St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene Newsletter 7 : Thursday 28 May 2026

SCHOOL CLOSED MONDAY 1 JUNE - KING'S BIRTHDAY

For specific details on these events see your HERO app feed or the **School Calendar**

SCHOOL UPDATE



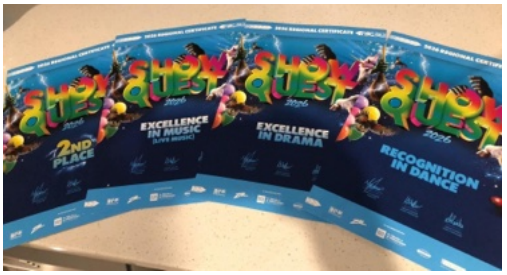
Kia ora koutou e te whānau,
Welcome to our new students Casper and Octavia. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene.

What an amazing event ShowQuest was. A massive congratulations to all of our participants for a fabulous second-place result, as well as receiving Excellence in Music, Excellence in Drama, and recognition in Dance. Thank you very much to all of those who were involved. We are particularly grateful to the extra staff who provided their help and expertise to support Nicky and the tamariki in creating such an amazing performance. Thank you also to the whānau supporters for getting the children ready on the day.



We had a fabulous day for our Junior Cross Country. It was wonderful to see our Year 8 ākonga supporting our youngest tamariki as they navigated the course. Thank you to all the whānau who came along to cheer on our youngest runners as they took on the loop at Hansen Park. This morning, our Year 5–8 Zone Cross Country runners are competing. Congratulations to all of you in advance; I know you will represent the school with pride.

Last week marked our first week of Year 5–8 winter sports. Thanks to Oscar and Jared for organising all our teams, and a big thank you to the coaches and managers for supporting our tamariki so that we can have as many teams playing as possible. I thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity to support the American Football team; it was great to see a new game and learn some new roles. The positivity of the team was infectious, and I know this reflects the spirit of all our teams as we head into the 2026 season.



A reminder regarding digital devices: Smartwatches sit in the digital devices category and therefore fall under the Government's "Away for the Day" criteria. At this stage, they may continue to be worn as long as they do not interrupt learning or the culture of the school.



Thank you to Emily and Oscar for walking our ākonga through our local environment, via Rāpaki and across the summit, as part of the Year 7/8 William Pike Challenge. It is great to see our seniors out exploring our backyard.

For families in Room 8, we are offering learning conferences for your children next week. This is a valuable opportunity to connect with Paige

Porter, meet Sharon, and discuss learning successes to date. Please refer to your HERO posts to book a conference time.



Next week, the school will be closed on Monday for the King's Birthday public holiday. We hope everyone has a lovely extended weekend. Looking ahead, we wish the best of luck to all the children involved in the EPro8 internal events next week—it is always a fun time to get those engineering minds working!



Finally, please note that we will have an early finish on Friday, 3rd July. School will close at 1:00 pm to reflect the week of learning conferences. As always, if you would like to stop by to have a chat, either myself, Alice, or Leanne are usually at the waharoa each morning.

Kia pai te ra - have a great day.

Ngā mihi,

Andrew





PB4L - Positive Behaviour for Learning

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

Our Term 2 overarching school focus is **Responsibility**.

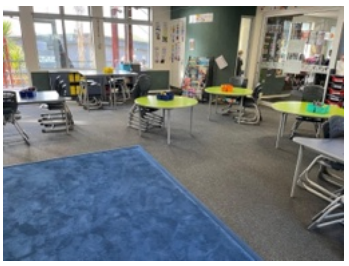
Taking responsibility isn't just about managing our own workload; it's also about how we care for the shared environments we inhabit every day. During weeks 5 and 6 we have put a specific spotlight on being responsible in our indoor spaces.

When our classrooms, hallways, and common areas are clean and ordered, it clears the clutter from our minds too, allowing everyone to focus and thrive. We are encouraging all students to practice three simple habits every day:

- **Keep spaces clutter-free and organized:** A tidy desk and a clear floor mean fewer distractions and a safer environment for everyone.
- **Tidy up after yourself:** Whether it's art supplies, lunch wrappers, or science equipment, if you mess it, stress it, or dress it—clean it up!
- **Put things back where they belong:** Everything in our school has a "home." Taking an extra ten seconds to return items to their proper place makes life easier for the next person.



