



St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene

Newsletter 11 : Thursday 31 July 2025



Get on Board!

**St Martins | Hato Mātene
School Board Election 2025**

Nominations close 6th August

Information on how to nominate was sent out via email/post on
Friday 18th July



St Martins School
Te Kura o Hato Mātene



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 THREE DATES Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September

School is closed: Friday 12th September - Staff only day

SCHOOL UPDATE

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

This week we welcome Wyatt. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins | Hato Mātene.

👋 Welcome to New Staff

We're excited to welcome two new staff members to our St Martins Hato Mātene whānau: Keisha Gilling is working alongside Charlotte Bates in Room 6.

Jorja O'Sullivan has joined us as a release teacher in the Explorers team.

We're thrilled to have them on board and know they'll make a wonderful contribution to our kura.



🌲 Thank You – Mid-Winter Quiz Night

A huge thank you to Emma and the amazing PTA team for organising a fantastic Mid-Winter Quiz Night. It was a fun-filled evening with brilliant costumes, festive decorations, and delicious food. We truly appreciate the time, effort, and creativity that went into making it such a successful event. It was a wonderful celebration of our St Martins community spirit—and a great fundraiser for our kura too.

The next phase of the project includes laying mulch around the willow tunnel and adding more planting to enhance the space. We can't wait to see this area continue to grow into a beautiful, natural play zone for our

younger students.

When: Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th August 6pm-8pm
Where: Hillview Christian School Gym

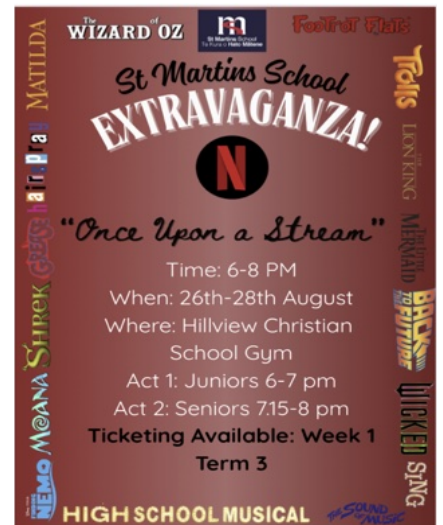
Where: Hillview Christian School Gym

Ticketing: Tickets were released in week 2. Extra tickets, surplus to the

original cap of 3 are now available. This year we are using an online booking system sent out on HERO.

Cost: tickets are \$15.

Parent help: A [sign up sheet](#) has been sent out for parent help on the nights children are performing. We are still needing parents to sign up. Classroom teachers may reach out also for some extra help in the coming weeks for help with prop and costume creation.



Iris Alliston is working with Oscar Adams in Room 17

Jasmine Cillekens-Barrett is with Chantal in Room 18

Ellen Tutt is joining Nicky Pateman in Room 11

It's great to have them as part of our kura. We know they'll learn a lot from their mentor teachers—and our

wonderful tamariki.

This term we'll have our last Ministry of Education staff only day based on Maths. We will be joining with a number of primary schools in our Kahui Ako to listen to Rob Profitt White based on three key themes: basic facts,

If you would like to catch up with Alice, Leanne or myself feel free to come and have a chat. We are usually at the waharoa each morning for an informal conversation or we can make time to meet

together.
Ngā mihi, Andrew

LACHIES LACES - Honouring Lachie's Memory

Many of you may remember Lachie Sutherland, a much loved member of our school community who sadly passed away from cancer in 2020 when he was in Year 8. In his memory, we created a special bee garden and each September, close to his birthday (September 25th), we hold a teacher vs student game to honour him.

This year, Lachie would have been graduating high school and as part of remembering Lachie, we will again be selling Lachie's Laces – yellow and gold shoelaces that can be worn proudly to show support. Yellow laces are \$5 each and gold laces (usually \$10) will also be available for \$5. We are especially encouraging our Year 7/8 students to wear them at the upcoming Koru Games tournament, but they are available for anyone in our community.



We expect the laces to be available for purchase from the school office from week 4 and will confirm the start of sales via HERO. Thank you for helping us keep Lachie's memory alive in such a special way.

SCHOOL POLICY TERM 3 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

- Food and Nutrition
- Police Vetting
- Missing Student Procedure

PB4L - Positive Behavior for Learning

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

From weeks 1-4 of term 3 we will be working through aspects of the **Responsibility** value with a particular focus on **responsible behaviour**.

Room 15 looked at what it means to be **responsible** for your words and actions by staying above the line.

We are responsible for our actions and words!

