



St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 8 : Thursday 12th June 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:

- Friday 20th June - Matariki
- Friday 27 June - school closes at 12.30pm for learning conferences

SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome to Eliza, Harvey and Noah. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins School.

Winter has definitely arrived in the last few weeks. Great to see children in their polar fleeces at school staying warm. With our inside days we are very appreciative of the senior children supporting our young learners being in the classrooms and playing games with them during break times. When we can get outside we are sticking mostly to the court and asphalted areas. Marvellous to see some slippers in classrooms and a resurgence of card games in the library at lunchtime.

A reminder to our school community around parking etiquette when driving around the school roads. If you are dropping children off you will be aware how narrow our roads are on Albert Tce. We ask that you keep all of our tamariki safe by using the crossing and footpath and adhering to the following:

- Park in the allocated areas
- Follow the time periods for parking (ie. 3 min car park on Albert Terrace is for 3 min drop-offs only)
- Be aware of parking over neighbours driveways
- Watch for children if you are coming in and out of the school driveways
- Keep the flow of traffic and avoid U turns on Albert Tce near the crossing

As always be a respectful role model for your children if a conversation arises either with a staff or whānau member.

In the next few weeks we will be taking out some tables and old furniture to replace them with desks. With 70 needing to be put together we will be having quite a push to get these into classrooms by the end of the term.

Thanks Adrian for putting these together. If anyone would like to buy a table please get in touch.

Congratulations to the June PTA raffle winners so far. Lots of great prizes, personally still waiting for my name to be drawn. High levels of anticipation for the rest of the month.

The playground is progressing. Working with the wet areas has slowed some of the work, however, we continue to move forward and see some changes. Interesting for the junior children to see the diggers and trucks rolling through. So far

- Drainage and outlets all installed
- Work progressing with tree stump preparation and installation
- Site scrap ongoing



Thanks to Gary and the team of parents for taking the gaga pit apart for relocation so the work could start. We know the monkey bars are a key feature of the adventure playground. Our current thinking is to relocate these under the oak tree.

As we move into the end of the term we invite whānau to join us on Monday. 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



LEARNING CONFERENCES

To keep you well-informed about your child's education, we want to highlight key changes to our teaching and assessment methods for English and Mathematics.

The Government has introduced a refreshed Maths and English curriculum, aiming to enhance student achievement nationwide. This year marks the beginning of this curriculum's implementation in schools, with teachers currently adapting to new teaching, assessment, and learning content. Please read the Statement from the Ministry of Education.

From 2025, our reporting will align with the new curriculum, focusing on learning phases instead of previous curriculum levels. Direct comparisons between levels and phases may not always be straightforward.

This term we will be sharing the following information:

- Learning Goals (Maths, Reading, and Writing): Teachers will share goals based on your child's achievements and next steps, aligned with the new curriculum, replacing previous written comments. These goals are available on your child's report page.
- Curriculum Comment: This will focus on Science for Term 2.
- Student Voice: Students will reflect on school values, share next steps, and highlight their 2025 achievements.
- Student Involvement (Years 3-8): This will include evidence of involvement in cultural, sporting, and enrichment activities during Terms 1 and 2.
- School Values: Teacher assessed.

Your child's teacher will discuss progress against the Interim Progress Descriptors during the Learning Conference.

The Ministry of Education's Parent Portal offers valuable information on how your child is learning and how you can support them.

Year-level resources with practical ideas for home learning will be shared with whānau at your child's Learning Conference. These guides offer tips and activities tailored to your child's learning stage, helping you understand year-level expectations.

The bookings are open and can be accessed through HERO. We look forward to seeing you in week nine.

MATARIKI AKO CELEBRATION

The whole school will be celebrating **Matariki Monday 16th June**.

Whānau are invited to various parts of our day.

- 9am Hot chocolates and pūrākau with buddy classes
- 10.15am Join us in the hall for the Junior Manu Kōrero
- 11.45am Join us in the hall for the Senior Manu Kōrero
- 1.30pm The Kapa Haka group will be performing in the hall
- 2.15pm Matariki Art hikoi through the classrooms - join us at the waharoa, senior students will be taking small groups through the school to look at the artwork on display



Matariki Celebration 2025

This year, ākonga at Hato Mātene will be celebrating Matariki with an Ako Day on Monday 16 June.

9am: Hot chocolates and pūrākau with our Buddy Classes

10.15-11am: Join us in the hall for the Junior Manu Kōrero competition

11.45am-12.30pm: Join us in the hall for the Senior Manu Kōrero competition

1.30-2pm: Our Kapa Haka will be performing in the hall. Come along!

From 2.15-3pm Whānau are invited for a hikoi through our learning spaces to celebrate our Matariki learning. Please meet our Senior Leaders at the waharoa. From all of us at Hato Mātene.

MĀNAWATIA A MATARIKI!

KAITIAKI CREW FUNDRAISER

The group will be holding a bake sale Monday 16th June to raise money for native plants that will eventually go in our native forest area. Explorers and Discoverers will be able to buy baked goods at GG1 and Navigators and High Fliers at GG2.

THANKYOU FROM THE PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

Thank you to all those in the community who attended the working bee for the new playground last weekend. There was a brilliant turnout and the job was completed faster than expected. It was also awesome to see so many of the students eager to help.

WINTER ILLNESS UPDATE

As expected for this time of the year, we are seeing a rise in winter illness. It is important with any signs of feeling unwell that you keep your child at home until they are symptom free - this also helps to minimise the spread around the school. We encourage children to wear beanies and jackets when playing outside and to regularly wash their hands, especially before eating.

