St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene Newsletter 8 : Thursday 11 June 2026

BOARD UPDATE

A casual vacancy has occurred on the school board for an elected parent representative. The board has decided to fill the vacancy by selection. If 10% or more of eligible voters on the school roll ask the board, within 28 days of this notice being published, to hold a by-election to fill the vacancy then a by-election will be held.
Requests for a by-election should be sent by Thursday 2nd July 2026 to Presiding Member Joseph Hampton via email on bot@stmartins.school.nz
Many thanks
St Martins School Board

SCHOOL UPDATE





Kia ora koutou e te whānau,
Welcome to our new students Charlotte and Phoebe. We hope you enjoy your time with us and look forward to your contributions to St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene.
Thank you to all the whānau who have already reviewed and returned the Te Tiriti o Waitangi policy review forms. This feedback is incredibly valuable to our board and management team. Just a reminder for those who still wish to have their say, these forms need to be completed and returned by Friday, 12th June.
At the end of this term, we will be implementing our new reporting format, which aligns with refreshed assessment requirements being developed across New Zealand. These mid-year reports will utilise five interim progress descriptors to provide a clear picture of where each ākonga sits in relation to their current year-level expectations:

- **Emerging**: Significant support is needed to meet year-level expectations.
- **Developing**: Some support is needed as the student engages with the learning.
- **Consolidating**: Growing independence is being demonstrated in this area.
- **Proficient**: Consistently demonstrating independence within year-level concepts.
- **Exceeding**: Independently applying learning across a variety of contexts.

For our mid-year reporting, tamariki who are assessed as consolidating, proficient, or exceeding are considered to be on track to achieve a full year's worth of learning by the end of the school year.
To support these written reports, we will be holding our learning conferences in Week 11. Bookings are now open and can be accessed through your HERO app. As a reminder, we will have an early finish on Friday, 3rd July, with the school closing at 1:00 pm to accommodate these vital face-to-face meetings. We look forward to sitting down with you to discuss your child's progress and achievements over the first semester of 2026.

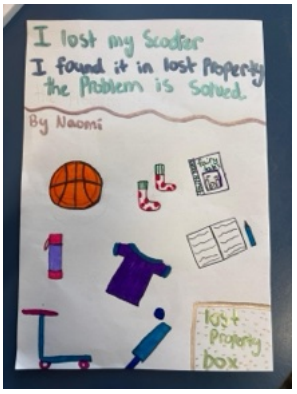


We are also looking forward to a school-wide Matariki celebration during Week 10. Whānau are invited to join us at Hansen Park to celebrate Matariki, Friday 26th June from 12.30-2.30pm. Tamariki will be flying manu tukutuku (kites) they have made at

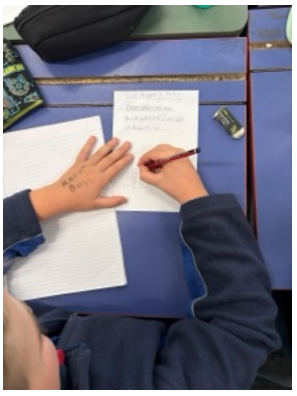
school and eating their lunch with their Buddy Class. Please look out for more information via HERO closer to the time. We would love for you to join us as we celebrate Matariki as a school community.



There are a few staffing updates to share as we prepare for the second half of the year. During my sabbatical in Terms 3 and 4, our senior leadership team will be sharing the Acting Principal role. In Term 3, Leanne will be Acting Principal, followed by Alice in Term 4. Chantal Ward will be stepping into the Acting Deputy Principal role for both Terms 3 and 4 to round out the leadership team. We welcome Susie Vespa to the Navigators team, where she will be teaching in Room 18 alongside Oscar. We also welcome Simon Ward to our kura, who will be joining the High Fliers team to provide classroom release predominantly across our Year 7 classes.



A gentle but important reminder regarding traffic and road safety around our school grounds. The streets immediately surrounding our kura are designated 30 km/h zones at the beginning and end of the school day. Albert Terrace and our surrounding roads are exceptionally narrow, so please exercise extreme patience, remain vigilant, and ensure you stay strictly on your side of the road during the busy drop-off and pick-up periods. Additionally, please remind your tamariki that all scooters, skateboards, and bikes must be walked when entering or moving up and down the school driveway. This rule applies to everyone, and we appreciate you modelling this positive safety behaviour.



Thank you very much for your ongoing support as we navigate the usual winter coughs, colds, and viruses that are making the rounds at the moment. Keeping your unwell children home until they are symptom-free makes a massive difference in protecting our wider school community and keeping our classrooms healthy.

Finally, we have some wonderful engagement opportunities lined up for next week with two special dress-up days. On Tuesday, we have a football-themed dress-up day to celebrate the sport both here in New Zealand and across the world—please refer to the HERO post for details on what to wear.



