



Newsletter 17

13th November 2019

Congratulations to all 12 of the Y5 / 6 speech finalists today, the ability to stand in front of over 100 of your peers and deliver so confidently on topics you are passionate about should be applauded. As Vaibhav in the speech finals reminded us this morning that learning both in and out of the classroom is very important.

Although only eight school days since the last newsletter, we have certainly managed to pack in a raft of different learning. So, our children have been on the go, the NE – Y2 children have been out to Sumner Beach to participate in the 'Search the Shoreline' Christchurch City Council programme. All of the children have come back very excited about their trip to the beach.

The Y3/4 children have had a lovely time participating in their athletics competition today across at Hansen Park. Thank you to the Y7/8 leaders supporting the children with their events, you are doing a wonderful job of being positive role models to our younger learners.

Last week the senior children had the opportunity to participate in the Christchurch Music Festival held at the town hall. We had a group of approximately 20 children join in with other schools across Christchurch. Children participated in the massed choir and specialist singing and orchestra groups. Our school was well represented in a number of areas with a particular mention of Nicolae receiving an award for being in the specialist percussion section for four years in a row, congratulations on your achievement. Five debating teams, 15 children from Y7/8 competed in the first round of the cluster debating competition last night. Two teams won their debates based on the topic 'the voting age should be lowered to 16'. Good luck to all of the teams as you head into round two in a few weeks.

Not to mention having lambs visiting learning spaces, a visiting Scientist from Montana USA taking some science based sessions. As always thank you very much for the parent / community support to be able to be involved in all of the above learning opportunities. Your commitment to ongoing learning, in the classroom, out of the school or even beyond school hours is greatly appreciated.

This week we would also like to congratulate Alice Denley on her appointment to Deputy Principal and Hamish Lancaster-Whillis to the Navigators (Y5/6) Team Leader position. We look forward to Alice continuing to lead the school and for Hamish to share his leadership capabilities. With these promotions and movement of teachers we have some staff changes. Hamish will move from the High Fliers (Y7/8) team to the Navigators team, Jenny Wood and Jenny Oldridge will be in a job share position in the Discoverers (Y3/4) team, Caitlin Ross and Lana Sweeney will be job sharing in the Explorers (NE – Y2) team. This means we have three positions to advertise for the 2020 school year.

A reminder that school is closed tomorrow with a teacher only day. Feel free to use the grounds throughout the day. And a property update...

We had small groups of parents joining in the learning space tours this week. We hope you enjoyed the opportunity to visit the new learning spaces, see learning in action, ask some questions along the way and also learn more about the cultural story of the naming of the spaces. The six classrooms from the top area have been demolished and removed. It is amazing the space that we will have as play area up there from the beginning of the school year next year. If you haven't had a look it is probably worth climbing the steps to have a wee peek through the fence. Thank you to the teachers, children and parents of Rooms 6, 7, 24 and 25 for your understanding while this work is being completed.

We have been stalled on the Junior Playground while we wait for further soft matting to be delivered. Fingers crossed for next week. You will have noticed the work on the pathway leading to the admin block has started with another stairway being opened up this week.

One could say, it's all coming together nicely.

We have been asked by a community member to please remind parents to ride on the road rather than the footpath around the school.

Enjoy the long weekend everyone,  
Andrew



## THANK YOU

Jon and I both attended last week's Shave Your Lid for Our Kid event at St Martins. For both of us, the emotions of the day made publicly thanking everyone overwhelming so we asked that our thank you be emailed.

Our family offers a heartfelt thank you to everyone who has been supporting Lachie.

Some of you won't be aware that Lachie started his first day of school at St Martin's from hospital. He was on treatment at the time for cancer and the doctors gave us a pass card from hospital so he could attend his first day, on strict instructions that we would have him back at hospital by midday. We pushed the boundaries a little and returned him at 2pm to disapproving looks, but Lachie had had a ball.

From that very first day, St Martins School has been a haven for Lachie. A place of friendship, normality and stability.

We are deeply humbled that once again the St Martins community has stepped in show support for one of their own. To arrive at school on Tuesday to a school hall packed with students, teachers, parents and a unexpectedly large group of brave volunteers was an experience unlike anything we have been a part of. We watched a community come together to normalise one the most confronting aspects of cancer, and in doing so this community helped to make the journey easier for Lachie.

