



St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 20 : Thursday 14 December 2023

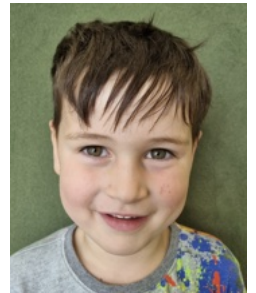
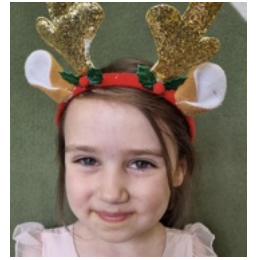
BOARD UPDATE

As 2023 comes to an end we can look back on another exceptional year at St Martins. It was great to see so many parents interested in joining the school board during the last election. We welcome back Ranui Calman as an elected member along with new member Joseph Hampton. We bid farewell to Kate Hodgins who has been on the board for the past 6 years, and was Presiding Member for the last 3. We thank Kate for her dedication to the role and greatly appreciate the experience she brought to the board. Mark Broughton has also stepped down from the board after 6 years, and has recently formed the playground committee for our younger tamariki. Mark was always very passionate for the wellbeing of the students, and we thank him for his valued contribution. During Kate & Mark's tenure there have been some major projects including the Lachie Garden, classroom development and extension to the school hall. We would also like to thank the teachers & support staff for their dedication and ongoing commitment to our students and families. We appreciate their consistent dedication, and countless hours spent outside school time to make St Martins a great place to learn. Wishing you all a great Christmas & New Year.

Ngā mihi,

Dan Levett

Presiding member



SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome to Sebastian and Ginerva to St Martins School | Hato Mātene. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to school.

What a fun filled few weeks we have had to finish off the year. Lots of teams getting out and about to enjoy the summer weather. We have also had a number of wonderful celebration events, last week we had the Y8 graduation filled with awards, dancing and conversation. This week we started with Diane's farewell where the kapahaka and orchestra groups performed, the Discoverers held their diorama exhibition and the Explorers shared the Christmas concert. If you are wanting to see a few snippets of some of these events have a look on our facebook page.

Good luck to our wonderful Y8 group as they move into their next year of learning transitioning into High School. You are a talented group that have a lot to offer. We hope you take away not only the learning you have completed in the classroom but also a strong sense of self and the ability to get involved.



Last night the PTA hosted a thank you event for the whānau who were able to help out throughout the year. Firstly we thank the PTA for their wonderful work throughout the year. Thanks to Emma for leading the PTA group, a great balance between new resources for our ākonga and events to bring our community together. Thank you to all of the parent volunteers throughout the year. We have really enjoyed your support across the school. Schooling is an opportunity to create memories together with your child, they will always remember the times you were available to join them with their learning. Thank you for your support, dedication, and enthusiasm that have defined our collective journey.

I want to extend my gratitude to our remarkable community – parents, guardians, caregivers, and families – for entrusting us with the education and well-being of your children. Your ongoing support, encouragement, and partnership have been invaluable in creating a nurturing and thriving environment for our students to learn and grow. To our esteemed faculty and staff: your commitment to excellence, passion for teaching, and tireless efforts in fostering a positive learning environment have made an impact on the lives of our tamariki. Your dedication to their success and well-being is truly commendable, and I am profoundly grateful for your hard work and unwavering dedication day in and day out.

Our ākonga are the heartbeat of the school. Your curiosity, resilience, and eagerness to learn continue to inspire us each day. Your achievements, big and small, demonstrate your hard work and determination, and we couldn't be prouder of all that you have accomplished this year.

As we look forward to a well-deserved break, we reflect on the successes of this year, celebrating our shared achievements. The holiday season offers us a time to connect with our loved ones, recharge, and embrace the festive season.

I wish each and every one of you a wonderful holiday season filled with warmth, laughter and time spent with family and friends. May the coming year bring renewed energy, exciting opportunities, and continued success for our Hato Mātene community.

Meri Kirihimete,
Andrew



SCHOOL NOTICES

The school office will reopen for 2024 from 10am for enquiries Monday 29th January. Uniform will be available on Wednesday 31st from 10am till 2.00pm and the PTA will be running a second hand uniform sale between 12pm and 2.00pm the same day.

PTA UPDATE

Save The Date: The Back to School BBQ will be held on Friday 16th February 2024 from 4pm.

Christmas Raffle: Last chance to buy tickets, \$2 per ticket, \$10 for six tickets. Email info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz before 6pm tonight (Thursday) to secure your tickets. All proceeds will go towards the Garden to Table Programme, check out the GTT vegetable gardens and orchard up the driveway.

