St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene
Newsletter 12 : Thursday 14 August 2025

BOARD UPDATE



Many thanks to the 7 candidates who have put themselves forward for the school board. This means the school community is now in the fortunate position to participate in an election to fill the 3 positions available. To create a good functioning school board we need a variety of skills and experience, happy to say that the 7 candidates would all be valuable members, so thank you again for your participation.
Information on how to vote was sent out yesterday (Wednesday 13th August) from our election partner, Schooled / Election Pilot.
Please take the time to read the nomination statements and vote on your preferred candidate. Voting closes at 4pm on 10th September.

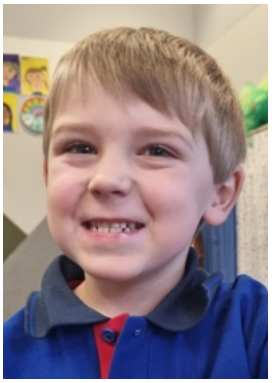
CALENDAR OF EVENTS & 2025 SCHOOL DATES



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 Layton and Rex. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins | Hato Mātene.
We had three very capable teams of mathematicians competing at the Kahui Ako Cantamaths Competition this week. Wonderful to see such a buzz about maths. All teams were competing with the same questions. The Y8 team placed first, Y7 third and the Y6 team fifth. Nice work everyone.
Thanks to the maths team for the daily questions on the board. Awesome to see tamariki and whānau solving the problems together. Congratulations to Sebastian, Spencer, Rose and Georgie A- all getting drawn for prizes. Tomorrow we finish maths week with a Student v Teachers v Board v PTA cantamaths competition. Good luck to all of the competitors.



Last week the Y5 - 8 EPro8 teams competed in the first round of competition against other schools. Lots of fun and engineering problem solving. Congratulations to the Y7 / 8 teams placing 1st and 2nd and the Y5 / 6 teams placing 6th and 9th. Good luck at the finals next week.

We had a banger of a disco, last Friday. Great costumes and tunes. Thank you to the PTA and student leaders for organising the event. Thanks to our community for braving the cold night and coming out. Thanks James for his DJ skills and the Kelly family for all of the lighting.





If you haven't seen the new playground area, it's well worth a look. The next step is some more planting, steps over the bridge and fingers crossed the play equipment is finalised next week. We look forward to some of the fencing around the field being removed in the next week or so. Keep an eye out for some short working bees to get involved in this aspect of school enhancement.

The excitement continues to build as we come into the last full week of Extravaganza practice. We are looking forward to a full run through on Tuesday at school next week to see the class items. Thanks to all the families offering their support with extra practice at home as well as making costumes and props. It's going to be a cracker show.
When: Tuesday 26th, Wednesday 27th, Thursday 28th August 6pm-8pm
Where: HIllview Christian School Gym
Ticketing: Tickets were released in week 2. Extra tickets 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.







This week we shared our Maths data with the Board. 78% of our tamariki across the school are Proficient or Exceeding the St Martins School expectations. Staff are enjoying the opportunity to work with the refreshed curriculum. One aspect that is very different to the last curriculum is having specific learning outcomes for each year level. Most teams have trialled single year level maths classes at some point this term to see if this meets the needs of our learners and the requirements of the curriculum more easily. As usual there are rich tasks in all class programmes as well as the introduction of the Oxford activity book as a resource to follow up new learning. The maths team are seeing positive changes in planning and an increase in maths vocab being used.

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



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

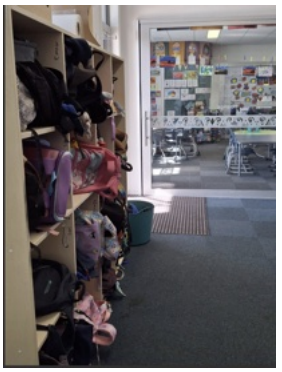
PB4L - Positive Behavior for Learning

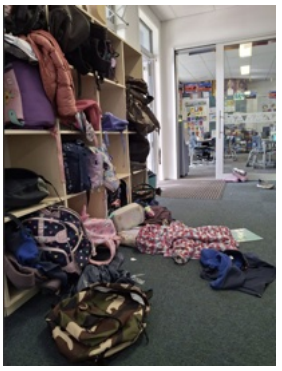
'To create a positive climate and culture of belonging and engagement for all'

For weeks 5-7 we are focusing on **caring** for our environment. This means

- Walking on paths
- Playing in appropriate places
- Using equipment for its intended purpose
- Looking after nature
- Playing appropriate games







Each week for the rest of Term 3 a different class will be sharing some of the ways they are implementing our PB4L focus in their classroom:

Room 16 has been looking at what it means to take care of our personal belongings in our cloakroom, by making sure we store our belongings correctly and tidily. Can you spot the before and after differences?



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

EPRO8 COMPETITION

Congratulations to our two Yr5/6 and two Yr7/8 teams who represented St Martins at the EPro8 engineering challenge. They all showed incredible teamwork and abilities with electronics and building. We are very excited that both of our Yr7/8 teams have qualified for the Canterbury semi finals afterplacing1st and 2nd. Good luck!