Own up to it!

Accountable - accept the consequence

Responsible - for making things right

Blame others

Excuses are made

Deny being involved



Don't play the victim



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Monster Music - Monster of the Month

Monster Music is an independent music tuition programme that runs from schools around Christchurch, including St Martins School. They have an award called Monster of the Month - a student that has been working extremely hard.

St Martins School's Tor Prince is the Monster of the Month for August! Tor is smashing his practice and getting involved with the school band, and he has a duo called Loose Units who just played at the Rock- A- Thon! Charlie Tor's tutor said he can't believe how much he has taken off in his playing!



SMS Duathlon 2025

On Tuesday, our senior students showed grit, determination, and team spirit in the annual Duathlon. The event was a great success, with students tackling the run-bike-run course with enthusiasm and energy. It was fantastic to see so much support from students, staff, and whānau. A huge well done to all competitors – you did yourselves proud!

First Place for Individual Racers:

Year 5 Male: Elliot Ruawai

Year 5 Female: Lyla Topping



Year 6 Male: Henri Ward
Year 6 Female: Bella Brandt
Year 7 Male: Loic Grummit
Year 7 Female: Lara Condon
Year 8 Male: Kiran Ferguson
Year 8 Female: Isla Cameron

CALL FOR ENROLMENTS

Do you have a child who will be starting School in the coming term or in 2026 that you haven't enrolled yet? If the answer is yes, please click [here](#) to complete an online enrolment. This will help us anticipate class sizes and staffing over the next school year.

PTA UPDATE

Quiz Night: What a night! Our sincere thanks to everyone who supported this event and got into the spirit of the mid-winter Christmas theme. We have loved your positive feedback. The number of Christmas jumpers and effort with team costumes was truly outstanding! Congratulations to the **2025 Quiz Champions:** A Team, Team Captain, Lara Prince.

Congratulations also to team "Noel-it-alls" taking out Best Dressed Team. We are thrilled to report that we raised \$9,000 thanks to your generous support!

Disco: Reminder the disco is next Friday, 8th August. Juniors 5.30 – 7pm, seniors, 7.30- 9pm. \$5 per student, cash event, all items \$1 or \$2. A sausage sizzle will be available prior to each disco for \$2. Thanks to everyone who has signed up to help so far, most of the slots are filled but a few more helpers particularly on door security and clean up would be appreciated.

Please sign up to a job here: [St Martins School Disco Helpers: DISCO HELPERS 2025](#)

Rogaine: Friday 22nd August with no postponement day now as the proposed date clashes with Extravaganza week. Entry is \$5 per person with the latest start time of 5pm and everyone finishing by 6pm. You can then come back to the hall for some tasty hot food and a warm milo while the results come in. Yr 6 and under will require an accompanying adult, Yr 7 and older can participate without an adult but with compulsory gear. Start getting your team together, your team name sorted, costumes if you want and look out for the entry form out very soon.



Second-Hand Uniform: Please continue to donate second-hand uniforms so we can boost our supplies to hold a sale in Term 4. Please drop into the school office, thank you.

Support Our Supporters: Further Faster www.furtherfaster.co.nz

Next Meeting: Monday 1st September, 7.30pm, Staff Room.

Contact Us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

Facebook: St Martins School PTA

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



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.

Wednesday Morning Te Reo Māori and Waiata Group Come and hang out with your friends and learn te reo Māori through games, crafts and pūrākau (stories) and waiata. 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](#)



**KIWIVOLLEY PROGRAMME
- TERM 4 -**

Our after-school sessions combine both skills and games for Yr 7/8 students.
Perfect for those starting out in Volleyball, and those wanting to improve their skills.

4 Days & Locations to choose from:

- Richmond - Monday's
- Merivale - Wednesday's
- St Martins - Thursday's
- Burnside - Friday's

Dates & Times Vary
please refer to our website for the full information

Questions? Contact - office@cva.nz
Register via our website:
www.canterburyvolleyball.org



**ONE SPECIAL DAY
CHARITABLE TRUST**

**CALLING
ALL KIDS!**

Register now!
Make some pocket money by
selling used toys, books and knick
knacks, handmade crafts or home
baking...

Stall hire starts from just \$10
Find the registration link on our website!
www.onespecialday.co.nz

25 SEPTEMBER 2025 10AM - 12NOON

HOON HAY COMMUNITY CENTRE
90 HOON HAY ROAD, HOON HAY

RAISING FUNDS FOR ONE SPECIAL DAY
CHARITABLE TRUST
WWW.ONESPECIALDAY.CO.NZ