We were in awe of the courage and bravery shown by the volunteers and were moved to tears as we watched many of them battle their own nerves in order to follow through with a commitment they had made to support a fellow student. To see such a display of empathy, solidarity and depth of conviction from such young students was inspiring.

Thank you to everyone for your words of encouragement, your messages of support and your donations. To the volunteers, thank you for challenging yourselves physically and mentally in order to better understand the journey Lachie is on, and to travel it alongside him. And as the weather heats up – make sure you wear your hats!

Thank you seems so inadequate. Our gratitude to you all is immense.

Kelly and Jon Sharpe

## School Notices

St Martins School is wanting a billboard but we need some help getting some ply wood 110cm by 120cm. If anyone from the community can help could you please ask them to contact teacher [nickyp@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:nickyp@stmartins.school.nz) or student council rep [rubylei@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:rubylei@stmartins.school.nz)

**Weetbix Tryathlon** is back in February 2020 and Christchurch has a morning and afternoon session you can register for. The links are listed below if you would like to register for the school group. Please note that if you want to register your child you need to do it via the links provided. We will not be taking manual registrations this year. Use this link if you are registering for the **morning session**

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=35577&G=99573>

Use this link if you are registering for the **afternoon session**:

<https://www.registernow.com.au/secure/Register.aspx?E=35578&G=99574>

Room 13 would like to thank everyone for supporting our class activities

The pizza fundraiser was a success with students learning a lot about data collection, product design, marketing and logistics. Thank you to St Martins New World for kindly donating the ingredients.

The Bake Off had plenty of contestants and some very nice fare was delivered to our room for judging over the 3 weeks of the competition. Lucy Hudson was the winner of the Bake Off with her Burrowing Rabbits cupcakes. She received a voucher and a donated gift from Total Food Equipment on Moorhouse Ave. Well done Lucy!

The Rāpaki Rumble was also a great success. A beautiful balmy evening saw teams take off up the track eager to win. 32 minutes later Marlon emerged from the bush into the Mt Vernon track carpark. Well done Payo and Marlon. In second place, only 20 seconds behind was Josh and Fergus's team. And congratulations to the 3<sup>rd</sup> placed team of Year 6 boys, Lennox and Connor who finished only two minutes after the older boys. 1<sup>st</sup> prize was kindly donated by Chain Reaction Cycles on Moorhouse Ave.



## Student Achievement

The 'Top of the South' Taekwondo tournament was held in Blenheim at the end of October. Nerhys, a Year 7 student in Room 11 competed in Poomsae and Kyorugi events, bringing home some well-deserved medals! These were GOLD – individual Poomsae, SILVER – team poomsae and BRONZE – kyorugi. Well done Nerhys on these amazing achievements.

**Annual Itinerant Music Concert** this Monday 18<sup>th</sup> November from 6.30pm to 8pm in the hall. A wonderful opportunity for the students receiving tuition at school with the Itinerant music teachers and Concert Band to show us what they have achieved over the year. Parents, Caregivers, Grandparents and anyone who would like to come are more than welcome.



## Student Poetry

The wind glides gracefully through the labyrinth of the forest  
Sweeping away the tree's secrets  
And bestowing them back to their lair

Enraged  
The trees stretch out their gnarly hands  
And snatch up the screaming wind

Satisfied  
The trees release their foe  
It eddies to the ground  
All is serene

Ella Tuffnell, Room 17, Year 6

HUNTSBURY PRESCHOOL



WEDNESDAY  
20TH NOV 9-11 AM

**9.30**

INFO SESSION  
LED BY SUZ  
(HEAD TEACHER)

**10-11**

EXPLORE & PLAY  
DISCOVER FIRST HAND  
WHAT OUR PRESCHOOL  
HAS TO OFFER

ENROL NOW FOR 2020



## Community Notices

### Risingholme's 75<sup>th</sup> Birthday and Community Day

*Bring your picnic and celebrate with us*

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2019  
11 am – 2 pm

#### Highlights

- Discover what you can learn through us: visit our facilities, see our displays
- Spend time learning about the history of Risingholme Community Centre
- Self-tour the refurbished Historical Homestead
- All welcome at the cutting of the birthday cake at 12.30 pm
- Join a free reiki or yoga session (*on the lawn, if fine*)
- Free-to-use outdoor games (*weather permitting*)



Risingholme Community Centre, 22 Cholmondeley Ave, Opawa, [www.risingholme.org.nz](http://www.risingholme.org.nz)

#### SUNSMART FACT



### Brimming with protection

Our school requires children to wear a bucket or wide-brimmed sun-hat when outside at morning tea and lunch times when UV rays are strongest.



