St Martins School *Kia Maiangi awe ake te mātauranga* Inspiring a passion for learning

Te Kura o **Hato Mātene**



Newsletter 17 2 December 2021

BOARD of TRUSTEES UPDATE

Kia ora e te whānau,
After another challenging year for our school and community, there are a few outstanding "thank yous" from the BoT.
Firstly, a huge thank you to all of our staff for your excellent work despite lockdown interruptions and covid restrictions. We can sometimes forget that it is often as disappointing for staff (teachers and support staff) as it is for our tamariki when planned-for events are cancelled or changed, especially when it requires a lot of behind the scenes rejigging to find alternatives.
Secondly, to our new management team of Alice, Leanne and Andrew, who, after just a year, have done a great job of developing a supportive and collaborative team.
Lastly, but not least, our amazing Smart Community (PTA) who, again despite restrictions, have managed to run popular events such as the recent touch tournament and ice skating, as well as fundraising. This year, Smart fundraising enabled a number of projects including:
$89,000 towards the new hall redevelopment
$5000 for sports equipment
$5000 for the literacy program
$2000 for Garden to Table
As well as a number of other essential donations for things such as yearbooks and the landscaping work.
This is a fantastic result and makes all the difference for our kids.
I would also personally like to thank the members of the BoT who have been very supportive over this year, often going above and beyond what is expected. In particular, Mike Greenslade who has recently stepped down after more than 6 years as our finance person. Mike stayed on a year after his son had left, in order to ease the transition for our new finance person, Tracy Taylor, who we co-opted on to the board this year. Thank you!
I hope you all have a good break and get to enjoy some of our gorgeous outdoors! Like everyone else, I am hoping for a less hectic 2022.
Ngā mihi o te Kirihimete me te Tou Hou!
Kate Hodgins
BoT Chair











SCHOOL UPDATE

And there we have it, the 2021 school year is completed. On behalf of the staff we would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support throughout the school year. We have really appreciated families joining us in the classroom and on our trips.
Thank you to the staff for the wonderful working and learning environment you have created throughout the year. Developing a sense of belonging for all of us whether we were at home or school.

I hope our wonderful tamariki have a fabulous summer break, you have been engaged and interested in your learning as well as each other. Remember to use the St Martins values, help at home, young or old, get in the kitchen, make a bed, put away the dishes. Of course have some of your own fun, meet up with friends, play a board game, climb a tree, go for a bike ride or a swim, enjoy the great NZ summer.

Although we have had another year to work through the many aspects of covid, alert levels (a year where singing inside was listed as a high risk activity for awhile) and vaccinations. Learning programmes continued, we worked through the various guidelines to ensure that children were offered a variety of opportunities and when some aspects were cancelled we looked to make adaptations to have in their place. Thank you for working alongside us and being both understanding and supportive as we worked through the year.

To the Y8s moving on, thank you for a great year. I hope you take up your challenge to create a wonderful life story. Sometimes you might be the hero, other times, the villain. Some of your favourite chapters to come will be filled with comedy, adventure, action, mystery, twists and turns, perhaps a little bit of drama, a love story or two and a number of tall tales thrown in for good measure. Whatever happens don't just be a character, be the author of a truly wonderful story of a life well lived. Take care with your words, use them for good. Continue to care and show respect for people, at the end of the day, it's the relationships we have that will really matter, they get us through both the moments of celebration and the tight spots. Me mahi tahi tatou more te oranga o te katoa - *we work together for the well-being of everyone.* I hope that you will stop, look up, take a breath and explore new opportunities and possibilities – just have the courage to give things a go. I wish you all the best for a future filled with promise and adventure.











FINAL DAY EVENTS

Tomorrow is our last day for the school year. We will be finishing at 12.30pm. Hopefully the weather will come to the party and help us out. Our dry weather plan is to hold a NE – Y2 assembly from 9 – 9.30 in a classroom to present end of term certificates and a Y3 – 8 assembly on the top court from 9.30am to present a range of certificates and farewell the Y8s. If it is still raining, which looks likely we will have team assemblies across the morning to present awards and certificates. Due to the restriction on numbers these events will be school based events.

Part of the St Martins tradition is far the Y8s to be farewelled from the hall at the end of the year, as we are unable to do this, this year. We will be farewelling the Y8 children from the waharoa (again weather permitting). The children will walk through the school groups and out the gates to waiting parents and the holidays.

For those families and children finishing their association with the school we wish you well, wherever you may be heading in 2022. For those returning next year, we look forward to another year of fabulous learning and your continued support. I hope that everyone enjoys the time they have with their families and friends during the summer break and you have a safe and happy holiday.

