



St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene
Newsletter 3 Date 10 March 2022

BOT UPDATE

Kiaora tātou, I hope you are all managing as well as can be. As cases continue to increase steadily in our community, our school has the planning in place to manage as best possible, including support for those tamariki isolating at home. However, it's also good to reach out to your own community and have your own plan in place before it happens. We have just gone into isolation as a family and it's been great to know that help is out there should we need it- and that we can reciprocate when the time comes.

In other news, on Sunday the Board had a Hui to discuss the proposed Ministry framework for improving Maori outcomes in schools. We had an enlightening and useful discussion about how we can approach this at Hato Mātine/St Martins. We hope to be able to share more details with you, and get your feedback, later in the year.

Ngā mihi nui
Kate

SCHOOL UPDATE

We have had our first class based off-site EOTC trips this week. The Y3 / 4 children have enjoyed the opportunity to visit Ferrymead as part of their "Stepping Back in time", a Social Sciences / History topic. A highlight of the trip from the children's perspective has been the hands-on role playing activities related to school life, housework and heritage games / toys from the past.

Thanks for the great response to our Wheel or Walk to school week. It has been fabulous to see so many children, families and staff members getting involved. We've had a variety of wheels coming through the gate each day. Wonderful to see students actively collecting rubbish on Tuesday or dressing up their wheels on Wednesday. Hopefully Think about it Thursday has given students a chance to reflect on their method of transport to school each day - could they walk or wheel more often?

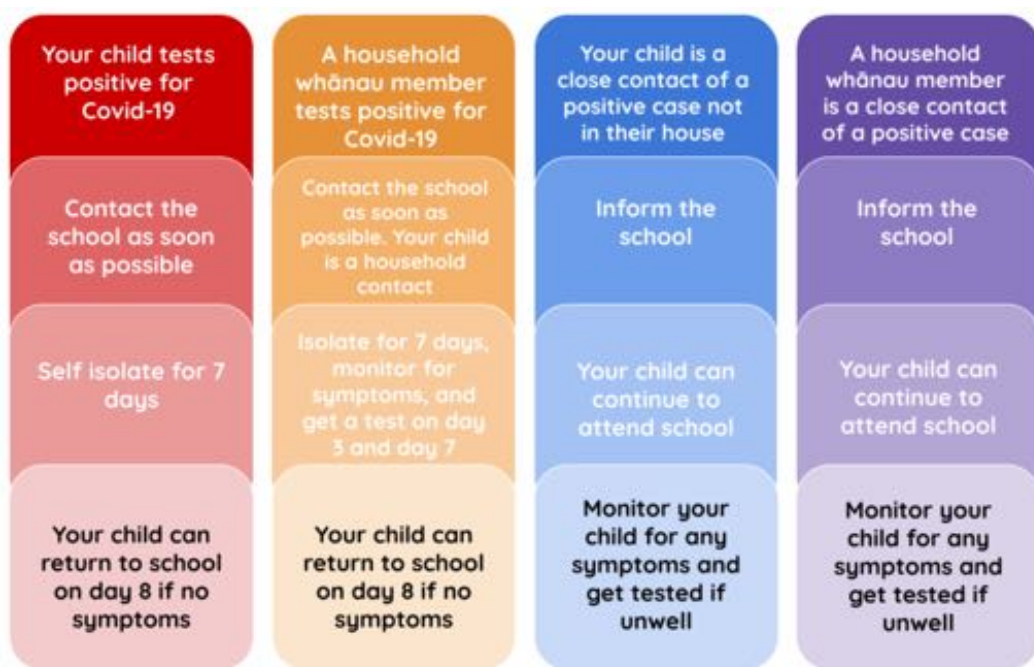
We have unfortunately had some vandalism of one of our main basketball hoops on the top court. This has meant that we have had



to take the hoop off to be repaired. We have noticed an increase in rubbish and children on the roof. Please remind your children to respect the school environment out of school hours as you would expect them to during school hours. Enjoy an autumnal weekend - Andrew

COVID UPDATE

We continue to see a gradual increase in both positive and household contacts. Currently we have nine positive cases and 14 household contacts across the school. However, we are now also seeing students return to school on their 11th day which is great news. Now that there is a greater reliance on Rapid Antigen Tests (RAT), there is also a greater reliance on our community to independently follow the guidelines. A reminder of current practice.



The orange column is just as important as the red column. If you have covid in your household please make sure children stay home as household contacts. We are currently waiting for further information from the MoE around the change to the number of days for isolation coming into effect on Friday. We have updated the above information to meet the guideline changes to a seven day isolation. At this point with testing on day seven we are assuming that day eight would be the return day.

SMART COMMUNITY

Unfortunately most Smart Community events from our usual social calendar are currently on hold due to ongoing Covid restrictions but we hope to be back with some fun activities later in the year.

The Great Bulb Fundraiser

A reminder to get those orders in for The Great Bulb Fundraiser. What better way to support the school and create a glorious garden for Spring! Please return your order forms to the office ASAP.



