



St Martins School

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



Newsletter 2

7 March 2019

## Inspiring a passion for Learning

### Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

It is hard to believe that we are already in March and that our first term is almost halfway through! The new build is also progressing well, which is a good thing because we expect the building to be handed over in about 7 weeks. (Actually the last 2 days of the school holidays - all going to plan!) Inside the building the wall linings, painting and detailing are progressing well and the spaces are now really starting to feel warm and inviting.

The Board is currently working with the Ministry of Education and the landscape architects to determine what works can be completed within the timeframe but also within the very minimal budget provided. It is highly likely that much of the cost of these works will fall back on the school to fund and complete.

We are now preparing for the shift which will also affect the Administration area of the school. When the 8 classrooms in the two storey block are closed for renovation, the staffroom and admin block will be closed too. This means that the principal, deputy principal and all office staff will be temporarily relocated to the 'new library' area until the end of the year. It is not ideal, but we will make the very best of it.

We do expect that there may be a few hiccups while we navigate through the unknown. If there are things like uniforms, enrolments or other 'office related' business that you know of it would be helpful to take care of it before the end of Term 1 as we anticipate Week 1 of Term 2 may be somewhat frantic as we set up in the new space. We are, however, very excited about our new buildings.

**Gate closures** - please be aware that we have a student in our school, Mitchell, whose photo is displayed on some gates at the entrance to the school. To ensure Mitchell's safety we need the gates to remain closed. Could parents please refraining from retaining the gates in an open position as this presents risks to this child.

Please see later in this newsletter reminders about the NZEI Union Meeting on 20th March which affects school closing times and the Teacher Only Day on March 25th.

Yours sincerely

Rob Callaghan  
Principal

## From the Board of Trustees

Kia ora koutou,

Well what an exciting year we have ahead of us as we prepare to move into our wonderful new building in Term 2. The St Martins Board of Trustees and the management and staff are working hard to ensure this goes smoothly and we will update the community with any information as it comes to hand. One thing I want to highlight this term is thinking about standing as a Board Member yourself. It's a very enriching opportunity to be involved with the strategic direction of the school and can be a very useful experience if you are looking to broaden your skill base and understanding of how schools work and the issues they face. One way to decide if it is something you would like to do, is to come to one of our upcoming Board meetings which are held once a month in the school staff room. The next one is on March 19th starting at 6pm, the one after that is on April 9th also at 6pm. Please let Board Secretary, Michele Stephens in the school office know if you are interested in attending. There are also fantastic resources on the New Zealand School Trustees Association website [www.nzsta.org.nz](http://www.nzsta.org.nz)

Noho ora mai

Jo Malcolm

Chairperson - St Martins BOT



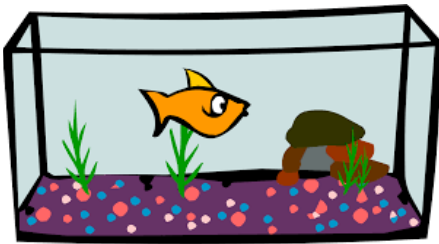
## Off the Shelf - News from the Library

Have you had an opportunity to take a look at our [web app](#)? The Library's gateway for the children and of course their families. Here you can keep up to date with bookish and literary news and events, competitions being run from the Library, see what's new in stock plus much more as it arises. On the front page are also links directly to Britannica and World Book online encyclopaedias, useful not just for your children but your family too - each encyclopaedia has three levels from junior to the full edition. From home you will need passwords - for Britannica the log-on is smart and password smart, for World Book it's smart1/smart - take a look! Children can also log into their own account to see what books they have on loan, what's due to be returned and to reserve or renew books. They can also search the catalogue finding out what we own and in many cases finding direct links from the book record to trusted websites for further information. There is also a small parents collection for loaning directly to parents - look under QUICK LISTS and open the parents collection list. Much can be accessed from the guest screen but to see an individual student's loans etc you will need to login - for a huge majority of our students this will be made up of the first three letters of their surname followed by first three of their first name (e.g. HAYBRI for me!), there are no passwords. If this doesn't work please contact me directly to clarify the log on details - for a few children this is automatically changed so that there isn't a duplication. Have a little look around and enjoy!!

# School Notices



As the netball season approaches and clubs begin to run trials for places in teams, it is important to let players and parents of any students interested in playing Saturday netball for a Year 5 and 6 St Martins team, that this will not be happening at St Martins for 2019. This is largely due to the rebuild and current lack of court space. We will still offer Thursday netball for those interested in Year 5 and 6, as part of the winter competitions at Hagley Park. There will be further notices regarding Thursday netball closer to the time.



