St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene
Newsletter 13 : Thursday 29 August 2025

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,

What a wonderful week we've had, filled with drama, dance, singing, music, and costume. This Extravaganza was the result of months of dedication, hard work, careful planning, organising, liaising, creating, and writing by our wonderful students and incredibly supportive Performing Arts and Teaching team.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to all those who helped to contribute in all ways big and small with special mention to the following groups of people for all of their hard mahi and whanaungatanga in making the 2025 Extravaganza such an enriching experience for the whole school community:

- The Performing Arts team - Briana Weaver, Oscar Adams, Paige Hampton and Catherine Dalley
- St Martins School Teaching team and Support Staff
- Sound, lighting & technical team: Liam Wood, Theo Jones, George, Tor, Hudson, Josh Anngow and Sam Copson
- Props team, backstage co-ordinators and teacher Ben Irvine for your hours of lighting expertise
- The entire year 8 student EPAC team for your wonderful acting, singing and performances
- Steve Roberts and Logan from Sound people for your sound expertise
- Michael Kelly from AC Lighting for your stage setup
- School PTA for feeding all the hungry performers
- Steve Frost the Tumuaki of Hillview Christian School for use of their facilities







And last but not least, thank you to all the St Martins students and their families for enduring weeks of costume making, line reading and singing practice - we couldn't do it without you!

To celebrate our amazing Extravaganza, we've added a photo collage at the end of this newsletter.

SCHOOL NOTICES

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

We would like to wish all the students involved in Strum, Strike, Blow next Wednesday evening a fabulous night of music-making, fun, and celebration. A special thank you to Paige Hampton and Jenny Oldridge for their wonderful support of our students.

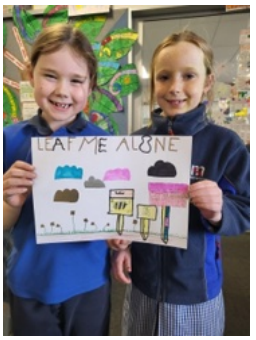
Just a reminder for our Year 8 students heading to Cashmere next year: the entrance test will be held next Tuesday at Cashmere High School. Please note that transport to and from Cashmere is the responsibility of each whānau.



A huge thank you to our PTA for another fabulous, community-minded event. The Rogaine was a great success, with adults and children running all over the hills in pursuit of points, followed by the ever-popular loaded hotdogs. Thank you to all the families who came along to support, and a special thanks to Joce and Tom for their wonderful organisation.

BOARD ELECTION - REMINDER TO VOTE

Please take the time to read the nomination statements and vote on your preferred candidate. Voting closes at 4pm on 10th September.



PB4L - Positive Behavior for Learning

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

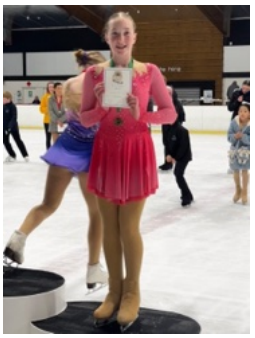
For weeks 5-7 we are focusing on **caring** for our environment. This means

- 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:

This week **Room 14** has been discussing what we can all do to keep our school environments fun, safe and healthy. Here's a brainstorm for some of the environments we enjoy being in! And some helpful posters - look out for them around school.



STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

CASHMERE HIGHSCHOOL 2026 YEAR 9 POSITIONS & SCHOLARSHIPS

This week, three of our Year 8 students have been awarded for next year at Cashmere High School. This involved an application and interview with the Year 9 Head of School and Deputy Principal. Congratulations to:

Daisy Holten for securing a Deputy Lead position for Year 9

Ethan Edensor for securing a Deputy Lead position for Year 9

Jack Thomson earned the yr 9 Excellence Scholarship for achievement in Music & Performing Arts.

These students show consistent commitment to showing excellence in their schooling, and we are incredibly proud of their achievements. Ka pai!



SOUTH ISLAND FIGURE SKATING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Alice Nix recently competed in the South Island Figure Skating Championships. She has continued to amaze, placing 3rd in her age group in the competition. An amazing result Alice, keep up the great work!