Ngā mihi,
Andrew Mouat
(andrew@stmartins.school.nz)

2022 TERM DATES

T1 = 3 Feb - 14 Apr
T2 = 2 May - 8 Jul
T3 = 25 July - 30 Sept
T4 = 17 Oct - 16 Dec





Message from the Smart Community

Thank you to those of you who recently purchased the cookie time biscuits. It was a great fundraiser and Clare did an amazing job of sorting this for us. Our cookie time lady had a few trips into the office with the 30 boxes of cookies that we sold.
On behalf of the Smart Community Managing committee I would also like to pass on our sincere thanks and gratitude for everything that everyone has done this year. Despite a Covid pandemic, we still have managed to achieve a lot and end the year mostly with smiling kids, the vital key to success. We've also nearly finished the hall upgrade which has been years in the making and planning. The community's fundraising got this project over the line together with Tom Norman's careful and considerate planning plus Kate and the Board working closely with the Ministry of Education, Andrew and our contractors. A real team effort. With a few more tasks to achieve, eventually it will be a much improved space with larger capacity, new safety features, better sightlines, increased storage despite losing the stage, and acoustically more rich.
Keep safe this summer, be kind and considerate to others and enjoy a Merry Christmas. Thank you to my fellow Smart Community Management members too, fundraising efforts continued despite the challenges so well done.

See you in 2022.
Namaste
Jamie Billings
Chair of Smart Community Managing Committee

SAVE THE DATE

We will be starting the year with one of the most powerful speakers about ICT safety in NZ. John Parsons will be joining us on the first day of school – 3 Feb 2022. The children from Y3 – 8 will have an hour session with John, followed by a staff meeting and then he will finish the day with us with a Parent session starting at either 6.30 / 7.00pm.

INTERNET HEALTH AND WELLBEING PRESENTATION

WITH JOHN PARSONS www.facebook.com/johnparsonss2e
New Zealand's leading authority on Safeguarding children online.



The cost for the session will be $2 per student and $5 per family for the parent session. Topics covered will include; cyber bullying, learning to repel &report, future proofing for employment, screen time, sleep.

Families that eat together heal together. Educating young people to understand the value of identity is the first step to using ICT safely and ethically. Educating young people to respect and protect friends and family identity is the second step.

SCHOOL NOTICES

School Photos

School photos for 2022 are due to be taken on Tuesday 8th February.
Class photos and individual photos will be taken, plus the opportunity is available for anyone wanting a family photo of their school children.
If you would like your school children's family photo taken could you please contact Diane in the school office when we are open or email dianem@stmartins.school.nz. Before Tuesday the 8th.

Back to school stationary – order now for 2022!



We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make getting school ready faster! Your child's class list is available now on the OfficeMax MySchool website – myschool.co.nz.
We encourage you to order early to miss the start of year rush and ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1 (Feb 3rd).
Laybuy* is also available, so you can pay in 6 weekly, interest-free payments - and still get your order right away. Or you can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card. When you shop on myschool.co.nz you'll receive free delivery on orders over $46*. You will also help our school earn school rewards* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school. * *Terms & Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.*

Uniform Shop

On **Tuesday 2nd February 2022** the office will be open from 10am to 2pm for any new uniform items you may need before school starts on Thursday 3rd February 2022. Payment is required before goods can be taken.
You can pay by eftpos (excluding credit cards), or cash at the office, or you can pay online to the school account and collect the uniform items once the payment is showing in the school account.

End of Year Sports Uniform Return

To those that haven't returned their sports uniform, especially our Year 8 students, we would appreciate these back please. We are happy to lend tops to students and its great the school has managed to have these available for our teams, however it is important items are returned so other students can make use of them. Returns should be dropped to the school office. Queries or concerns can be made by email to dianem@stmartins.school.nz

End of Year Library Book Return

As it is the end of the year any books your child still has on loan from the school Library must be returned by **Monday 13th December**. Please be aware that costs could be incurred for lost or non-returned books. Look out for 'overdue library book' slips which will be coming home with students. Please chat with your child's teacher for more information or contact Kate Thomson on katet@stmartins.school.nz

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Kelly Sports Summer Holiday Programmes

Bookings for our upcoming Kelly Sports Holiday Programmes at Hillview Christian School and Hillmorton High School are now available online.
The focus of our Programmes is to ensure kids are active throughout with a great mixture of games and activities to suit everyone. WINZ Subsidies are available for families that qualify and we have options of half day sessions, School Day sessions and Full Day sessions available.
To register and for more information please visit www.kellysports.co.nz/christchurch-east or contact Steve on steve@kellysports.co.nz for more information

SHINE A LIGHT

Erin Enright one of our parents is running 500km to raise money for Shine A Light for child and youth mental health in Canterbury. People can either donate through Shinealight.nz or through my Give a little Page, where I

am running 500km to raise the money. All donations go to the same fund and are currently being matched by the Starship Children's Trust, so your donation is doubled.
Erin's Give a Little Page
https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/canterburykidsmentalhealth
Shine a Light Campaign
www.shinealight.nz

The Homework Club Holiday Programmes are currently taking bookings for the following dates:

Dec 20-23rd
5-13 years' age group based at Cashmere Primary, 135 Hackthorne Road.

January 17th to January 29th 2022
9-13 years' age group based at Landsdowne Community Centre 8 Landsdowne Terrace, Cashmere
5-9 years' age group based at Cashmere Primary,135 Hackthorne Road.

January 31st to February 2nd 2022
5-13 years' age group based at Landsdowne Community Centre 8 Landsdowne Terrace, Cashmere

The Club offers a high standard of quality care and operate from 8-6pm during the holidays. We also have an after school care Programme that operates during the term time from 3-6pm.

You are most welcome to visit our website: www.thehomeworkclub.co.nz or email Sara info@thehomeworkclub.co.nz, for further information.