A Quick Challenge for Home: - Responsibility doesn't stop at the school gates! You can support this focus at home by encouraging your child to take charge of their own bedroom spaces, school bags, and morning routines this week.



In Room 15, we have been working hard to demonstrate this by:

- Keeping our classroom spaces and cloak bay area tidy and organised
- Cleaning up after ourselves
- Putting equipment back where it belongs



Even when the classroom was quite messy after art, we all worked together to tidy up carefully. By doing our part, everything was packed away quickly, ready for the next lesson. Everything we needed for our learning was easy to find and we felt proud of our lovely classroom. See our awesome mahi in our before and after photos!

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

SHOWQUEST 2026

63 of our amazing Year 7/8 students took to the stage for this year's Showquest performance after months of dedication, commitment and hard work. Through countless rehearsals, our students worked together to bring a powerful story to life and came away with an incredible 2nd Place as well as a number of awards in Excellence!

- ★ **St. Martin's School - 2nd Place!**

Special Show Awards:

- ★ **Excellence in Live Performance**
- ★ **Excellence in Drama**
- ★ **Recognition in Dance**

This year's performance reflected on the 2017 Port Hills fire and honoured the bravery, resilience and selflessness of the firefighters who worked tirelessly to protect our community and preserve the beautiful area we are fortunate to call home.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported them on this journey — what an unforgettable performance!







William Pike Challenge - port hills walk

On Friday the 22nd, our William Pike students headed out on an amazing trip! We walked from school all the way up Mt Vernon, tackling the farm track and pushing along the summit ridge to the Adventure Park. From there, we made our way down to the bottom of the 'Body Bag' before enjoying a well-deserved chairlift ride to the base. A massive thank you to the wonderful parent helpers who braved the cold with us—we couldn't have done it without you.



National Indoor Bouldering Series

Ezra Hammond (year 6) competed in the Wellington leg of the National Indoor Bouldering Series and placed 3rd in the Under 13 division. Congratulations Ezra!

Winter sports are underway!

Our Year 5/6 teams had a fun and successful start to the season. Pictured: Mavericks and Sparks netball teams.













SCHOOL NOTICES

School Photo Ordering

Heritage Productions recently visited our school to take our annual school photos.

An order card has been sent home with each child who was present on photo day. This card includes:

- A photo proof
- A unique passcode to view and order your child's images online
- A QR code and website details for easy ordering

To place an order, simply scan the QR code on the card provided or visit the website listed on the order card. The website includes full details on package options and pricing. All payments are made online using a credit or debit card.

Sibling Photos: If you had one taken, your sibling photo will be available to view and purchase online under your eldest child's unique passcode.

Orders qualify for FREE delivery to the school if placed by **14 June 2026** at 11:59pm. Orders placed after this deadline will be delivered via courier, and shipping charges will apply.

You will receive an email confirmation once your order has been placed.

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 term policies;
Username: stmartins / Password: huntsbury

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. Meetings are twice a term in Miss Barakat's classroom, located beside the new junior playground.

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.

Alexis Barakat | Whānau Group Representative
Contact: alexisbarakat22@gmail.com

PTA UPDATE



Fudgey June: Generous **Fudge Cottage** owner and PTA member, Alison will be donating 30% of website and in store sales to the PTA in June. Free delivery to school for you to pick up, mention this in the comments field. Also make sure you mention St Martins School when purchasing on-line (comments field) or in store.

Purchases available from Monday 1st June: Fudge Cottage

Quiz Night: Gather your team of six for another fun night of quizzing with all the mid-winter Christmas trimmings. Saturday 8th August. This will be another sell-out event. Registration form out next month.

If you are a local business that would like to contribute towards our quiz night, please get in touch, we would appreciate your support, vouchers and gift hampers are ideal: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz

Delivery For Cookie Dough & Croissants Fundraiser: Thank you for all the orders. With over $8,500 in sales we will be in touch next week to organise logistics, please ensure you reply to our email. If you organised an individual fundraiser, thank you! Please be prepared to collect all your orders together.

Next Meeting: Monday 22nd June, 7.30pm, Staff Room. New members welcome.

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

