



St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 7 : Thursday 29th May 2025

CALENDAR OF EVENTS & 2025 SCHOOL DATES

For live updates to the school calendar visit this [link](#) or view via your HERO app. Please check this regularly to stay up to date with any changes to our events dates / times.

2025 TERM TWO DATES

28 April - 27 June

School closed the following days:

- Staff only day - Friday 30th May
- King's birthday - Monday 2nd June
- Matariki - Friday 20th June
- Learning conferences - Friday 27 June - school closes at 12.30pm

SCHOOL UPDATE

Exciting to see the fences up and the start of the junior playground going ahead. Thank you to the playground team for your organisation of this new area. We have made the decision that the play equipment is the most important factor, with this in mind we will be installing as much of the play based items as possible. We look forward to seeing it grow and develop in the next few months. It will be a fabulous space for our Junior tamariki to play. If you are available on the weekend, we are needing to relocate the Gaga pit. With this in mind we would like to call a last minute Working Bee for this Sunday (1st June) at 10am. We appreciate that lots of families will be away for the long weekend, but whoever can make it will make the work go faster. Hopefully it will be about 2 hrs work depending on numbers attending. Weather looks good, so it should go ahead.

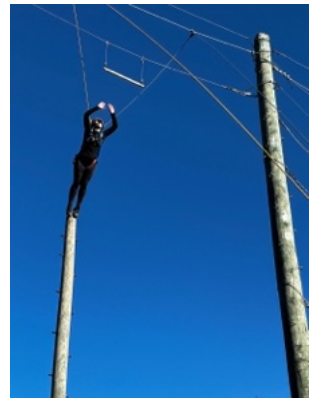
Please bring any of the following that you have if you can be there:

- Gloves
- Wheelbarrow
- Rake
- Shovel
- Power drill/driver with 8mm and 10mm hex heads (to remove screws from Gaga pit walls)
- Any other tools you have that would help digging out the post holes.

The Y7 / 8 team had a fantastic experience at Boyle River last week. Lots of exciting activities to be involved in. Thank you to our wonderful parent helpers guiding the children through the various opportunities on offer. Thanks to the kaiako involved for being 24 / 7 available support for our tamariki.

Tomorrow the school will be closed as our staff have a Professional Learning day with the schools in our Kahui Ako. As you may have heard in the news, Kahui Ako's

will not be funded from 2026, with the money saved being repurposed into other education areas announced in the budget. As a group we can decide to continue to work together as a cluster of schools based on like minded topics. As we know more for 2026 we will keep you updated. We are excited to be involved in new learning tomorrow as well as several of our teachers presenting / sharing information about our programmes. Always good to be involved in a professional give and get.



All teachers are starting to gather information for the mid-year reports. These will be available on HERO on Monday 23rd June. Alice Denley will be sharing information about the report format for 2025. We have had some new information from the Ministry of Education which will see some aspects adapted this term. As usual we will be holding our learning conferences in the last week of school giving whānau the opportunity to meet with teachers and ask any questions about the reporting process.

The Explorers are enjoying their trips to the Art Gallery, while the Discoverers have been out to Halswell Quarry to look at and discuss rock formations. Having our young ākonga using the resources outside of school to enhance their learning further strengthens the connection between classroom concepts and the wider community. Once again, thank you for the support we have to undertake these events.

Jarad Pateman and Oscar Adams joined the Y5 - 8 children running in the zone cross country yesterday at Hansons Park. All of the children competed at a high level with a number now moving on to compete at the Canterbury event.

Last week we started our winter sports competition for ākonga in the Y5 - 8 area of eth school. We have children competing at Hagley Park against schools across Christchurch as well as children involved in local competitions competing against schools in our zone. If you would like to come down and watch your child compete feel free to join us on a Thursday afternoon.

If you would like to catch up with Alice, Leanne or myself, we can often be found at the Waharoa before school.

Kia pai te ra - have a great day.

Andrew

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Alice Nix in Room 12 recently appeared on *What Now* with some of her fellow ice skaters from the Centaurus Ice Skating Club. Alice tutored the *What Now* hosts on how to become Olympic figure skaters. Alice's dedication to ice skating over the past six years has been impressive, and led her to exciting opportunities like this one. Keep up the good work Alice!

If you'd like to watch her TV segment, follow the link below, or find the video on the *What Now* Youtube channel, titled 'We had ONE HOUR to become Olympic Figure Skaters!'.

<https://youtu.be/JbB0R05a43A>

SCHOOL POLICY TERM 2 REVIEW

SchoolDocs - what is it?

NZ schools are governed by a school board and a range of policies and procedures. Our policies are hosted by SchoolDocs Ltd, an online policy and procedure service for New Zealand primary and intermediate schools.

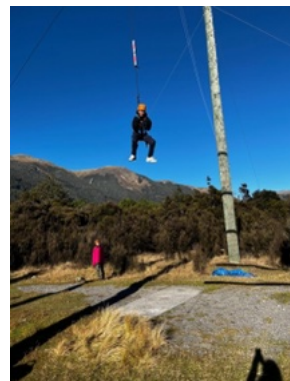
If you would like to know more about how SchoolDocs works and your involvement as a caregiver please visit the Parents and Whānau section of the SchoolDocs website.

