \$120 8 sessions) it's a great opportunity to experience learning a language! Email us at <u>info@speakspanish.co.nz</u> to enrol sending your children's details.



13th April Last day of Term 1 we wish you and your family a wonderful holiday break - see you next term!

30th April

Term Two starts back - we look forward to seeing you all. A very exciting term as our rebuild begins! **14 May** Year 0 to 4 Water Safety Week begins

15/16 May School Cross Country for Year 3-8. 17 May

Winter sports begin for the Year 5 to 8 syndicates.