The Year 5/6 Eco Action group ***Inspiring Insects*** is in need of one or two old fish tanks. The tanks do not need to be water tight as they will be housing insects. If you have a spare one at your home and you are happy to lend or donate it to the school please contact Room 16 teacher, Alice Perry at [alicep@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:alicep@stmartins.school.nz)

## **Notification of Paid Union Meeting - March 20th**

The NZEI Te Riu Roa (teachers and principals union) is planning to hold paid union meetings for all NZEI Te Riu Roa members in March. **This affects St Martins School on Wednesday March 20th.** As the majority of staff at our school are union members, they will be attending this meeting at 2pm. **We ask that you please collect your children at 12.30 pm on this day.**

## **Teacher Only Day - March 25th**

There will be a Teacher Only Day on **Monday March 25th.** Our teachers are attending a day long workshop which will look at strategies for dealing with complex behaviour issues and give them good strategies to support learning and behaviours. We are fortunate that our teachers have access to these kinds of resources and it will be very valuable to have the day focusing on this. The school will be closed for tuition and supervision. We hope that you are able to make arrangements for the care of your children.

## **Parent Information Evening - March 25th**

We are also holding a parent information evening **on Monday March 25th** that we encourage you to attend. Kathryn Berkett will be speaking on understanding the impact of screen time - a neuroscience session. Please see flyer on next page for more information.



**St Martins  
School Hall**

## SCREEN TIME

Understanding the Impact – A Neuroscience Session

**There are positives and negatives of technology, there is no simple answer. Come along and hear KATHRYN BERKETT explain, in easy to understand language, the neuroscience behind the complex world our children are living in.**

Our world is changing so quickly, it is hard to keep up. The messages we can get can be so confusing – is technology bad for us, or good for us? It isn't that simple. This session is not about telling you to stop using technology, it is about helping you understand it, so you can make more informed decisions. We are all individuals, and we will react and interact differently with technology. Come along to hear more about what this means for each of us.

This session will discuss why we get such positive feedback from spending time on screens. We will discuss why, for some people, this can lead towards and addiction. We will discuss what the brain needs from the environment in order to develop to full potential, and how screens can both support and inhibit that.

Kathryn is a mother of two and has her Masters in Educational Psychology. She will explain what is going on in simple, real language. You will leave her session with practical tips that you can use IMMEDIATELY.

Kathryn has been working in this area and training international audiences for over sixteen years; working with groups such as Police, Teachers, Parents, Social Workers, NZRugby and many more.

**SHOULD YOU SAY 'YES'  
OR 'NO'**

**INDIVIDUALISED  
INFORMATION**  
(THERE IS NO 'ONE' ANSWER)

**EASY TO UNDERSTAND  
EXAMPLES**

**WHAT CAN WE DO TO  
PROTECT?**

**DATE 25 March  
Time 6:30 to 7:30pm**

Where:  
St Martins School Hall

*Excellent presentation, loved the examples, easy to understand. Have heard some of the info many times before however the way you explained things CLICKED for me! - Parent (Whangarei)*

## School Notices



Thank you for all the orders coming in for the school photos. Remember you can pay online directly to Heritage Photos, just follow the instructions on the order envelope. Please also ensure you keep the photo of your child attached to the envelope as this is required by Heritage to ensure correct orders are processed. The last day for orders to the school office is **Friday 29th March**. Late orders cannot be accepted as we cannot guarantee orders will be processed after this time.



## Celebrating Success

In January, Oliver Williams, a Year 8 student in Room 11 played in the Year 8 Mandeville Cricket tournament representing Canterbury. Their team called Team Latham won the four day tournament! Well done to Oliver and his team mates. Keep up the good work and maybe we will see you in the Black Caps one day and who knows you may even score an amazing double century like your team namesake Tom Latham!

## Community Notices

**McDonalds Youth Duathlon organised by Garden City Rotary** - registrations open now. The 2019 McDonalds Duathlon to be held at Hagley Park on Sunday 7th April. The event is run by volunteers from Garden City Rotary. Entries are open to 7 - 15 year olds and the duathlon includes a run, bike and run. Entrants can look forward to receiving a Competition Medal, Gift Pack of sponsors products and a competition t-shirt. To enter go to [www.gardencityrotary.org.nz](http://www.gardencityrotary.org.nz)

**Sydenham Rugby League Club** welcomes new members to the club for the 2019 season. We seek boys and girls from preschool age through to intermediate to fill our Junior division. We are a family focussed, community minded club and a great place to join as a beginner. Come down to one of our training nights at Bradford Park, Milton St and see what we are all about. More info email: [sydenhamswans@gmail.com](mailto:sydenhamswans@gmail.com)

# Community Notices

**Sea 2 Sky Challenge is on Sunday 31 May** at Scarborough Beach, Sumner. The triathlon challenge comprises an ocean swim, a bike climb to the Summit Road, finishing with the Godley Head track run and newly opened, Whitewash Head section of the Scarborough trail. The race caters to individuals, teams and beginners. Best of all – the Sea 2 Sky Challenge is awesome fun!

