St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene Newsletter 10 : Thursday 23 July 2026

SCHOOL UPDATE



Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

Welcome to our new students Felix, Anika, Louis, Enea, Zara, Macey, Emme, Poppy, Jack, Harry, Evelyn, Calypso, Amelie, Catherine, Frankie, Hera, Avery and Chloe. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene.

A very warm welcome back to Term 3.
We hope all our St Martins School whānau had a wonderful holiday, whether you travelled away, embraced the wild winter weather closer to home, enjoyed a trip to the snow, or simply took the opportunity to slow down, relax, and spend quality time together.

There is so much to look forward to this term. Across the school, every team has exciting learning experiences planned to engage, challenge, and inspire our learners. We can't wait to see the curiosity, creativity, and growth that unfolds over the coming weeks.

Congratulations to all of our Year 5–8 Hip Hop crews who competed in the Hip Hop in Schools Competition at Rangi Ruru on Wednesday. We are incredibly proud of the commitment, enthusiasm, and countless hours of practice our students put into preparing for this event. A huge thank you to Nicky and Chantal for supporting the students throughout their rehearsals and on the day. Be sure to check out the photos and results later in this newsletter.

Well done also to our Year 7/8 basketball teams who competed in the Hillview Basketball Tournament this week. We hope you all enjoyed the experience, showed great teamwork, and represented St Martins School with pride. Our Year 5/6 teams will take to the court next week, and we wish them all the very best. Keep reading later in this newsletter for photos and results from the Year 7/8 tournament.

Learning extends well beyond the classroom over the coming weeks. Our Explorers team will be visiting the Christchurch Art Gallery next week as part of their learning, while our Discoverers team will be welcoming educators from the Canterbury Museum over the coming weeks to launch their inquiry learning. These rich, authentic experiences provide wonderful opportunities for our students to explore, question, create, and deepen their understanding of the world around them.

Teacher Only Days Reminder
Just a reminder that we have two Teacher Only Days remaining between now and the end of the year. These days provide valuable opportunities for our staff to engage in professional learning, planning, and curriculum development, ensuring we continue to strengthen learning experiences for our students.
The dates are:
📅 Term 3: Monday 31st August
📅 Term 4: Thursday 12th November
Please mark these dates in your calendars. School will be closed for students on these days. Thank you for your support as we continue to invest in the growth and learning of our staff and tamariki.

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us during the final week of Term 2 for our learning conferences. It was wonderful to celebrate your child's achievements, discuss their progress using our new reporting format, and work together to identify their next learning steps. We greatly value these conversations and appreciate the strong partnership we share with our whānau in supporting every child's learning journey.

Here's to a fantastic Term 3 filled with learning, connection, and many opportunities for our tamariki to shine.

As always, if you would like to stop by for a chat, either myself, Alice, or Chantal are usually at the waharoa each morning. We love seeing our whānau and are always happy to connect.

Kia pai te rā – have a great day.
Ngā mihi nui,
Leanne

SCHOOL NOTICES

ST MARTINS UNIFORM MOVING TO MAINLAND UNFORMS
A reminder that as of Monday 3rd August St Martins School uniform will no longer be available to purchase from the school office and will instead be able to be purchased from Mainland Uniforms, located at South City Mall (near the entrance off Colombo Street).
We will continue selling our current stock at school until the end of week 2.
The Mainland Uniforms store is open Monday to Friday and on Saturday mornings. The Mainland Uniforms website can also be viewed here

RECORDING AN ABSENCE
If your child will be absent for any portion of the day it is important that you please notify us via the correct avenues before 9am daily;

- The preferred option is via the HERO app homepage 'Report an absence' tab
- Or a phone message at the office on (03) 3326121
- Alternatively you can email the teacher, please also cc the office staff on office@stmartins.school.nz when doing this.

