



Inspiring a passion for Learning

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone

Welcome to Term 2 at St Martins School. What an exciting start we have had already with several new staff members (one teacher and four new teacher aides) and being handed our new building to use.

First of all we extend a warm welcome to those families who are new to St Martins, and to one family that has returned.

Our New Entrant students who have started this week are Oscar Huo, Amelia Williams, Willow Hill and Olivia Marshall. In Year 1 we welcome Eden Le Roux, in Year 3 we welcome Katolina Williams and returning to St Martins School is Gabriela Vidiera-Gordon, and her sister Yiara has now also started with us.

We are really excited to welcome Alice Barakat as our new Year 7/8 teacher who is replacing Susie Keenan. Alice has come to us all the way from Mercury Bay where she has been in senior leadership. We are thrilled to have Alice on our team. We also welcome four new teacher aides who have been employed to add additional support for teaching and learning across the school during this time of change. We welcome Callum McLean, Heather West, Juliet Aitken and Bella Shewan. Each comes to us with an amazing array of skills and experience, we are so fortunate to have attracted such amazing staff to our school team.

Over the holiday break a tremendous amount of work was done to make ready the new building, and provide access ways for the start of the term. With Easter and Anzac Day right in the middle of the mix there were a few extra challenges getting everything completed to be able to start. We still have a few things that will be improved as we move forward. That said, our new space is amazing. The teachers and children are still finding their way around the new building but the initial feedback has been extremely positive.

Last Friday, when the building was handed to the Board of Trustees, Henare Edwards, with the whānau group, Board of Trustees, staff and a few families blessed the school. There will be a formal opening, and that is expected to be sometime later this term when the site and building reach a state suitable for an opening presentation. The date for this will be set in the near future.

What can be said is that while the school administration has been temporarily moved to the new library area all systems are pretty well up and running at 100%.

(Continued on next page)

(From Page 1)

Our evacuation and lockdown processes have been redesigned to account for the changes in the site, but also to accommodate the new communication systems that the Board of Trustees has had to install to replace what has been deactivated as a result of the shift.

Today we have a fully tested two-way communication system to virtually every area of the school. The evacuation/lockdown processes were shared and practiced with all staff on Monday and we now feel confident that these systems will work to ensure effective and efficient responses to any emergency.

We do invite you to pop in before or after school if you would like to take a wander through the new area. We will be arranging an open day at some stage when things have settled in to a normal pattern, though that may be in conjunction with the opening.

We are very excited and pleased with our beautiful new building.

Kind regards

Rob Callaghan
Principal

IMPORTANT - Early School Closure

Notification of Paid Union Meeting.

The NZEI Te Riu Roa (teachers and principals union) is planning to hold paid union meetings for all NZEI Te Riu Roa members in May. This is due to the postponement of the meetings that were to take place in March. **This affects St Martins School on Thursday 9th May.** 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.**

The NZEI says "The decision to hold meetings during student contact time is not one we take lightly. However, it's urgent that we come together to discuss ways to address the long-term, systemic issues that are threatening to blow out class sizes and make it even harder to recruit and retain teaching staff. The challenge so many schools have faced this year in recruiting sufficient suitably qualified teachers to staff every classroom in their respective schools is further evidence of the urgency of securing more resourcing for primary education."

School Notices

Working Bee Sunday May 5 from 9am to 12.00 noon

We will be re potting the 200 donated plants for around the new building.
Please bring gloves. Masks will be provided.
There will also other general jobs around the school to do.
Remember we have a yummy morning tea available.
All welcome.



Changes to school uniform purchases

Due to the temporary nature of the current administration area and a lack of storage for the school uniform 'shop', **all uniform purchases will need to either be made via an appointment system or via online ordering.**

If you need to bring your child to try and purchase uniform you will need to contact Diane to make a convenient time. You can email Diane on dianem@stmartins.school.nz or phone 332-6121.

If you know what you want and the size you need then go to the school website uniform section <https://www.stmartins.school.nz/enrolment/uniform/> then click on the ORDER ONLINE link and complete the form. Diane will make up your order, and email you to confirm the amount to be paid and when the uniform is ready to be collected. You can either pay into the school bank account prior to collection, or pay via Eftpos, Cash or Cheque on collection.

