



St Martins School

Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga Inspiring a passion for learning



Newsletter 9

4th July 2019

Inspiring a passion for Learning

Kia ora Whānau - Greetings everyone



Last year when my wife Jude and I made the decision for me to finish at the end of Term 2 this year, that decision was made after a great deal of planning and consideration. When I confirmed our decision with Jo Malcom, our BOT chairperson at the start of this year it felt like a very comfortable, sensible, strategic decision well made. However, there comes a time when the decisions we make with the “head” are finally recognised by the “heart” and that is now happening.

It started on the day of the opening of our beautiful Waharoa and the new Whare Kūkūwai. On that day I could see the power and unity of our school community, led on this day by our whānau group, and supported by our amazing tamariki, and especially our kapahaka troupe. Since then it would be fair to say that the thought of leaving this wonderful community has become increasingly more difficult.

I became the principal of a six teacher school at the age of 26 and was the youngest person on the staff. So for me it has been a very long and exciting time to be in leadership, but I must admit that I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges and rewards that come with making a difference for so many young lives during that time.

I believe I summed things up well in my resignation letter to the Board of Trustees.

I leave Principalship, and St Martins School, with the feeling that it is the right time for me and also for the school.

The past 10 years as leader have been both professionally and personally rewarding. I have relished the opportunity to lead St Martins School through the challenging times presented by the Canterbury earthquakes and well into the process of building a new school while growing, leading and working with a team of exceptional educators. Despite the tremendous challenges presented during this time it has been a privilege and a pleasure to work with the children, the staff, the community and the Board of Trustees of St Martins School.

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It is important that I acknowledge what an exceptional and wonderful learning community St Martins is. This school has a unique character that reflects the nature of its community and this has been nurtured and preserved by those trustees who have worked on this Board and by those who have come before. I thank the Board for the faith it has shown in my leadership and for the support it has always given me. I wish to acknowledge Jo Malcolm, not only as the current chairperson, but as the last remaining trustee from the time when I was appointed as principal. Jo, your support, good council and friendship have been invaluable to me and I thank you for your part in allowing me to contribute to this very special community.

It has been a privilege to work with so many great teachers, office and support staff during my 10 years at St Martins School. The professional pride that all our staff show day in and day out is but just one of the reasons St Martins School is an exceptional working and learning environment. The successive '5 Year Reviews' given by the Education Review Office are an indication of the strength and commitment of this team. Leadership is a pleasure when a team works as one and leadership of St Martins School has been a great pleasure.

At its best leadership is not a solo endeavour. I believe that any success that St Martins has had during my time as principal must be credited to our team as a whole. The leadership team of St Martins School is a strong and committed group who have the best interests of the students and their teams at their heart's centre. Our senior leaders have implemented our school strategy with determination to ensure that St Martins School is the best that it can be.

It is important that I acknowledge Bernadette May in her role as Deputy Principal. Educators with the skill and talents Bernadette possesses are rare. Our alignment educationally, strategically and professionally has been quite unique, highly collegial and St Martins School has benefitted because of this synergy.

I must admit that this decision has not been an easy one but it is well considered. I have always said that "change is a good thing" and sometimes we need to place ourselves outside our comfort zone. I did so in coming to St Martins School and I do so again in leaving. What I take great comfort in is what has been achieved during my time as principal of St Martins School, but more so is the knowledge that because of its community, its Board of Trustees, the staff and the amazing leadership talent that exists within the school it will continue to move forward and "Inspire a Passion For Learning".

Whatungarongaro te tangata toitū te whenua

As man disappears from sight, the land remains

Finally I wish the Board, parents, staff and especially our wonderful tamariki all the very best for the future.

Rob Callaghan
Principal
St Martins School

Farewell from the Board of Trustees

Kia ora koutou,

On behalf of the St Martins School Board of Trustees, I would like to thank our principal Rob Callaghan for 10 years of amazing leadership. Rob has seen the school through some very tough times over the years and his tireless work for our tamariki and for our community has been incredible. When he first arrived at St Martins, he could see that the school needed to change and he and the management team began a process of setting the bar high, never standing still and being complacent, and always challenging ourselves to do better. We can see all of this hard work in our achievement levels steadily rising, and in our pastoral care programmes and our vibrant and inclusive school culture. Rob Callaghan never stops, but in retirement we hope you will slow down, indulge your love of classic cars, travel the world with Jude and enjoy life. Thank you so very much Rob. We will miss you.

Ngā manaakitanga

Kia ora ratu awa.

Nga mihi.

Jo Malcolm

Chairperson Board of Trustees.

School Notices

Thank
You

Thank you for supporting us

A very big thank you to all the parents in our school community who have supported us during our union negotiations with the Government. We realise that our strike action may have put stress on your families during these days, however, we really have appreciated the support we have received.

St Martins School Year 3-4 Netball Team -

The Year 3-4 netball team plays on a Thursday afternoon down at the Hagley Courts. The girls are all very enthusiastic, dedicated and loving the opportunity to be introduced to netball. They play a game each week and also spend time learning and developing netball skills. So far they have not lost a game!



School Notices



Year 5&6

MARKET DAY 2019

ECO ACTION

Friday 5th July, Week 10

11am to 12pm

Located in the Whare Kūkūwai

What the groups are selling.

**Skin Science-
natural body
products.**

**Eco Boxes-Boxes
made from recycled
materials.**

**Home cleaning
products- Natural
Cleaning Products.**

**All around us-
Photography from
our local**

Environment.

**Garden- Seedlings
and plants.**

**Inspiring Insects-
hand made Beeswax
Wrap**



Staff have been finding it hard to get in and out of the staff carpark area as parents are parking across the driveway in the mornings to drop their children off at Homework Club and school. Please ensure you either park in the 3 minute drop off zone or a wee bit further down the street, and please avoid all driveways so our neighbours can also access and exit their properties.

Community Notices



Huntsbury Preschool seeks a part-time Administrator to join our passionate and professional team in our non-profit community Preschool. You would be an integral part of the day to day running of the Preschool. While a financial background may be an advantage, your community-focus, excellent communication skills, positivity and flexible attitude are more important. The position is for approximately 18 hours per week on average during term time, generally spread across our operating hours of 8am-3pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (exact times can be negotiated). Attendance at Board meetings one evening per month and other ad hoc meetings are also required. On occasion, specific tasks will need to be completed within the holiday periods.

Applications close at 5pm on Wednesday 31st July 2019.

Please contact office@huntsbury-preschool.org.nz for an application package.



Enrolments now open For St Martins School

Monster Music (Formerly Daniel Hitchens Music) is now offering music lessons at St Martins School. Do you want to learn how to play an instrument in a modern and relevant way? Choose an option below and get in touch before spaces fill up!



Drums
Available in either private or small group lessons



Guitar
Available in either private or small group lessons

office@monstermusic.nz
0273501829



NZ Police recently launched a new non emergency number 105. We've done this to make it easier to get hold of us in the event of non-urgent situations or 'Things which have Already Happened', which don't require Police assistance immediately. You can call us on 105 for all non emergencies, or you can go online at 105.police.govt.nz to report things like lost property, theft for a public place or car, intentional property damage. In the event of an emergency always call 111 - 'Things that are Happening Now'

5th July

Year 5/6 Eco Action Market Day from 11am to 12noon in the Whare Kūkūwai. Bring your spare change and support Eco Action!

5th July

Final assembly for students to farewell principal, Rob Callaghan.

5th July

Last day of Term 2. have a wonderful and safe holiday break with family and friends.

22nd July

First day back for Term 3. We look forward to seeing you all back refreshed and ready to learn!