Chartered Accountant needed

We are looking for a Chartered Accountant in our school community who could provide an hour or two of their time in the next few weeks from the comfort of their own home. The SMART Community (PTA) financial statements are required to be reviewed by a Chartered Accountant prior to the AGM. It's very straightforward - we use MYOB and our treasurer is also an accountant, but a separate review is required under the SMART Community rules. Note that there is no audit or review opinion required. If you can help please get in touch with Tracy at treasurer@smartcommunity.org.nz

The S'mart Committee AGM

A correction from the last newsletter- the AGM will be held on Wednesday, MAY 11 (not March, as previously stated). This gives you even more time to decide to come along and get involved in our wonderful community! There is a regular committee meeting on Monday, March 28.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES REVIEW

The School Policies and Procedures under Parent/Caregiver review this term are:

- Visitors
- Contact in an Emergency
- COVID-19 Information and Procedures

To read and review these policies:

- Go to the School Docs Policies and Procedures site:
<https://www.stmartins.school.nz/about-st-martins/policiesprocedures/>
- Enter the username (stmartins) and password (huntsbury).
- Click on the **Current Review** tab, read the information and if you would like to provide feedback click on the red "Under Review" tab. The closing date to provide feedback is Thursday 17th March.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Community Dental Service suspended

Community Dental Service has suspended some of its services as of 5pm Wednesday 9th March 2022 to provide support to the Canterbury health sector in response to Omicron.

We will continue to provide relief of pain clinics by appointment only from Thursday 10th March. You can access these appointments or dental advice by calling our Contact Centre on 0800 846 983.

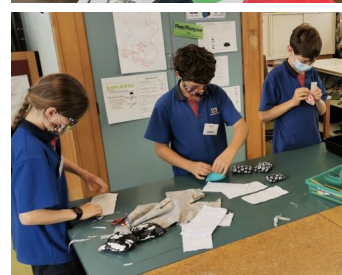
COMMUNITY NOTICES

Brain Plus

Brain Play runs online science & technology classes for students ages 5 - 13. See <https://www.brainplay.co.nz/courses> for info on days & times, and click "Enrol" once you're ready to book. We also run one off events to the themes of Minecraft, Roblox, 3D Printing & Girls Only workshops! Click "events" on our website to learn more."

Clever Little Bees - Beekeeping Courses

Ever wanted to learn more about bees? Want the opportunity to see inside a hive? Now's your chance! Learn practical beekeeping skills in a safe and supportive learning environment. For enquiries and bookings, please contact Kathryn at cleverlittlebees@gmail.com or 027 863 8730. Adult classes are



also available, please contact Kathryn for more information www.cleverlittlebees.co.nz - cleverlittlebees@gmail.com

Environment Canterbury Draft Annual Plan - Community Consultation

Environment Canterbury is asking for public consultation on its draft Annual Plan 2022/23 from

Wednesday 2 March to Sunday 3 April 2022. All information about

the proposals and how to have your say can be found at

ecan.govt.nz/annualplan22 Environment Canterbury

haveyoursay@ecan.govt.nz

Helen O’Grady Drama Academy - “Development Through

Drama” We can help your child grow in confidence, increase their self esteem, develop their speech and language skills, express

themselves creatively, make new friends and learn how to be part

of a team all while having lots of fun! For more information please

call Helen on 021 124 3633 or Email: enquiries@helenogrady.co.nz

<http://www.helenogrady.co.nz/>



ON THE CALENDAR

6	Mon 7 Mar	Tue 8 Mar	Wed 9 Mar	Thu 10 Mar	Fri 11 Mar
	Walk or Wheel to school week (Week 6)	Rm21/22 Ferrymead Trip HPV Vaccinations	GTT Rm 23/24	Rm23/24 Ferrymead Trip Y7 / 8 Korfball Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Tech Y5 / 6 Korfball
7	Mon 14 Mar	Tue 15 Mar	Wed 16 Mar	Thu 17 Mar	Fri 18 Mar
	Rms 4, 7, 8 Ferrymead Trip		Rm 9/10 Ferrymead Trip GTT Rm 21/22	Y5-8 Canterbury Triathlon	Y7 / 8 Tech Y5 / 6 Korfball Y5-8 Zone Swimming
8	Mon 21 Mar	Tue 22 Mar	Wed 23 Mar	Thu 24 Mar	Fri 25 Mar
		BoT Meeting 6.30pm	GTT Rm 23/24	Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Tech Y5 / 6 Korfball
9	Mon 28 Mar	Tues 29 Mar	Wed 30 Mar	Thu 31 Mar	Fri 1 Apr
	Y8 GRIP Leaders Yr 7 & 8 Camp Parents Meeting		GTT Rm 21/22 William Pike Trip-Port Hills	Y5-8 Canterbury Swimming	Y7 / 8 Tech Y5 / 6 Korfball
10	Mon 4 Apr	Tue 5 Apr	Wed 6 Apr	Thu 7 Apr	Fri 8 Apr
			GTT Rm 23/24	Newsletter	Y7 / 8 Tech
	Y7 / 8 Camp - Glentui				
11	Mon 11 Apr	Tues 12 Apr	Wed 13 Apr	Thurs 14 Apr	Fri 15 Apr
			GTT Rm 21/22	Last day of T1	Good Friday