**Cancer  
Society**

Te Kāhui Matepukupuku  
o Aotearoa

**IGNITE-** a C3 youth group for years 6 to 8, runs every Friday night from 7pm at SouthCity C3 (510 Colombo St). Our young people are fun-driven, God-focused and food-appreciators! If you want to get plugged in, email Sarah Taylor (Youth Leader at St Martins C3) [sarah@c3chch.org](mailto:sarah@c3chch.org)

#### AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISOR STAFF VACANCY:

The Homework Club is looking for a positive and enthusiastic staff member to join our friendly team. If you love working with children and are available to work at the:

AFTER SCHOOL CARE 2.30-6pm TERM TIME.

Holiday work can be offered as part of this job during school holiday programmes. Applicants must be able to work after school hours with holidays being optional.

Experience with managing large groups of children is a requirement.

We would love to hear from you!

Please visit our website [WWW.THEHOMEWORKCLUB.CO.NZ](http://WWW.THEHOMEWORKCLUB.CO.NZ) for more information about us email a covering letter and CV to: [INFO@THEHOMEWORKCLUB.CO.NZ](mailto:INFO@THEHOMEWORKCLUB.CO.NZ)

#### ON THE CALENDAR

|    |  |   |   |   |                           |
|----|--|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| 5  | Mon 11 Nov   | Tue 12 Nov  | Wed 13 Nov  | Thu 14 Nov  | Fri 15 Nov                |
|    | Y3 / 4 Softball<br>Rm 22 / 23 Search the Shoreline                             | Rm 8 / 9 Search the Shoreline<br>Y7 / 8 Zone Debating Parent Workshop – Managing Devices        | Discoverers Athletics Day<br>Rm 6 / 7 Search the Shoreline<br>Y5 / 6 Speech Finals Newsletter | Teacher Only Day – School closed                  | Show Day                  |
| 6  | Mon 18 Nov   | Tue 19 Nov  | Wed 20 Nov  | Thu 21 Nov  | Fri 22 Nov                |
|    | Y3 / 4 Softball<br>Y5 – 8 Zone Athletics Itinerant Music Concert 6.30pm to 8pm | Mana Ake – Parent Drop In<br>Rm 1 / 2 Nature and Nurturing Explorers Athletics Day BoT Meeting  | PP Explorers Athletics Day<br>Y8 Dance Lessons  | R 4 / 5 Nature and Nurturing<br>Y7 / 8 Tough Kids | Assembly                  |
| 7  | Mon 25 Nov   | Tue 26 Nov  | Wed 27 Nov  | Thu 28 Nov  | Fri 29 Nov                |
|    | Y5 / 6 Cycle Safety<br>Y8 Dance Lesson   |   |   | Newsletter  | Assembly                  |
| 8  | Mon 2 Dec  | Tue 3 Dec   | Wed 4 Dec   | Thu 5 Dec   | Fri 6 Dec                 |
|    | Y7 / 8 Korfball Tournament   | Mana Ake – Parent Drop In<br>Y7 / 8 Zone Debating Parent Workshop – Healthy Eating (7 – 8.30pm) |   | NE – Y2 Conferences                               | Assembly                  |
| 9  | Mon 9 Dec  | Tue 10 Dec  | Wed 11 Dec  | Thu 12 Dec  | Fri 13 Dec                |
|    | Y8 Dance Lessons   | Y5 / 6 Sailing<br>NE – Y2 Conferences   | Y5 / 6 Sailing  | Y5 / 6 Sailing<br>Y8 Dance Lessons<br>Newsletter  | Assembly<br>Y8 Graduation |
| 10 | Mon 16 Dec   | Tue 17 Dec  | Wed 18 Dec  | Thu 19 Dec  | Fri 20 Dec                |
|    | Y3 / 4 Celebration Assembly<br>Y5 – 8 Pool Day Reports and Classes Go Home     | Mana Ake – Parent Drop In<br>NE – Y4 Waltham Pool<br>Y8 Amazing Race BOT Meeting                | Y7 / 8 Groyne Day   | Children visit 2020 teachers                      | Final Assembly 10.30am    |