Sports Uniform

Do you have any St Martins School sports uniforms that were not returned from last year or from a sports event your child may have been representing St Martins School in this year. We still have outstanding uniform missing. Please return anything that you have at home. It is a busy time for Kate, our Admin Assistant as she looks to distribute about 250 uniform items for Year 5-8 students involved in Winter sports. It is a long process and it is important that your child listens to the notices their teachers read out about when they are to collect their sports uniforms. Each year we get students coming to us at the last minute saying they do not have their sports uniform despite having been at school when notices were advised. A good reminder to students about personal responsibility!

Sports socks - we have some sports sock in plain navy that Year 5-8 students may want to purchase. (Nylon/Cotton/Elastane mix) A special deal of \$1 per pair - size M (2-7) and size L (7-11). Once they are gone there are no more. so come in quick if you would like to buy some. Please bring cash (correct change appreciated) to the school office if you would like to purchase a pair for school sports or out of school wear.

Extra Curricular Activities

St Martins School offers many exciting options for students to join. Some of these are run by teachers or volunteers and do not incur any costs. However some options do have a cost and these must be covered by the families choosing to allow their children to take up these opportunities. Some of these options are, but not limited to, Rock Band, Percussion Group, Concert Band, Future Problem Solving, Waterpolo, Korfball Tournaments, Basketball at Pioneer, Miniball at Pioneer, William Pike Challenge, Music Instrument Hire, ICAS exams and EPro8 Challenge. If you are happy for your child to be involved in any of these types of activities you need to be aware they will have a cost that needs to be paid, in many cases prior to undertaking the activity. If you ever have any questions about your account please do not hesitate to see Michele in the office.

Community Notices

Childcare request - I am looking for back up childcare options for my two St Martins School kids, ages 9 and 12. I am looking for after school and occasional weekend care. Right now I am lucky to have wonderful neighbours and friends helping us out. We are new to the area and eager to get to know the neighbours and make new friends. Please call or text 020 4176 9030. Stephanie.



KELLY SPORTS **WICKED WINTER SPORTS!**
LEARN NEW SPORTS SKILLS IN TERM 2

A weekly multi-sport programme that will provide an essential base for children's motor skills and help build confidence and coordination!

BOOK ONLINE NOW AT
KELLYSPORTS.CO.NZ

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

MULTI-SPORT PROGRAMME

Programmes run weekly on one day a week for one hour.

This term we will focus on the following sports:

- ✓ Football
- ✓ Basketball
- ✓ Hockey
- ✓ Netball

This weekly programme gives children skills and confidence in a fun and enjoyable environment. It also encourages their enthusiasm for sport and the life skills that such involvement brings – giving them confidence to join sports clubs and teams in the future.

For year 0 – 6 students.

7 WEEK PROGRAMME FOR JUST \$80

Cashmere Primary School – Mon
Governors Bay – Wed
Hillview – Thurs
Hoon Hay/OIA School's – Mon
Ilam School – Tues
Mt Pleasant – Thurs
Oaklands School – Tues
Prebbleton School – Thurs

Queenspark School – Thurs
Russley School – Fri
Somerfield School – Fri
St Martins School – Mon
Summer School – Tues
Tai Tapu School, Tues Lunch

* After School Clinics run 3.10pm-4.10pm
* Lunch Clinics run 12.45pm-1.30pm

BOOK EARLY & SAVE

Use the voucher code 'earlybird' before 1st May to save!

Website: <https://www.kellysports.co.nz>

Contact: Julia Smith (administrator)

Email: chcheast@kellysports.co.nz

Phone: 021 0814 8755

Facebook: www.facebook.com/KSportsCHCH



5 May

Working Bee this Sunday 5th May from 9am to 12 noon. Bring gloves. Masks provided. Morning tea also provided!

6 May

S'Mart Community PTA meeting to be held in the new building from 7.30pm. Come in the main doors and turn left

9 May

Paid Union meeting held in the afternoon for teaching staff. We request you collect your children at lunchtime 12.30pm

21 May

Board of Trustees meeting in the staffroom (currently in new building) from 6.30pm