



## St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 3 : Thursday 7th March 2024

### SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome to Freddie and Chloe. Welcome back to Leo. We hope you all enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins | Hato Mātene.

Although we send the newsletter home each fortnight as a digital copy, there are hard copies in the office and we are using the display boards at the front of the school to house a paper copy for you to read.

After consultation with whānau and staff in 2023 our 2024 / 2025 strategic plan will focus on the following three areas:

- Developing an understanding and implementation of the NZ curriculum refresh
- Enhancing our understanding of and support for gifted | pūmanawa ākonga
- Continuing to develop and implement aspects of the Positive Behaviour for Learning programme

Our class programmes are up and running. It is fabulous to be back in the routines of reading, maths and writing groups. We hope that whānau will be able to join us on Tuesday 26 March (5.30pm) for an evening information session based on structured literacy, followed up on Wednesday 27 (9.00am) with the opportunity to visit classrooms and see this programme in action.

During the last two weeks we have continued to focus on the value of respect. We shifted our smaller focus to using manners on a regular basis. It is great to see ākonga across the school holding doors open, waiting for their turn to share, enquiring into how someone else's day is going.

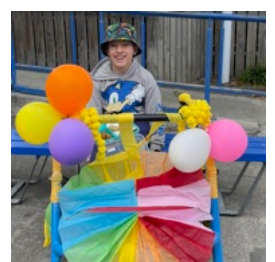
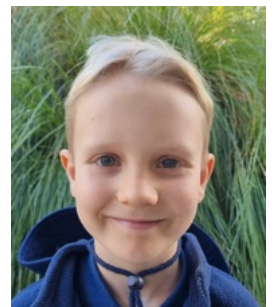
We are continuing to work on walking our scooters and bikes through the school and up the driveway. This week's wheel and walk to school has been well received, thanks to the student council and Miss Alice Denley for coordinating this, being at the waharoa and pathway each morning to give out spot prizes or tu whitia tokens for being involved. Our Y7 / 8 PALs (playground activity leaders) were supported by Miss Kate Keenan last week to receive training to help our young tamariki in the playground during break times. Yesterday it was awesome to see our leaders with games of mini tennis being played. Good luck to the Y 5 - 8 tamariki competing at the zone swimming sports on Monday. We hope that you have a great event.

We have been working through the new requirements from the Government with the emphasis on doing the basics brilliantly. The expectation is for all schools to have an hour of reading, writing and maths per day. Most of this time needs to be directed teaching with the remainder able to be integrated into other subjects. Our wonderful team leaders have led conversations around this requirement, looked at the models provided by the government and compared these to the timetables we have in place for 2024. We are confident that we are meeting the criteria providing quality learning in all three areas across the school.

As always if you want to stop by to have a chat, either myself, Alice or Leanne are usually at the waharoa each morning.

Kia pai te wiki mutunga, have a great weekend.

Andrew



## SCHOOL FOCUS

Positive Behaviour for Learning (PB4L) is a Ministry initiative that is being implemented in over 1000 schools across New Zealand. The PB4L process is long term, and expected to take 3-4 years to embed. The aim is to help parents, whānau, and teachers address problem behaviour, improve children's wellbeing and increase educational achievement. This is achieved by putting systems in place with clear expectations, incentives and restorative consequences which are principles at the heart of PB4L.

The SMS | HM Vision is

**...to create a positive climate and culture of belonging and engagement for all.**

The first set of skills to be developed are for our whole community (whānau, staff, students) to focus on when in the St Martins School environment. This stems from the value of respect and includes everyone, everywhere at all times.

Weeks 5-7	Using Manners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Greeting appropriately</li> <li>● Follow instructions</li> <li>● Consider others</li> <li>● Be patient</li> <li>● Open doors for others</li> <li>● Walk on the left</li> <li>● Check in on others</li> <li>● Wait to join conversations</li> </ul>
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It would be wonderful if all members of our community could model these for our tamariki.



## SCHOOL NOTICES

### ATTENDANCE

#### How does occasional absence affect my child?

Missing occasional days from school may seem unimportant at the time; however, this can have a significant impact on your child in the long term. A pupil with 85% attendance is missing nearly half a term of learning time each school year.