U14 NZ National Cross Country Championships - Kiran Ferguson

Congratulations to our Year 8 student Kiran Ferguson who came 5th in the NZ National Cross Country Championships in the U14 boys event on Saturday 2nd August. Well done Kiran, you should be very proud of your achievement.



Te Mana Raupō Mathematics Championship Results

We're proud to announce that a group of our top mathematicians participated in the Te Mana Raupō Mathematics Championship on Tuesday.
These students have demonstrated outstanding problem-solving skills, logical thinking, and a passion for maths. Their selection is a reflection of their hard work, perseverance, and enthusiasm for learning.
Our placings demonstrate their amazing Maths knowledge:

- 1st: Year 8 (Jake, Kiran, Haziq and Lachie)
- 3rd: Year 7 (Loic, Gus, Izzie and Penny)
- 5th equal: Year 6 (Peter, Ollie, Halvin and Felix)



Cook Islands Language Week

Last week children from across the school were invited to create a piece of art for a collaborative tivaevae. We proudly displayed their beautiful mahi in the hall - meitaki (thank you) to all tamariki who participated, it looks fabulous!



PTA UPDATE

Rogaine: The rogaine team has worked hard to secure insurance to cover the event **next Friday 22nd August** thanks to the support of the NZ Rogaine Association. Book your team or individual place now! $5 per person participating. Hot food will be available in the hall afterwards, please bring cash. We will have spot prizes this year which have been kindly donated by Further Faster. No postponement date so we are keen to push through most weather. All information and to register your team: Rogaine Form

Disco: A massive shout out to all the children who attended the disco for the absolutely amazing costumes, so impressive and so creative. Thank you to all the helpers, everything ran smoothly thanks to your support. Special thanks to the BBQ helpers and ticket sellers working in four degrees! We would like to thank Michael and Faine Kelly (AC Lighting) for creating a brilliant atmosphere with the lighting and DJ James for getting everyone up dancing.



Extravaganza Supper Option: We will be providing a pre-ordered supper option for children to take away after the Extravaganza at 7pm (for juniors leaving) and 8pm. Order here: Extravaganza Supper Order Form

Quiz Night Profit: We are pleased to report that the quiz night made a profit of just over $9,000. While this is slightly less than previous years, this was due to the significantly smaller number of silent auction items available on the night as these were used for the June raffle prizes, which helped us raise over $10,000. So overall $20,000 raised for the playground from these two events, a great result.



Support Our Supporters: At The Vets - https://atthevets.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

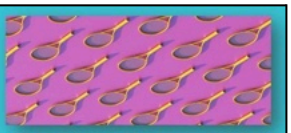


LACHIES LACES - available from the school office

Lachie Sutherland was 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 are selling Lachie's Laces – yellow and gold shoelaces that can be worn proudly to show support. Laces are available from the office for $5.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

JOIN THE OPAWA TENNIS CLUB!





With the new tennis season starting in September, come along to the Love Tennis open day on Sunday 7 September 10am-2pm at Opawa Tennis Club. Bring the whole family, give tennis a go for free, and find out what the club has to offer. There will be prizes, giveaways, and a BBQ. Racquets provided. All welcome!

Opawa Tennis Club includes something enjoyable for all ages and abilities, including Hot Shots and Junior interclub.

Hot Shots tennis - a fun way for kids to play and learn tennis. Starting with smaller courts and softer balls, each stage provides the right equipment and court size to match their ability.

Interclub - if you're interested in playing games and being part of a team, please see the website for more information including open days and sign-up dates.

To **find out more**, please visit our website, come along to the open day on 7 September, or contact ja.opawatennis@gmail.com.

STOKED

LEARN SURFING & OCEAN WATER SAFETY THIS SUMMER AT STOKED



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM - SNZ ACCREDITED SURF SCHOOL
WARM WETSUITS - LONG ARMS AND LEGS
SOFT TOP SURF BOARDS - IDEAL FOR LEARNING
ALL AGES CATERED FOR - AGES 6-18 YRS
VALUABLE OCEAN WATER SKILLS - INC. BEACH SAFETY SESSION
CONTACT : HELLO@STOKED SURFSCHOOL.CO.NZ
SUMNER BEACH - CHRISTCHURCH'S SAFEST BEACH FOR LEARNING SURFING

Sumner



SMASHIES
AGES 4-6 YEARS
FRIDAYS
4.00-5.15PM



SCHOOL YEARS
5-8 CRICKET
Played at schools and parks around Chch, 9am Saturday Mornings.

SOUTH EAST ŌTAUTAHI CRICKET

SOUTHERN DISTRICTS & SOUTH EAST ŌTAUTAHI CRICKET

BECKENHAM PARK

100 YEARS OF CRICKET 1926-2026

MORE INFORMATION?
CHECK OUT WEBSITE OR CALL CAT: 0272981031

SOUTHERNDISTRICTSCRICKET.CO.NZ



OUTFIELD CRICKET
SCHOOL YEAR 1-4
Played locally, 9am Saturday Mornings.



FEMALE CRICKET
Female only playing options from Years 3+ Including adults!



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