



St Martins School

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



Newsletter 5

21<sup>st</sup> May 2020

## BOARD UPDATE

It has been another unprecedented couple of months for our school, but as ever, our staff and community have risen to the challenge. As a Board, we acknowledge the sterling work undertaken by all the staff during the lockdown, especially given the incredibly short transition time from school to home learning. I know for my family, it certainly made life easier having that support and structure in place.

Most of the Board business has been on hold during the lockdown period, however I would like to update the community on the rezoning process. Thank you to the many people who took the time to submit. The submissions have all been carefully considered by the Board committee and have been taken into account as we make our submission to the Ministry of Education. We have decided as a Board, to request that the area currently omitted from the proposed zone which takes in Prossers Rd and Wades Ave, following the river boundary, remain within our zone. This is having considered both the large number of submissions from the community, as well as the new Cashmere High School zone boundaries.

The next step will see our submission go to the Ministry, which is responsible for making the decision on the final zone boundary. In making this decision, the Ministry will take into account factors such as the risk of overcrowding (both at our school and neighbouring schools), the best use of the local school network, and whether students have access to a reasonably convenient school. We anticipate that the amended zone will be implemented during the 2021 school year before the end of the year.

In the meantime, it is great to see so many of our tamariki back and enjoying school. Stay well and horoi ō ringa ringa: keep washing those hands.

Ngā mihi,

Kate Hodgins

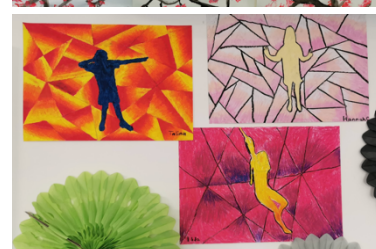
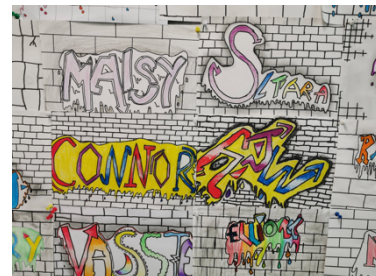
Chair, Board of Trustees

## SCHOOL UPDATE

Thanks for your support settling back in to school. Working out what is best for your family, farewelling and greeting at the gate, outside the room or filling in the contact sheet to be in the classroom. Always great to catch up with parents and children as you enter the grounds. Lots of positive smiles throughout the week which has been nice to see. Thanks too for the drink bottles and personal hand sanitiser, this has made the transition from activities and breaks to get back into learning as smooth as possible.

This week I would like to thank the Y8 school leaders for the wonderful work they did during the lockdown. Three great videos posted on our Facebook page to keep our spirits lifted, celebrating May 4<sup>th</sup> and Sign Language within NZ.

Sending messages to Junior classes and staff to reassure them they are making a positive difference during this time. You are wonderful role models for us all.



Teachers have adjusted their environments to lessen the contact between children within their spaces through the use of allocated seating and bag areas. We will continue with this next week and then look to implement some greater interaction in the following week with the next announcement from the Government around alert levels.

Our programmes have had a focus on sharing experiences, the learning that has taken place at home, continued relationships and coming back to learning as a group. All classes continue to take their time to create positive experiences with the children while looking back at our time at home and forward to the learning that can take place at school. Mixed in with getting back into core curriculum and our school values there has been lots of Visual Art, games in the sunshine, some building of huts and a sprinkling of cross country training with a variety of running games and distance training – I've had the pleasure to enjoy a gentle jog with a group of Y7 / 8's and the hurley burley of the 500m dash with the New Entrants in Harakeke. We are looking forward to holding a cross country event later in the term.

As we move through Alert Levels we will continue to look at our programmes, in particular what we can offer the children due to the cancellation of a number of activities. We look forward to the Y7 / 8 children returning to technology this week. Transport to and from the Technology centres is provided by the Ministry of Education (MoE), this means the bus companies provided must adhere to the guidelines that the MoE have put in place. We are starting to think about reporting and what this might look like for the remainder of the year, Y5 / 6 camps in September, interschool sport competitions – to name just a few aspects. As we are able to finalise events we would also like to gather community voice around the participation in these. This may be on an ongoing basis as we hear more from providers.

