



## St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 20 : 12 December 2024

### BOARD UPDATE

As we near the end of another busy and successful year, I would like to thank on behalf of the board, all those who have contributed in some way to our tamariki's schooling, whether this be as a caregiver, school staff or wider community. We appreciate all of your hard work and commitment throughout the year.

2025 will be a triennial election year for our school Board. Elections are to be held in September (date tbc) We will have 3 spaces to fill as current members look to step down due to other commitments or their children leaving Primary School.

As a board we aim to have a cross section of many expertise to help govern the direction of the school.

If you have a background in accountancy, project / property management / education these are the areas we are looking for and you might want to consider submitting a nomination in 2025.

For more information about how school Boards operate, visit the School Board Association website [here](#) or contact me on [bot@stmartins.school.nz](mailto:bot@stmartins.school.nz) if you have any questions.

More details and updates about the election will be coming out via HERO closer to the time I wish you all a very restful and happy Christmas and holiday break with your families

Meri Kirihimete,

Dan Levett (Board Chair)

### SCHOOL UPDATE

Kia ora koutou e te whānau, Thanks to this year's fabulous Y8 group. You have successfully completed 8 years of primary school, whether with us for all of the time or arriving from another school, you are all ready for your next learning adventure.

Remember to lean into the words you want to be known for, if it's;

1. Seeing the good in life.
2. Seeing the good in others.
3. Being confident or resilient.

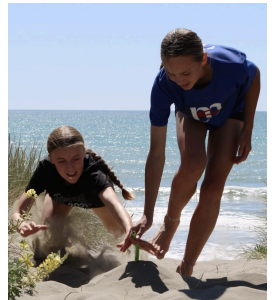
Make sure the actions and interactions you choose reflect well on you. Do your best when your best is needed.

Thanks to the Y8 whānau who have supported the school and may now be leaving with their child. We wish you all the very best and thank you for allowing us as a kura toi be a part of your family.

Thanks to our amazing staff members for your wonderful mahi throughout the year. Our tamariki have really appreciated your effort and dedication to support all of the things that make up a positive school environment.

The Board and Whānau group have all been supporting the school, ensuring the resources we are able to use or the programmes we have in place are making a difference for all of our ākonga.

Emma and her team on the PTA have continued to provide opportunities for both parents and children to engage socially in school events as well as raising funds for resources and equipment, ending the year with a positive bank balance in readiness to support the start of the junior playground work. Thanks for organising the end of year 'Thank You' drinks at Protocol last night.



We truly appreciate all of the support you have given us this year, it could be three day camps, trips, helping regularly at garden to table, in class support or learning at home. Your involvement makes a positive difference to the programmes and events we can offer as well as the lovely impact it has on your children seeing you involved.

There are lots of fantastic accomplishments through the school for 2024. This might be individual progress in curriculum areas, getting better in the pool, being on the stage at Tūhono, competing beyond our school in the zones or Canterbury events. Perhaps it is in a team achieving success within the school or in competition. Whatever successes you have had, celebrate them, talk about them with your family and friends during the break. We would like to give a big shout out to the St Martin's Menzshed who have kindly made us 15 signs for the garden and orchard. They painted them white so the children can paint them up with the names of the trees. That way we will always know which tree is which as they go through their cycles of blossoming & fruiting. It will also make our fruit more secure with a please no picking message.

We are really enjoying the end of year events, Y8 graduation, swimming sessions, beach days, Christmas shows and sharing of passion projects and dioramas. Thanks to everyone involved in organising these and to the families able to support them.

Have a lovely summer break, I hope you can find some time to be with your families and enjoy the things you love doing together. If you are transitioning away from our kura, we wish you all the very best for your next learning adventure.

Have a safe and restful break, we look forward to seeing you back at school in the new year to see what exciting things 2025 has in store for us.

