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

Te Kura o **Hato Mātene**



Newsletter 13 – 16th September 2021

SCHOOL UPDATE



Kia ora e te Whānau,

This week we welcome Immy to the senior school, and Julian and Olivia to the junior school. We look forward to sharing in your positive learning journey at St Martins School.

Welcome back to school. We hope that you all had a positive lockdown experience. Thank you for engaging with the learning at home, whether it was online learning or hard pack learning. This year we worked hard at using one main communication source, HERO and this may have been followed up with a second information source (eg Facebook, School Website, Seesaw, Dojo). If you did not receive any communication from the school or classroom teacher's during lockdown please let Alice Denley (aliced@stmartins.school.nz) know so we can update your HERO details.



It was great to pop into some Google Meets throughout the lockdown period. Thank you for taking the time to have your children meet with their classmates and teachers.

We continue to be in Alert L2 until Tuesday 21st September. At Alert Level 2 we continue to ask that parents drop their children off at the gate and do not come onsite if possible. If you do come into the school grounds please use the contact tracer QR code to track that you have been at St Martins School. If you go into the classroom please make sure you fill in the paper contact sheet. This simply means if we needed to trace who had been in a certain space it would be a smaller group than who had been in the school grounds. As usual, if your child is unwell please keep them home.

For the first few days of all being back at school we had the children learning in their home rooms in allocated desks. This helped to reduce the movement through the school as we settled back in. We continued to remind children to sanitise when going outside, coming back into class and before eating. Face coverings / masks have been used. This week we have gone back to some of our collaborative across home room practices.

You may have noticed that we are able to continue to have whānau at school to support learning. During these times the person supporting the learning is counted as part of our bubble. If we had whānau spectating at an event (eg sports, mihi competition) then we would have to meet the L2 requirements of 50 inside and 100 outside.



The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Health have both indicated that Education Outside the Classroom events are able to continue as long as the provider is able to meet the L2 requirements. Alice Denley has attended the EONZ seminar on good practice during L2 for EOTC events. We seek clarification from the providers whether the trip can go ahead or the changes they have made to the event to meet the L2 guidelines. If we are satisfied at school we will continue with the trip, if

we are not, the trip will not go ahead. We know that Navigators 2 will have a wonderful camp experience this week in Hanmer, it was a beautiful spring morning to be setting off yesterday.

Staffing Update

We congratulate Michele Stephens on gaining an administration position at Rangi Ruru. We thank Michele for the 16 years of wonderful work she has put into St Martins School. We have greatly appreciated her time as a Teacher Aide in the classroom before moving into the office admin area taking on student accounts, payroll, Principal's PA and Admin Team Leader. We wish Michele all the best with her new position. The responsibilities and tasks undertaken by Michele have been shared across the admin team of Kate, Megan and Diane for the remainder of the year.

2022 Class Placements

As we come into term four we start discussing the make-up of classes for the following year. This term we are starting the preparations for 2022 class organisation. As we have previously mentioned the Ministry of Education would like to see the roll reduce at St Martins School. In 2022 we will see some teams reduce from five teachers to four teachers. This means that we will again move away from the two year cycle with the majority of children moving classes. We do believe we have wonderful teachers across our school and to have an experience with eight teachers rather than four has benefits in itself. Class placements involve a number of discussions to enable us to make the best decisions for each student. We take into consideration a number of factors, sitting together on numerous occasions to discuss the make-up of groupings. At St Martins School we have mixed ability classes, we use the following definition for placing children: groups of children working at similar levels - with consideration of ages, social, behavioural and emotional aspects.

As with previous years we extend an invitation for you, as parents, to make us aware of any information that might be relevant to the placement of your child / children. This is an opportunity to give us information that will help us with our process, it is not an invitation to select your child's 2022 teacher. Information must be completed on our survey form https://forms.gle/V35DeRfN4ePjuBvo6 by Friday October 22 2022.