% of Attendance in a School Year	Number of Days Absent	Weeks Missed
98%	4	Less than 1 week
95%	9.5	Nearly 2 weeks
90%	19	Nearly 4 weeks
85%	28.5	Nearly 6 weeks

Please remember - late arrivals also add up over time - being 10 minutes late each day adds up to two weeks of lost learning time over the whole school year. It can also make your child feel a bit unsettled, as well as missing out on important notices or information that teachers share at the start of each day.

#### If your child is going to be absent?

You can lodge absences:

- via the Hero App
- phone the office on 3326121 and leave a message
- Via the school website here: [Report Absence - St Martins School](#)

Please do not email the teacher directly as they may be in class and not checking emails. If we don't receive a message the office will make contact with you.

## READING HELPERS

We have a group of wonderful parents and grandparents who work with children in the junior area of the school, one to one, to improve their reading skills. This involves one hour each week on a day that suits the volunteer. Patience, a sense of humour and a listening ear are the qualifications needed. I will provide the appropriate books and guidelines about what to do. We would love some new helpers.

If this sounds like you and you would like to find out more, please contact Cate van Leuven, Reading Recovery Teacher, St Martins School. Email: [catevl@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:catevl@stmartins.school.nz)

## SCHOOL HALL HIRE

The St Martins School Hall is available for hire for your next event. The hall has a fully equipped kitchen, music and overhead projector, tables and chairs available for use. If you are interested to learn more about the cost and availability, please email the school office on [office@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:office@stmartins.school.nz)

## PTA UPDATE

**Ice Block Fundraiser:** We were overwhelmed with your support; we will ensure there are lots more paddle pops next time! Thanks for supporting our first Ice Block Friday Fundraiser.

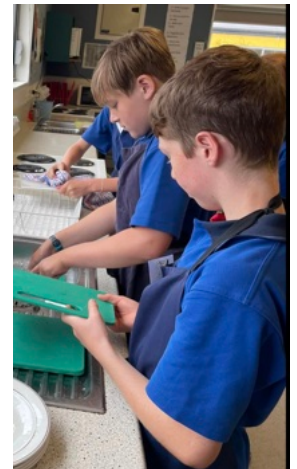
**Working Bee:** Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March starting at 9am, great for William Pike hours and a satisfying way to support school. Morning tea is provided so please let us know if you are coming along: [info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz](mailto:info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz)


**Easter Raffle:** Back in 2024! There will be five hampers to win, if you have any items or tasty treats you would like to contribute towards the hampers, please drop into the school office before Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, thank you! Ticket sales start the week of 18<sup>th</sup> March.

**Save The Date:** Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May from 4pm will be our inaugural Community Rogaine event. We are very fortunate to have some talented and passionate families in our school community to support this family friendly event. The event will be suitable for families new to rogaining and for those with experience. Rogaining is a mix of navigation, adventure (small scale for ours), strategy and most importantly, fun.

**Contact Us:** [info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz](mailto:info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz)    **Facebook:** St Martins School PTA

**Next Meeting:** Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 7.30pm, Staff Room





**BUILDING LITERATE  
BRAINS**

**PARENT INFORMATION EVENING**

IMPLEMENTING A STRUCTURED LITERACY APPROACH



- THE HISTORY OF LEARNING TO READ - INTRODUCING THE SCIENCE OF READING
- AN INSIGHT INTO HOW CHILDREN LEARN TO READ AND WRITE - LET'S LOOK AT THE BRAIN
- WHY STRUCTURED LITERACY IS THE PLATFORM WE SHOULD BE TEACHING ALL STUDENTS FROM
- INTRODUCTION TO THE IDEAL APPROACH AT YOUR SCHOOL