SOUTH ISLAND SHORT COURSE SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS

Tyronne Northcott competed in the South Island Short Course Swimming Championships in Blenheim. He raced over four days, achieving four personal best times and narrowly missing a medal in the 400m individual medley. We are super proud of Tyronne for his achievements in swimming, and wish him well when he competes in the AIMS Games next week.



YEAR 7/8 CANTAMATHS

On the 20th of August we entered one Year 7 and one Year 8 team into this year's Cantamaths competition. Both teams competed against the best mathematicians from almost 100 different schools from around Canterbury, and put up an excellent fight against the other teams.

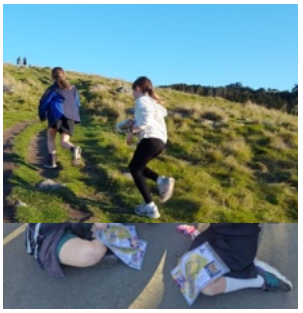


Congratulations to our Year 7s: Izzie Mardon, Penny Brooks, Loic Grummitt, and Gus Noble, and to our Year 8s: Kiran Ferguson, Haziq Hammad, Jake Stanford, and Lachie Haig.

TOURNAMENT OF MINDS

Last Saturday two teams of 7 students competed in the Tournament of Minds held at Lincoln High School. Our teams entered in the Arts and Social Sciences disciplines, each being given a challenge at the beginning of Term 3.

Each team worked together as a team to prepare presentations across the six weeks prior and presented them on competition day. While our teams did not qualify for the national competition this time, they both had an amazing day and impressed the judges with their out of the box thinking and collaboration.



Congratulations to the Remix team; Saoirse McCann, Isla Bates, Annie Ruawai, Stella Trewavas, Thomas Oulton, Rohan Grummitt, and Haziq Hammad, and to the United Steaks team; Sophia Hickman, Izzie Mardon, Isla Dugan Ritsma, Thomas Sewell, Hudson Simpson, Florence Roberts, and Ramona Summers.

PTA UPDATE

Rogaine

Thank you to all who joined us on Friday night for our second Rogaine event! We had an incredible turnout with over 200 participants out on the course. The weather was kind, and it was wonderful to see so many smiling (some muddy!) faces returning to the school hall for a well-earned hot chocolate and delicious hotdog.



This family-friendly event wouldn't be possible without the amazing teamwork and generous contributions of time and expertise from our community. A huge thank you to:

- Sara Prince & Matt Scott for planning and designing the course and maps
- All our marshalls out on the course
- Alice & Leanne for managing the registration desk
- Clare & Isaac for running the kitchen
- Tom for coordinating the spot prizes and keeping everything organised
- And to all the other volunteers who helped out on the night — we truly appreciate you!

Thank you to the Port Hills Trust for allowing us to operate the race on their land, and a special shout-out to Further Faster for sponsoring the event and generously donating the fantastic spot prizes. Finally, thank you to the New Zealand Rogaine Association and our local orienteering club PAPO for their support in helping us run the event and keep it affordable for families.

If you enjoyed Friday's event and are keen to do more orienteering, PAPO is running a series of training sessions leading up to the Canterbury School Orienteering Festival in September. You can find more details here: Peninsula and Plains Orienteering » Peninsula and Plains Orienteers

Thanks again for making it such a memorable night!

Touch Rugby Team Finder: If your child would like to play touch rugby next term but **IS NOT** part of an established team, please sign them up here **Team Finder** and we'll endeavour to place them in a team. This is a

very popular way to get involved in the season and brings many players together. The touch competition starts Week 3 of Term 4 and runs for seven weeks (excl. Anniversary Weekend). All information will be out next week so get your established teams ready to register for the 2025 season..

Family Portraits: Green Melon Photography is booked for 22nd and 23rd November, family photos just in time for Christmas.

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






























STEVEN SPIELBERG PRESENTS
BACK TO THE FUTURE PART II