Have a lovely weekend, stay safe and well.
Ngā mihi,
Andrew Mouat (andrew@stmartins.school.nz)









PROPERTY UPDATE

Although there was an interruption to the school hall extension the revised timeline only sees us being behind by a week. The internal work focussing on the bathrooms is underway. We hope to have the hall enclosed in the next week or so.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Overdue sports uniform

Please remember to return items of sports uniform your child no longer needs. Often a student will have more than one item on loan. Returns should be dropped at the school office. Queries or concerns can be made by email to dianem@stmartins.school.nz

Thank you to all those who have already returned items.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Christchurch Astros St Martins Neighbourhood Baseball. Registrations open now for age 5 and up. Tuesday evenings, gear provided. Term 4 is free! Find us on Facebook - Christchurch Astros Baseball Club or visit www.sporty.co.nz/christchurchastrosbaseballclub

Studio One Performing Arts, your local dance school, is currently giving Ballet, Jazz, Contemporary and Acro lessons in your area. The school's director is teacher, choreographer & ex-ballet dancer Patricia Paul A.R.A.D. (London). Ballet lessons from 3 years through to Advanced, and all levels in Jazz and Contemporary starting from age 7. For all enquiries please phone 372-9191 or email info@studioone.co.nz



CodeCamp allows kids from the ages of 7-12 to develop 21st century skills in a fun and action packed environment. Develop confidence & initiative through design, creativity, solving problems, presenting & collaboration. Creating games, websites and apps as well as robotics. 4th - 8th October Book Now at https://codecamp.co.nz

Illuminate is taking place at Ferrymead Heritage Park through the 22nd-26th of September, 6:30pm-Late. This event is perfect for families priced at only $25 per car. Tickets are available through EventBrite. Check out the link for further information and a full list of FAQ's. https://www.eventhire.co.nz/ILLUMINATE/

Clever Little Bees Holiday programme - Ever wanted to learn more about bees? Want the opportunity to see inside a hive? Now's your chance! Learn practical beekeeping skills in a safe and supportive learning environment. Tuesdays – Phillipstown Community Hub. The holiday programme is for children aged 7-13 years. Time: 9am-3pm. Single days - $60 per child. For the week - $285 per child For enquiries and bookings, please contact Kathryn at dodowithbees@gmail.com or 027 863 8730.All PPE provided (except footwear) Children and adult Term 4 classes are also available, please contact Kathryn for more information. **www.cleverlittlebees.co.nz**

Act2 Drama Group – audition call for Snow White and the 21 Dwarfs. Saturday 9th October. Phone or text Kerri-Anne on 0220669959 to book an audition time. To be performed as part of Summer Times 2022. www.act2drama.co.nz Email act2dramagroup@gmail.com

ON THE CALENDAR

8	Mon 13 Sept	Tue 14 Sept	Wed 15 Sept	Thu 16 Sept	Fri 17 Sept
	Te Wiki o Te Reo		GTT Rm 21 and 23 Yr 5-6 camp	Yr 5-6 camp	Yr 5-6 camp
9	Mon 20 Sept	Tue 21 Sept	Wed 22 Sept	Thu 23 Sept	Fri 24 Sept
		BOT meeting 6.30pm	GTT Rm 23	Newsletter	Whānau Group Hui in the staffroom. All welcome. 6pm
10	Mon 27 Sept	Tue 28 Sept	Wed 29 Sept	Thu 30 Sept	Fri 1 Oct
	Mihi competition	Yr 5-6 Tournament Cashmere High Entrance test	Yr 5-6 camp	Yr 5-6 camp	Yr 5-6 camp Last day of Term 3

S'Mart Community

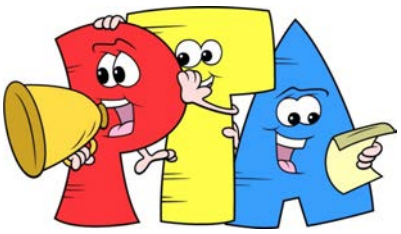
NEWSLETTER #9
16 SEPT 2021

The S'Mart Community is the St Martins School parent community (replacing the PTA and fundraising committees) that helps the school by fundraising, giving practical support and by helping develop a stronger parent community. Check out our website for more details: https://www.smartcommunity.org.nz/
https://www.facebook.com/StMartinsSmartCommunity/

Crown Lynn Treasure Trove



During the clear out of the school hall, a stash of Crown Lynn was discovered. There are side plates and cups that must have been there since the 60's. The decision was made to sell them on Trademe with proceeds going to the hall renovation. The pattern is Blue Bramble. Very cute. So if you'd like a fantastic souvenir of your child's time at St Martin's, at the same time as donating to the hall, have a look on Trademe. Search Crown Lynn Blue Bramble. Or auction numbers 3263111175; 3263055391; 3263072715.



S'Mart Community (PTA) Meeting

Monday September 20th
7.30pm in St Martins School Staffroom
Please scan in at the door
- All Welcome -

The S'Mart Community is on Facebook! Like and Share our page here:
https://www.facebook.com/StMartinsSmartCommunity/