**ST MARTINS SCHOOL HALL**

**TUESDAY 26TH MARCH**

**5.30PM-6.30PM.**

RSVP ON HERO OR EMAIL THE SCHOOL OFFICE





**STRUCTURED  
LITERACY  
OPEN MORNING**

**YOU ARE INVITED TO COME IN  
AND SEE STRUCTURED LITERACY  
IN ACTION**

**EVERY CLASSROOM IS OPEN**

**WEDNESDAY 27TH MARCH**

**9.00AM-9.30AM.**

IT IS ADVISABLE TO VISIT ONE  
CLASS AND SEE THE LESSON FROM  
START TO FINISH



## TERM 1 2024

7	Mon 11 Mar	Tues 12 Mar	Wed 13 Mar	Thur 14 Mar	Fri 15 Mar
	Zone Swimming Whānau Group Hui 6 - 7.30pm (staffroom) William Pike (group 1) Trip - Taylors Mistake 9am-1.30pm		GTT Room 13 & 14	Year 5 & 6 Korfball William Pike (group 2) Trip - Taylors Mistake 11 am-3.30pm	
8	Mon 18 Mar	Tues 19 Mar	Wed 20 Mar	Thur 21 Mar	Fri 22 Mar
	Year 7 & 8 Wainui Camp rm 9, 10 & 21			Year 7 & 8 Wainui Camp rm 11 & 12	
	Year 7 & 8 PCT PTA meeting 7.30 - 8.30pm (Staffroom)	Year 5 - 8 Canterbury Triathlon Dis. 1 Victoria Square & Margaret Mahy Trip 9 -1pm Board meeting 6pm (staffroom)	GTT - Room 15 & 16	School Newsletter Year 5 & 6 Korfball Dis. 2 Victoria Square & Margaret Mahy Trip 2.30 - 3.30pm Navigators - Kate Sheppard House Trip	Navigators - Kate Sheppard House Trip
9	Mon 25 Mar	Tues 26 Mar	Wed 27 Mar	Thur 28 Mar	Fri 29 Mar
	Year 7 & 8 HPV vaccinations		Canterbury Swimming GTT - Room 13 & 14	Year 5 & 6 Korfball	Good Friday School closed
10	Mon 1 Apr	Tues 2 Apr	Wed 3 Apr	Thur 4 Apr	Fri 5 Apr
	Easter Monday School closed	Easter Tuesday School closed	GTT Room 15 & 16 Navigators - Kate Sheppard House Trip	School Newsletter Year 5 & 6 Korfball	9.am: 0-4 Assembly 2.15: 5-8 Assembly
11	Mon 8 Apr	Tues 9 Apr	Wed 10 Apr	Thur 11 Apr	Fri 12 Apr
	Year 5 - 8 Korfball	Yr 7/8 League Tournament		Year 5 & 6 Korfball	Last day of Term 1

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### April holidays Rams & Pouākai basketball camps

Coached by Tall Blacks Taylor Britt, Walter Brown and Max Darling, and Tall Fern Esra McGoldrick!  
Junior camps year 5–8. Senior camps years 9–13. Registrations close April 14th.

Rams Camps: <https://canterburyrams.basketball/camps/>

Pouākai Camps: <https://pouakai.basketball/camps/>

Also, make sure to vote for your classroom in our competition to win Sal's Pizza delivered by the Canterbury Rams team. For more information, head to:

<https://canterburyrams.basketball/win-sals-pizza-with-the-rams/>

### Resonance Ensemble concert on 24th of March

On Sunday March 24th some of our Itinerary music tutors; Cornelia Didenko - violin, Naomi Harmer - cello, Greg Knowles - trumpet and Jenny Gough - orchestra will be performing in 'Spirit of the Land at The Piano. Come along and enjoy this musical spectacle!

### Cashmere Tech Football - Registrations are open now!

Registrations for CTFC's Junior and Youth teams are open now. We have a range of teams that suit all players, whether you want to try



playing football for the first time or are returning for another year - CTFC welcomes you. Click here to register.



**Huntsbury Preschool**

# OPEN DAY

## FRIDAY

### 8 MARCH

10 - 11:30 AM

**WE OFFER:**

- 100% Qualified teachers
- Great teacher/child ratio
- Not for profit centre
- Nature Play



Spaces are currently available. Enroll today!

- Phone 03 332 6001
- Huntsbury Community Centre
- Now open during School Holidays



**Off Centre Arts Festival**  
8 - 9 March 2024

Loads of fun, free and low cost entertainment for tamariki and their whānau on Sat 9 March.

Music with Mitchell  
The Twisty Twinz Arrr Bock!  
The Three Little Pigs  
Mr Big Head  
Caterpillars

Full programme & bookings  
[artscentre.org.nz](http://artscentre.org.nz)



# REGISTRATION DAY



**2-4 PM**  
**WALTHAM POOL**  
**3RD MARCH**

**FREE POOL ENTRY FOR ALL REGISTRATIONS**