Login here and go to the 'Current review' tab to review the following policies;

Username: stmartins

Password: huntsbury

- Planning and Preparing for Emergencies, Disasters, and Crises (board)
- Communication During an Emergency, Disaster, or Crisis (board)
- Emergency Closure (board)
- Emergency Management
- Disaster Management
- Crisis Management



SCHOOL NOTICES

The 40 Hour Challenge

Every second year, St Martins students get involved in the World Vision 40 Hour Challenge-one of New Zealand's largest youth fundraising campaigns. This year, the challenge takes place from 13th - 15th June, and our student leaders for the event are Penny, Clara, Sylvie, Rohan, and Caleb.

We're inviting students to go 40 hours completely offline. That means switching off from things like your phone, social media, gaming, the internet—or even electricity!

It's a personal challenge with a powerful impact. A 40-hour sacrifice for our tamariki can help create life-changing opportunities for children like Polyne in the Solomon Islands.

How to Join Online: Visit the 40 Hour Challenge website and sign up. Make sure you sign up through our school page. You will then be asked to make an individual profile. <https://fundraise.worldvision.org.nz/>

Our School-Wide Goal - We're aiming to raise \$5,000 this year!

To support this, St Martins School will go device-free on Friday 13th June from 9:00am to 3:00pm. If your child is participating in the 40 Hour Challenge, this can count as part of their 40 hours offline.

Even if you choose not to participate in the full challenge, we welcome all tamariki to join in by donating a coin on the day to support our fundraising efforts.

PB4L - Positive Behavior for Learning

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

We continue to work through aspects of the **Responsibility** value for weeks 5 and 6, with a particular focus on being responsible in our indoor spaces. This means ...

- Keeping spaces clutter free and organised
- Tidying up after yourself
- Putting things back where they belong



PTA UPDATE

Raffle Tickets: Last few days for raffle ticket sales! We've had great support from the school community, thank you! Sales close at 10pm on Saturday 31st May with all payments required by midday Sunday 1st June for your tickets to be valid for the first draw - \$150 grocery hamper which includes a \$50 New World voucher.

To request tickets, email us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

Pay on-line: St Martins School PTA 12-3147-0420521-00 Reference: Name and Raffle

Second-hand Uniform: The most recent second-hand uniform sale has left us with very little stock except for smaller sized fleeces. If you need a small backup fleece for winter, please get in touch. Please drop any uniform donations into the school office. Thank you.

Quiz Night: Saturday 26th July – gather your team of six, book the babysitter and look out for the registration form next week. If you need to join a team, register using the form and we'll match you up with other quizzers for a fun night. VIP tables available this year. Any quiz night questions, please get in touch.

Thank You! We would like to thank Kurt Straker, Chartered Accountant, for once again kindly auditing the PTA accounts and supporting us with our financial reporting requirements.

Support Our Supporters: The Funky Pumpkin, 290 Colombo St [Funky Pumpkin](#)

Contact Us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

Facebook: St Martins School PTA

Website: <https://www.stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz/>

Next Meeting: Monday 16th June, 7.30pm, Staff Room



WHĀNAU GROUP

Our Whānau group was established in order for our whānau to have a safe place to voice their ideas and suggestions. The Whānau Group works together with our Kura, Board of Trustees and the wider community to set goals that will raise the culture and the achievement of all of our tamariki. Having a Whānau Group in our school helps families become more involved with what is happening within the school community. Our hui are informal; we share kai and kōrero while our tamariki play together. Meetings are twice a term in Miss Barakat's classroom, located beside the school gardens on the top courts.

We welcome all families to come and join us.

Term 2 events - Room 21, top court

Meeting 3.30pm Thursday 29th May (Room 21, top court)

Whānau mid Winter Dinner 5.00pm Friday 13th June

Monday Morning Waiata

8am every Monday morning for karakia and waiata in (Room 21)

Wednesday Morning Te Reo Māori

Come and hang out with your friends and learn te reo Māori through games, crafts and pūrākau (stories). Every week at 8am

We welcome all families to come and join us.

Alexis Barakat | Whānau Group Representative

Contact: alexisbarakat22@gmail.com

Join our Facebook!

[Te rōpū whānau o Hato Matene](#)



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Rams Basketball Camps

We would like to invite your students who are interested in basketball to attend our upcoming school holiday Rams Basketball Camps. We have a Junior Camp for School Years 5 – 8 and a Senior Camp for School Years 9-13. The participants receive coaching from Canterbury Rams basketball players! The camp is suitable for all levels of basketball players with the emphasis on fun & learning new skills!

Canterbury Rams Holiday Basketball Camps
Registration - [Camps & Schools - Canterbury Rams](#)

The Rams basketball season is in full swing, if you have never been to a game or would like to check it out please see below our game ticket link. [Rams 2025 Season tickets | Tours and Events | Ticketek New Zealand](#)

Cashmere High School Open Day

We are pleased to invite the school community to our upcoming **Cashmere High School Open Day on Tuesday 10 June 2025, from 4.00pm to 6.30pm at the McCombs Performing Arts Centre.**

This is a valuable opportunity for prospective students and their whānau to explore our facilities, meet staff and students, and learn more about the values and opportunities that shape our school. Our Principal, John Stradwick, will address visitors at 4.00pm and again at 5.00pm, with guided tours following each session.

LET'S GET CASHMERE'S GIRLS TO U19 ROWING WORLD'S

MOVIE NIGHT

12 June 2025
6pm The Croods
8pm Uproar
Cashmere High School, PAC

fundraising for
ELERI & ELIZA