For further information please visit the Te Whatu Ora website for [Healthy habits to stop the spread of illnesses](#)

Recording an absence

If your child will be absent for any portion of the day please notify us via the correct avenues Before 9am daily;

- Email to the teacher (please also cc the office staff on office@stmartins.school.nz)
- HERO app homepage 'Report an absence' tab
- Phone message at the office on (03) 3326121

And if your child is late to school, remind them to sign in at the office before going up to class.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

On Tuesday morning Naomi Kelly from Navigators was interviewed by the TVNZ Breakfast show about her passion for hobby horsing. Hobby horsing is a sport where participants mimic equestrian activities using a "hobby horse," which is a toy with a horse head attached to a stick. This weekend, students Naomi, Jess and Laura from the Navigators are entering Christchurch's first Hobby Horse Competition.

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

- 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 7 and 8, with a particular focus on being responsible for property. This means ...

- Return items left outside to designated areas
- Lost property, sports gear etc
- Look after school and individual belongings / equipment

Our lost property box is overflowing with unnamed items. We can not emphasise enough the importance of having all personal belongings named. This way items are more likely to make their way back to owners.



PTA UPDATE

Quiz Night Saturday 26th July: Great to see teams registering for quiz night. Don't miss out, numbers are limited, register now. If you need to join a team, register and we'll match up with some other quizzers. This year we are offering VIP tables! Get the best seats in the house with a personal Christmas Elf. All information is provided with the registration form or email us at: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz Register Here: [Quiz Registration Form](#)

Holiday House? We are seeking two nights' accommodation at a holiday house to offer as a live auction at Quiz Night. This is always a well sought after auction item. If you can help, please email us at the address below. Thanks!

Touch Rugby: We look forward to bringing you the popular touch rugby competition again in Term 4. For touch rugby to run beyond this season, we need more people to help organise with two key organisers finishing up at school this year. This is definitely a case of many hands making light work! Please get in touch if you are keen to get involved and support running this fun event for the children. Email: smart.touch@stmartins.school.nz

Raffle Winners: Congratulations to our raffle winners so far: Amy Koskela, Sophia Pratt, Craig Weaver, Linda Drummond, Maaika Jongerius, Audrey Mazana, Olivia Megarry, Chris Steer, Olivia Willis, Godfrey Hand, Angela Watson and Claire Milne.

There are still 18 chances to win, so keep the faith!



Save The Date: Remember how much fun you and the children had at the inaugural **ROGAINE** last year even though it was only 8 degrees? It's back for 2025, on Friday 22nd August with the support of our amazing school rogaining families and PAPO.

Support Our Supporters: [Moon Under Water | Christchurch Craft Beer Pub](#)

Next Meeting: Monday 21st July, 7.30pm, Staff Room.

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

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

Homework Club Vacancy

We are looking for a positive and enthusiastic person to work during school terms and/or during the school holidays for our holiday programme. We are based in the Beckenham area of Christchurch and have four after school care programmes and one before school care.

Our opening hours term time: hours are typically 3-5pm or 3-5.30pm weekdays, we also offer a before school care programme- 7.15-8.30am school holidays (2 weeks): Monday to Friday for 8 hours a day- optional to sign up for these each time.

Successful candidates will:

- love working with children
- available to work the after school care programme
- have experience working with children
- undergo a police check
- great communication skills
- follow our child protection policies

We look forward to hearing from you, please email: info@thehomeworkclub.co.nz

<https://www.thehomeworkclub.co.nz/>

BAPN Badminton Holiday Camp - Open to ALL ages!

Enrolment for our weeklong high intensity badminton training camp is now open!

Limited spaces available so get in quick! [To enrol click here](#) *Application closes Friday 4 July 2025, BAPN T&Cs apply* Proudly supported by [My Badminton Shop](#) for all your badminton equipment needs!

Hagley College Year 9 2026 - Closing on Thursday 19 June at midday

To apply go to <https://www.hagley.school.nz/enrolment/year-9-enrolment/> and click the button to start a new application as soon as possible. Any questions can be directed to Lisa Amer - Junior College Enrolments any time. Te Puna Wai o Waipapa - Hagley College. DDI: 03 364 5134. lisa.amer@staff.hagley.school.nz

For ages 7-12 years

Dr. Dolittle Academy

This school holidays, join our Dr Dolittle Academy, to empower and upskill your passionate young pet lover (or aspiring junior pet parent).

In this fun and hands-on session, they'll cover looking after their own dog, including feeding, grooming and exercise, learn basic first aid and work on training commands, understanding dog body language and how to interact safely with dogs while playing.

Participants can bring their own dog (limit 6 dogs) or work with one of our clinic pets.

Choose from Thursday 3 July or Thursday 10 July, 4-5pm

Rain or shine at Petfirst Ferrymead, 2 Waterman Place, Ferrymead.

\$25 per child
Book in-clinic or text 3489 with keywords **DOLITTLE FERRYMEAD** and your child's name to get started.



The Court Theatre presents

nickelodeon THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL

youth edition

Bases on the series by Stephen Hillenburg

Book by Kyle Jarrold

Original Songs by Yolande Adams, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry of Aerosmith, Sara Bareilles, Jonathan Coulton, Alex Ebert of Edward Sharpe & The Magnetic Zeros, The Flaming Lips, Lady A, Cyndi Lauper, John Legend, Panic! At The Disco, Plain White T's, They Might Be Giants, T.I.

And Songs by David Bowie, Tom Kenny & Andy Paley

Additional Lyrics by Jonathan Coulton

Additional Music by Tom Kitt


Musical Production Conceived by Tina Landau

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1 - 13 July 2025

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