St Martins School | Te Kura o Hato Mātene
Newsletter 13 : Thursday 22 August 2024





SCHOOL UPDATE

Kia ora koutou e te whānau,
We moved seamlessly from Maths week to Book week. Our thanks to the Board members able to join us on Friday last week at our SMS | HM Cantamaths Competition, thank you for giving up your time to get involved with maths at school. There was high excitement from all teams competing with the Board being the winners on the day with one of the Y7 teams placing second and a teacher team coming in third. Thank you to the Maths team of Alice D, Jarad, Chantal, Susie and Paige for organising maths options throughout the week. We now have a new draft Maths curriculum which we are starting to work through. The Government has also allocated each school one teacher only day to support the development of both the Maths and English curriculum for the start of the 2025 school year. Our **Teacher only day** will be held on **Monday 18th November** making the show weekend a day longer.



This week the school is a buzz with all things books. Thank you for supporting the character dress up day and the book swaps. We have also enjoyed having the opportunity to collect a book and having buddy classes reading together. This week we would like to give a special mention to our school Librarians who have been outstanding, helpful and organised particularly around the planning and running of book week this week. Putting themselves out there and helping with even the smallest things. Nothing is a problem for them. Thank you so much.
This week we welcome; Layla (rm 4). We look forward to you joining the St Martins | Hato Mātene whānau, the learning you will engage in and the contributions you will make.



Along with maths last week we showcased the talents of the musicians at school with our school band and Monster Music performance of drums, guitar and ukulele. 37 children participated in the strum, strike, blow concert at Wolfbrook. Our musicians joined 1500 other students in the massed orchestra playing to a full stadium. We finished the week off with Lara and Jonti sharing their cello skills at the Junior assembly. We look forward to many more musical performances from our students.
The Explorers had a wonderful visit from the Canterbury Museum crew last week which consolidated our learning about the first voyagers to New Zealand. The students were able to make islands, waka, sky, ocean, the sun, and stars out of LEGO bricks to show Kupe's voyage to Āotearoa.



Annie Chilton from Kāpuka spent some time in the holidays cleaning up and maintaining our beautiful Lachie Garden. A huge thanks to her for her efforts making our school environment look amazing. Tino pai Annie.
The EPro8 season has now come to a close with the Y8 team placing sixth in the finals this week. Sounds like a close run competition with few points between sixth and second. Congratulations to all of the teams competing, we have been really impressed with your collaborative thinking when problem solving.



In a couple of weeks the Y5 / 6 team will head off to Living Springs for their 2024 camp experience. Thank you to Megan

and Chantal for providing the information and working closely with our grants coordinator to be able to secure outside funding to reduce the cost of camp this year. The cost was estimated to be $250 and has now been subsidised to $75 per child. Amazing stuff.
Next term we start looking at class placements for our 2025 classes. In the next newsletter we will be sharing the link to the parent information survey. As always this is available for whānau to let us know aspects that are important (and that we don't know about) for us to consider when placing their child for 2025. As always, this is not an opportunity to select your child's teacher.
You may have noticed some new mats going into the classrooms. Thanks to the PTA for providing these comfy seating options through the school. So far, they seem very durable, plush and super soft.
As always, if you have any questions or comments feel free to stop and chat to Alice, Leanne or myself at the Waharoa. We are there most mornings before school throughout the week.
Have a great weekend.
Andrew





PB4L *'To create a positive climate and culture of belonging and engagement for all'*

St Martins School | Hato Mātene has a new SMS | HM Learner
"Albert the Pārera" was chosen by the PB4L team to represent our school values and it will be used in a variety of ways. The artist was Ruby Leckey and her entry was chosen from many fabulous entries from all levels of the school. The drawing has since been sent to Katrina Greenslade, a graphic designer and past parent of the school, who has used Ruby's original artwork to create different images to represent our values. Albert's name was cleverly thought up by Isla Thomson. We now look forward to seeing Albert's regular appearance around the school.



SCHOOL POLICY REVIEW

SchoolDocs – what is it?
All 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.

Caregivers and parents of St Martins School have the opportunity to review and place feedback on the policies that are under review each term. **Reviews for T3 must be placed by Monday 9th September.**

Login here and go to the 'Current review' tab to review the following policies;
Username: stmartins
Password: huntsbury
Community review topics for Term 3

- Media
- Professional Development
- Staff Conduct
- Staff Leave





PTA UPDATE

Disco Profit: With the disco making a profit of just over $3000, we were pleased to approve the use of this money to fund eight classroom Muscle Mats at our recent meeting.

School Rogaine Event: Come and join the first St Martins School rogaine event on **Friday 13th September.** Rogaining is similar to orienteering, teams of 2-4 work together

with a map which shows markers to collect points from. Start time is between 5 - 5.30pm at the school hall, with all participants to be finished by 6.30pm. A variety of team entry options: age groups, parents, teachers / staff and ex St Martins students. Students Yr 6 and under will require a parent / caregiver to participate with them. Entry form and further details out on Hero soon.