Meri Kirihimete,  
Andrew

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The school calendar of events can now be found at our school website at this [link](#). Or via your HERO app. Please check this regularly to stay up to date with any changes to our events dates / times.

## 2025 TERM DATES

T1 = Friday 31 Jan - 11 April

- Friday 31 and Monday 3 Feb = Whānau connect
- Please note there will be two staff only days in term one, dates TBC

T2 = 28 April - 27 June

T3 = 14 July - 19 Sept

T4 = 6 Oct - 18 Dec (Last day of year we will finish at 12.30pm)

## PB4L

*'To create a positive climate and culture of belonging and engagement for all'*

For the remainder of the year each learning team has a different focus in response to the emerging needs being identified.

An underlying concept for PB4L is **self regulation** because it helps children learn, behave well and get along with others.

In its simplest form self regulation is having the ability to monitor and manage rising emotions or energy levels that result from either external experiences and/or internal thoughts.

From awareness then comes the development and practice of healthy coping strategies. Self regulation strategies will look different for each age group. A google search will bring up many different activities to support families to foster these skills in their children at home.





## PTA UPDATE

A sincere thank you to our school community for all the support this year with fundraising and social events. 2024 in review: Back to School BBQ, working bees, movie night, Move X, bingo night, second-hand uniform sales, rogaine, Easter raffle, ice block Friday, tea towels, Market Day, disco, Karma Keg, baking and lunches, touch rugby, Thank You Evening. Thanks to all the support we have had as a PTA, we finish the year in a strong financial position ready to support the junior playground development when requested.

**Save The Date:** Back to School BBQ Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2024 from 4.30 – 7.30pm.

Sign up to help here! [Back to School BBQ Helpers](#)

To the PTA Committee, a sincere thank you for your tireless work this year. Hours of volunteer time and energy go 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

Contact Us: [info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz](mailto:info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz)

Fundraising Website: [www.stmartinsptafundraiser.com](http://www.stmartinsptafundraiser.com)

Next Meeting: Monday 10th February 2025.

## STUDENT CORNER Celebrating student achievements & events

### Raranga hui afternoon

On the afternoon of Friday 29th November whānau members gathered for a Raranga hui. Kai was shared before ākonga went out to learn the tikanga to gather harakeke. We then went inside to learn the art of Raranga with Cocoa. Everyone had a great afternoon and went home with a Putiputi of their own!

## COMMUNITY NOTICES

### Pirates of the Curry Bean! - The Luminaires

Anchors away and set sail for the swashbuckling pirate adventure on the high seas in this piratical musical that's sure to shake your booty!

See our very own Reese McKinley (year 5) in the Luminaires abso-loot-ley hilarious musical for families. January 21-26th. Fantastic school holiday activity. Tickets from \$5 <https://events.humanitix.com/pirates>

### The Star of Christmas: WIN \$1000 to spend at JB Hi-Fi

This Christmas morning on Newstalk ZB – it's The Star of Christmas singing competition on The Crazy Kiwi Christmas Kids Show! The grand prize? \$1000 in JB Hi-Fi gift cards!

If you can sing, and are under 13, email a recording of yourself singing a Christmas carol to [christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz](mailto:christmas@newstalkzb.co.nz) before the 18th December. Then tune into Newstalk ZB on Christmas morning from 8am to see if you've won!





Age 4-10yrs

IMAGINE PLAY CREATE

### CHILDREN'S PROCESS DRAMA

WORKSHOPS

[storybox.chch@gmail.com](mailto:storybox.chch@gmail.com)

[storybox.chch](http://storybox.chch)



REGISTER NOW

Scan the QR code or register here:  
<https://forms.gle/1JPpqatNo8KQgd9>

JANUARY 2025 SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

## COMMUNITY dental service



### Tips for Healthy Teeth

- Brush twice a day with fluoride toothpaste
- Choose healthy snacks,
- Choose water or milk first,
- Have regular dental check-ups

Health New Zealand  
Te Whatu Ora