Working Bee: Thank you to those who came out on Sunday afternoon when the sun was almost shining for a big pre-summer holiday garden tidy up. Special thanks to the students that work so hard gardening and collecting many tubs of rubbish: Bodhi, Ben C, Rosie B, Louise M, Gus and Bridget.

Touch Season: We rounded out seven uninterrupted weeks of touch last week with a season finale dress up week which the teams embraced and turned out some great individual and team outfits, check out the photos. Thank you to all the players, coaches, managers, referees, Sign Up Genius helpers and the organising team for bringing a great season to our community. Thank you to Gelato Lab for donating vouchers for the best dressed teams.

Final Thank You: A sincere thank you to our school community for all the support this year with fundraising and social events, you



have enabled us to raise over \$32,000 for the benefit of all tamariki.

To the PTA Committee, thank you for your tireless work this year. Hours of volunteer time goes into everything we do, your commitment and enthusiasm are valued and appreciated.

Meri Kirihimete me te Hape Nū Ia! From St Martins School PTA Committee

/Next PTA Meeting: Monday 12th February 2024, 7.30pm, Staff Room

Contact Us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

STUDENT CORNER

Sophia Bouman (Room 19) has written a beautiful piece titled 'The Storm' that was selected from hundreds of submissions to appear in Write On 61: Uncommon Sense Magazine. She was presented her copy last week where she read her writing out to a large audience. This is an amazing achievement and celebrates Sophia's creative writing skills.

The Storm

Going for a boat ride with my dad, that was my happy place; that was when I felt alive. However, not that last time. That time there was a storm. The thrashing waves on the beach stung us that day. But worst of all, they drowned him.

I felt guilty seeing my father's face after the storm, drenched in water. His dead stare.

Was it my fault? Why did I survive?


I wish the waves had taken me too. I wish they had pushed me down, engulfing me in the deep. Then I wouldn't be alone sulking in my room. Without him

Sophia Bouman Year 6

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Do you need a babysitter?

Emily is a year 10 student at Te Aratai College and is available for babysitting. Emily is an ex St Martins student who is reliable, trustworthy and great with children. If you are interested please contact Jo 021 029 31359 (Emily's Mum).



NOW HIRING!
AFTER SCHOOL CARE SUPERVISOR

**DO YOU ENJOY: WORKING WITH CHILDREN?
WORKING IN A GREAT TEAM? AFTERNOON
HOURS? THIS IS THE JOB FOR YOU!**

SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES WILL:

- Love working with children
- Be available to work the after school care programme (From 2.30 - 6.00pm ALL week days)
- Have experience managing groups of children
- Have behaviour management experience
- Undergo a police check and support our culture of child protection
- Have great communication skills and enjoy working in a team environment

With the possibility of before school care 7.15-8.30am & School Holidays
LOCATION: St Martins/Beckenham Area of Christchurch
EMAIL: Please send your CV to info@thehomeworkclub.co.nz

TERM 4 2023

10	Mon 11 Dec	Tue 12 Dec	Wed 13 Dec	Thu 14 Dec	Fri 15 Dec
	9.45am Farewell Assembly for Diane 6pm Whanau Group Hui (staffroom)	Navigators sailing 11.30am Explorers Christmas Concert	Navigators sailing Year 8 Amazing Race Reports go home 4pm Class Placements	Navigators sailing pp SMS Newsletter Yr 7&8 Pool Day 11.30-2.30pm Yr3-4 Waltham Pool	Ironman Assembly Yr 0-4 9am 2.15pm Assembly Yr 5-8 10am Meet Next Year's Teacher 1-3pm Explorers Water Fun
11	Mon 18 Dec	Tue 19 Dec			
		Last Day of School Closes 12.30			

2024 SCHOOL DATES

2024 Term 1

Wed 31 January to Fri 12 April

- Wed 31 Jan & Thu 1 Feb - Whānau Connect
- Fri 2 Feb - All classes begin
- Waitangi Day - Tuesday 6 February - School Closed
- Easter Weekend - Friday 29 March - Tuesday 2 April - School Closed

2024 Term 2

Monday 29 April to Friday 5 July

- King's Birthday - Monday 3 June - School Closed
- Matariki - Friday 28 June - School Closed
- + 1 MoE Curriculum Refresh Staff Only Day - Date to be Confirmed

2024 Term 3

Monday 22 July to Friday 27 September

- Staff Only Day - Date to be Confirmed

2024 Term 4

Monday 14 October to Wednesday 18 December

- Labour Day - Monday 28 October - School Closed
- Canterbury Anniversary - Friday 15 November - School Closed
- + 1 MoE Curriculum Refresh Staff Only Day - Date to be Confirmed