As well as the main event, there is a junior triathlon/duathlon for 10-14 years olds and for younger children aged 5-9 years there is a swim/wade - run event.

Until Wednesday 20 March, If you register one adult and one child in any race category you can enter a second child in the kids aquathon for free or receive \$20 off a junior entry. That's a saving of \$20! For more details and to register visit [www.sea2skychallenge.com](http://www.sea2skychallenge.com) using the promo code familyspecial.



## ONLINE REGISTRATIONS 2019

Visit our website at: [www.sydenhamrugby.co.nz](http://www.sydenhamrugby.co.nz)

**Go to Registrations 2019** in the top menu ... then choose the **Juniors** tab to take you to the registration form for Sydenham grades Under 6 to Under 13.

All Under 14 to Under 18 players will be playing through Cashmere Rugby so please register with them at: [www.sporty.co.nz/cashmerehighschoolrugby](http://www.sporty.co.nz/cashmerehighschoolrugby)

**Note: the Junior rugby season kicks off on Saturday 6 April so please register and pay online before 24 March to be placed in a team.**

### Cashmere Netball Club

registrations are open for all returning and new players, Years 3 upwards. Go to <https://www.sporty.co.nz/cashmerenc> to register. Any questions please email the club on [cashmerenetball@hotmail.com](mailto:cashmerenetball@hotmail.com)

**Lyttelton Rugby Club** are looking for new members to join our great family friendly club, all ages from 5 to 17 boys and girls. All new members will receive a gear bag, beanie, socks, mouth guard and jacket. Subs are \$40 for 1 child, \$60 for two or more from the same family if paid by 18th May. If you are interested in joining our club please contact Linda on 0273859392 or register online at [www.sporty.co.nz/lytteltonrugby](http://www.sporty.co.nz/lytteltonrugby)

**Girls Fun Football Fiesta March 8th 4.30pm to 5.30pm** - the aim for girls is to have a go at the sport so no experience is necessary. The afternoon is free to attend. Just register with the club so we have an idea of numbers. There will also be some giveaways and if keen we can let girls know how to sign up for the season. Contact Trudy at [trudyh@ctfc.co.nz](mailto:trudyh@ctfc.co.nz) or Lisa at [lisay@ctfc.co.nz](mailto:lisay@ctfc.co.nz)

# Community Notices



**Cashmere Technical Football Club** - Please visit the website [www.ctfc.co.nz](http://www.ctfc.co.nz) and click on 'registrations'. Every year we have many late registrations from the younger grades / first time players (we start from 4 years of age). The sooner you register the more chance we can cater to friend requests. PLEASE register now if you want your child to play football at CTFC this season. Registrations close March 17th. There is a registration day on at Woolston Park on this day - but you can also register NOW online with an earlybird discount. All the info is on the CTFC website. Season starts 6th April.

**Beginner Youth Aerials Class**

Starting 9th March 2019  
Saturdays 9am - 10am  
9 - 14 years

to enrol or for more information please email [circustrust@gmail.com](mailto:circustrust@gmail.com)

Silks, Trapeze, Lyra & more

\$100 for a 6 week course

[www.chchcircus.co.nz](http://www.chchcircus.co.nz)

Christchurch Circus Centre, 146 Seaview Rd, New Brighton.



## ST MARGARET'S COLLEGE OPEN DAY

Monday 18 March  
10:30am – 1:00pm



St Margaret's College Open Day for Year 7 and Year 9 registrations for 2020 - Principal's address at 11.45am. For pre-registration go to [www.stmargarets.school.nz/open-day/](http://www.stmargarets.school.nz/open-day/)

### 13 March

Lit Quiz at Cobham Intermediate

### 14 March

Zone swimming for Year 5-8 qualifiers

### 20 March

Teachers attending NZEI Union meeting. School closes at 12.30pm

### 25 March

School closed for the day due to Teacher Only Day to enable staff to attend a day long workshop.

### 25 March

Parent information evening from 6.30pm to 7.30pm in the school hall - Kathryn Berkett on Screen Time - understanding the impact.