Thanks to Oscar Adamas and Lauren Robb for organising the house football competition. Great to see all houses represented in the finals yesterday. Then, on Friday next week, the student council will be running a pyjama dress-up day. Participating in this fun day will support a fantastic cause, and we look forward to seeing our ākonga get involved in both events.



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.

Andrew

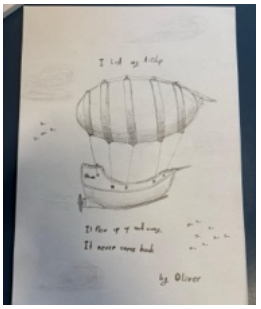
Key Dates Coming Up - June		
When	**What**	**Where**
Thursday 11th June 2.30-3.30pm	Cookie Dough fundraiser pickup	School Library window
Wednesday 17th June	Yr 5-8 Canterbury Cross Country	
Tuesday 16th June	Dressup - Fifa World Cup National Pride day	
Wednesday 17th June	Lunchtime Jam - school band performance	Top courts
Friday 19th June	Dressup - Pyjama day	

Friday 26th June	Matariki Kite Flying afternoon	Hansen park
Monday 29th June	Yr 7-8 Korfball tournament	
Tuesday 30th June	Yr 0-4 Cross Country	
Wednesday 1st July	Vision & Hearing testing (selected students)	During school hours
Friday 3rd July	**Last day of term 2 - school closes at 1.00pm for Learning Conferences**	
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 2 overarching school focus is **Responsibility**.



Being responsible isn't just about doing your homework or arriving on time; it's about looking after our shared spaces and being responsible for the things we use every day. When we take care of our environment and our gear, we show that we care about each other.

In Room 10, we have been discussing ways that we can take care of our own property and school property.



We can do things like:

- Return items left outside to where they belong.
- Name our own belongings.
- Look after school and individual belongings / equipment.
- Ensuring that we take our fleeces and jackets home with us each day, especially as the days get colder in winter.



Following this, we watched a short film about a lost property office and discussed the feelings we experience when we lose our personal belongings. We have written some Haiku poems about lost property and the feelings associated with losing your belongings.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Finding Nemo Court Theatre

Lyla Topping (year 6) is playing the role of Pearl in The Court Theatre's production of Finding Nemo Junior, running from 7th - 19th July. Lyla is a part of the GREEN cast performing alternate shows. Check The Court Theatre website for the performance schedule.



Epro8 Competition

Last week 64 of our senior students participated in our school EPro8 engineering competition. These students had two hours to work on three challenges - making a fan, a carousel and a paint roller. They worked in teams of four and showed an incredible array of skills under pressure. Congratulations to:
Loic, Mary, Huck, Sylvie, Ollie, Jonti, Isla T, Millie, Ingrid,Flora,Dom, Henry L-M
Ezra, Olivia, Bridget and Ben who have qualified to represent St Martins in the inter-school event.



SCHOOL NOTICES

SCHOOL PHOTO ORDERING

A reminder to get your orders in for your child's class photos.
You can order via the card that came home with each child on 27th May. If you have misplaced the order card, individual student passcodes can be given by the school



office. Please call us on 332 6121.
The order 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

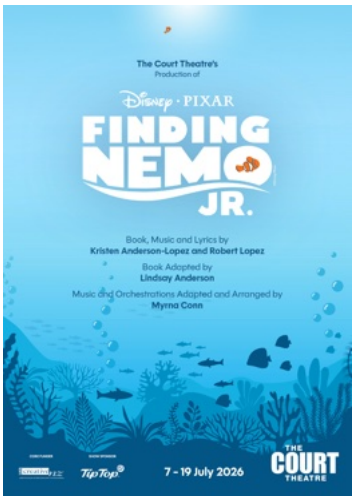


To place an order, simply scan the QR code or visit the website www.order.heritageproductions.co.nz. The website includes full details on package options and pricing. All payments are made online using a credit or debit card.

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
Join our Facebook! | Te rōpū whānau o Hato Matene



PTA UPDATE

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

Thank You! We appreciate all the support from the recent fundraiser, a total profit of $2712.60.

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. Make sure you mention St Martins School when purchasing on-line (comments field) or in store. Order here: Fudge Cottage

Alison will have sales at school on Wednesday 17th June, you'll find her outside the library, EFTPOS available.

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

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Winter illness message from the Public Health nurse

My name is Holly and I am the Public Health Nurse for St Martins School.
The Public Health Nursing Service (PHNS) works with tamariki and their whānau where health and wellbeing concerns impact on their home and school lives.
Please contact me if you have any health concerns for your tamariki.
waea pūkoro: 03 383 6877 ext: 99628, 0272843397
īmēra: holly.cummings@tewhatuora.govt.nz For more information about how to stay well during the winter months visit this link.