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

Key Dates Coming Up - July/August	
What	**When**
Yr 5-8 winter sports	Thursdays 12.30pm - 3pm (approx)
Yr 7-8 Technology	Thursdays 8.30am - 11am
Yr 3-4 (rm 13/14) Canterbury Museum Trip	Thursday 23rd July
Yr 3-4 (rm 15/16) Canterbury Museum Trip	Thursday 30th July
Science Kiwi testing	Friday 24th July
Yr 0-2 Art Gallery Trips	Monday 27th, Wednesday 29th, Friday 31st July
Yr 0-4 Junior Assembly	Mondays Fortnightly from 27th July
Yr 5-8 Senior Assembly	Fridays Fortnightly from 31st July
For specific details on these events, see your HERO app feed or the **School Calendar**	

PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

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

Our Term 3 overarching school focus will be **Behaviour. Look out in upcoming newsletters this term for how classes are working on** the ways we role model and encourage positive behaviour. Some of the focuses will be:

- How to show positive / solutions based behaviour
- How to practise good sportsmanship
- How to be present and ready for learning

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

NZ Secondary School Rogaine Champs

On Sunday 19th July, three of our year 8 students - Lara, Ellena, and Millie won second place at the NZ Secondary School Rogaine Champs, Year7/8 category.
Congratulations girls, we are very proud of your huge achievement.



Primary Sports Canterbury Hip Hop and Aerobics Competition

On Wednesday 22nd July, we had two hip hop teams represent our school at the Primary Sports Canterbury Hip Hop Competition held at Rangi Ruru.





Our Year 8 team, Innov-8, delivered a confident and energetic performance, competing strongly against 10 other teams in the Intermediate category. Our Year 5–6 team, Class Act, also impressed the judges, earning 3rd place in the Primary School category. We are super proud of both teams after many weeks of dedicated practice.

A special congratulations also goes to Holly Ryan, who made history as the first St Martins School student to compete in the Aerobics Primary Novice Individual category. We look forward to following her journey and future success in the sport.



Monster Music ROCK-A-THON

On Sunday 19th July our excellent school band REWIND performed 2 covers and 1 original song in the annual Monster Music ROCK-A-THON in front of a packed crowd. Well done to Mahe, Zach and Isla, you did a fantastic job we are very proud of you.

ST MARTINS SCHOOL COMMUNITY

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. We send out a HERO notice to advise of upcoming meetings.

Wednesday Morning Te Reo Māori and Waiata Group

Come, hang out with your friends and learn te reo Māori through games, crafts, pūrākau (stories) and waiata. Every week at 8am. We welcome all families to come and join us. Please contact us if you would like to know more.

Alice Barakat
Contact: aliceb@stmartins.school.nz Join our Facebook! | Te rōpū whānau o Hato Matene

PTA UPDATE

Quiz Night: The Mid-Winter Christmas Quiz Night is approaching fast on **Saturday 8th August**. It will be a fun night of quizzing, raffles, auctions, mulled wine, Christmas fare and tinsel galore. Singles and couples can contact us and we'll team you up with other keen quizzers (or people just up for a fun night!). We are grateful for the generous support of local businesses, just to name a few, Tussock Hill Vineyard, At The Vets, Cheeky Brown Hairdresser, Cocoa Black, Mitre 10 Brougham St, Zaffron, St Martins PushBikes, Aromaunga Baxters Flowers, Christchurch Paragliding and Moon Under Water.

Email: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz Register your team here: Quiz Night Form

Second-Hand Uniform Sale & Donations: We will be holding a uniform sale on Friday 7th August, 2.30 - 3.30pm, school library. Please continue to drop second-hand uniforms off at the school office, we are grateful for your donations.

Disco, Friday 14th August: As always we need your help to run a successful disco, please sign up for a job on the night: St Martins School PTA: DISCO HELPERS 2026

Market Day: If you or your children are interested in hosting a stall at the Market Day on Sunday 1st November, please register your interest before this opportunity is offered to the wider community: Market Day

Touch Rugby: We need your help if the 2026 Touch session is to go ahead! To spread the load on the current organisers, please email us if you are keen to be part of this very popular and fun Term 4 activity: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

Coming Up: Uniform Sale Friday 7th August, Quiz Night Saturday 8th August, Disco Friday 14th August, Colour Run Friday 16th October, Karma Keg Saturday 17th October, Market Day Sunday 1st November, Community Sausage Sizzle 7th November, Rogaine = Springtime.

Next Meeting: Monday 27th July, 7.30pm, Staff Room. New members are always welcome.

Contact Us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz
Facebook: St Martins School PTA
Websites: https://www.stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz/ and www.stmartinsptafundraiser.com