Next week we would like to gather information from our community about their experience during the lockdown. This will be an online survey with the results being used to inform the school and be part of the Greater Christchurch Schools Network (GCSN) data pool. A link will be sent home on Monday next week. We continue to remind children of good hygiene practices at school through covering coughs and sneezes, social distancing (and what this looks like in the playground setting), washing or sanitising hands on the change of activity or coming back inside. We ask that you continue to reinforce these sensible safety measures at home as well. A reminder that unwell children should remain at home. As we heard from Jacinda Ardern last week, "if you have a sniffle or cough, stay home".

Congratulations to Huntsbury for winning term one's House Points. The House Captains will be putting on a sausage sizzle for Huntsbury in the next few weeks.

Thanks for a great first week back at school. Have a lovely weekend.

Andrew

## NOTICES

### **Marrzipan Drama**

Marrzipan Drama is running a special DISCOUNTED short term for the rest of term 2! Students will get to explore different scripts, choose their favourite, audition and be cast as a character, and then record a MOVIE TRAILER for the play. A digital copy will be sent to parents so you can celebrate your child's achievements by watching it at home with them.

Marrzipan Drama is a safe space where children are encouraged to learn at their own pace and come out of their shell when they are ready, with the guidance of our wonderful, fun and supportive Marrzipan teachers. Check out our website for more info or to book a trial class [marrzipandrama.co.nz](http://marrzipandrama.co.nz)

### **High School enrolments 2021**

High Schools are opting not to hold Open Days this year. Please look on their websites for information on enrolment or virtual tours. Here are links to websites of some of the high schools.

[www.cashmere.school.nz](http://www.cashmere.school.nz)

[www.ch.steiner.school.nz](http://www.ch.steiner.school.nz)

[www.cbhs.school.nz](http://www.cbhs.school.nz)

[www.mariancollege.school.nz](http://www.mariancollege.school.nz)

[www.stbedes.school.nz](http://www.stbedes.school.nz)

[www.linwoodcollege.school.nz](http://www.linwoodcollege.school.nz)

[www.shirley.school.nz](http://www.shirley.school.nz)

[www.cghs.school.nz](http://www.cghs.school.nz)

[www.villa.school.nz](http://www.villa.school.nz)

[www.papanui.school.nz](http://www.papanui.school.nz)

[www.hillmorton.school.nz](http://www.hillmorton.school.nz)

[www.avonside.school.nz](http://www.avonside.school.nz)

[www.christscollege.com](http://www.christscollege.com)

[www.riccarton.school.nz](http://www.riccarton.school.nz)

[www.stc.school.nz](http://www.stc.school.nz)

## ON THE CALENDAR

6	Mon 25 May	Tue 26 May	Wed 27 May	Thu 28 May	Fri 29 May
			Y3 / 4 Garden to Table	Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Technology
7	Mon 25 May	Tue 26 May	Wed 27 May	Thu 28 May	Fri 29 May
	Kapahaka		Y3 / 4 Garden to Table		Y7 / 8 Technology
8	Mon 1 June	Tue 2 June	Wed 3 June	Thu 4 June	Fri 5 June
	Queen's Birthday		Y3 / 4 Garden to Table	Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Technology
9	Mon 8 June	Tue 9 June	Wed 10 June	Thu 11 June	Fri 12 June
	Kapahaka		Y3 / 4 Garden to Table		Y7 / 8 Technology
10	Mon 15 June	Tue 16 Jun	Wed 17 June	Thu 18 June	Fri 19 June
	Kapahaka		Y3 / 4 Garden to Table	Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Technology
11	Mon 22 June	Tue 23 June	Wed 24 June	Thu 25 June	Fri 26 June
	Kapahaka	NE – Y4 Cross Country			Y7 / 8 Technology
12	Mon 29 June	Tue 30 June	Wed 1 July	Thu 2 July	Fri 3 July
	Kapahaka			Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Technology