Yr 0 - 8 Touch Rugby Competition: Registrations are now open for the 2024 season in Term 4. If your child is looking to be part of the fun and wants to join a team, we will help bring same age children together, sign them up here: Team Finder Form

Coaching session: Wednesday 25th September at 6.30pm. We encourage all touch coaches to come along. No experience is required to be a team coach. More information closer to the time.

Register your established team here: Team Registration Touch Website: www.sporty.co.nz/smarttouch

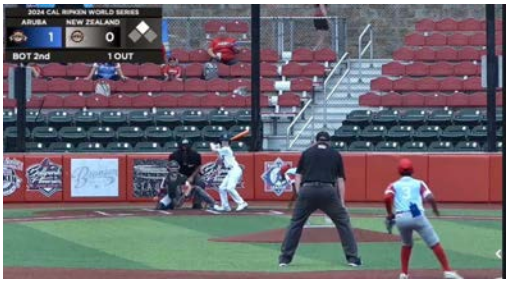
Community Market: We are looking forward to bringing you a pre-Christmas market on Sunday 10th November in the school hall. Any students or members of our school community that would like to be a stall holder can register interest here: Market Stall Form

We will also offer students the opportunity for busking, register interest here: Busking Form

Contact Us: info@stmartinsschoolpta.org.nz **Fundraising Website:** www.stmartinsptafundraiser.com

Next Meeting: Monday 16th September, 7.30pm, Staff Room

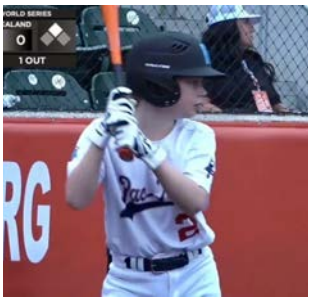
STUDENT CORNER Celebrating student achievements



World Baseball Championships - Andrew McKinley

For the last few weeks 7 student Andrew McKinley has been in America attending the World Baseball Championships. Andrew has had the opportunity to start in a Babe Ruth World Series game where he got a hit, stole a base and came in to score a run! We are very proud of Andrew and his achievements.

South Island Figure Skating Championships - Alice Nix



On Friday 16th August year 7 student, Alice Nix came second in her division at the South Island Figure Skating Championships in Gore. She represented the Centaurus Ice Skating Club from Canterbury and competed against skaters from Dunedin and Queenstown. Well done Aliec, great achievement!

Wicked Winter Rogaine

Congratulations to our year 7 & 8 students, Owen, James, Daniel and Josh who won the two hour Wicked Winter Rogaine at Orton Bradley over the weekend, even beating all the adult teams!

EPRO8



This year we had around 150 students trialled for the EPro8 engineering competition. 64 students participated in our school competition, where teams of four built a range of items like a throne for a queen. From here, two Year 5/6 teams and two Year 7/8 teams competed in the Canterbury quarter finals. Our yr 7/8 team 'Screwed Up!' won this competition, and three other teams qualified for the semi finals. Our 5/6 team of Loic, Isla, Zach and Theo placed fourth which was very exciting. Again Screwed Up! placed highly, building a great modified toilet(!), and qualified to the Canterbury final where Daniel, Om, Josh, Maia and Ethan joined 11 other teams from Ashburton to North Canterbury. Here they performed exceptionally well to just miss a placing and come 6th. Huge congratulations to all our future engineers! You all did yourselves proud.

LISTENING TO FAMILIES





Listening to Families videos provide answers to everyday questions about health and wellbeing challenges facing children and adolescents. Many of these challenges can affect overall attendance. The questions the videos answer are real - they come directly from families. The answers are provided by trusted specialists.
Visit https://www.listeningtofamilies.co.nz/ for more information. Some subjects covered are:

- ADHD – Parent Program
- Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Cancer
- Allergies and Anaphylaxis
- Coeliac – a conversation with dietitians
- Eczema
- Parent Education programs
- School attendance Years 9 to 13

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Annual Community Planting Day at Mt Vernon
Come help plant over 3,500 native plants. Sunday 25th August -10am
Bring a spade and sturdy footwear. Planting site is off the farm track - a 5-10 minute walk from the park entrance
Further details are on our website: https://www.mtvernonpark.org.nz/

Local maths tutoring
I'm a qualified maths teacher who works in various local schools. I run a small group for Year 5-8 students who are keen to develop their maths and problem-solving skills. The present group operates from 3.30 to 5pm on a Wednesday, (but the day may be flexible) We meet at my house which is at the bottom of Cashmere Hills.
If you'd like to know more, please contact me on 0210722939.

Opawa Tennis Club
With the new tennis season starting in Spring, come along to the Love Tennis open day on Sunday 8 September 10am-2pm at Opawa tennis club. Bring the whole family, give tennis a go for free, and find out what Opawa tennis club has to offer. There will be prizes, giveaways, and a BBQ. All are welcome!
Hot Shots Tennis is a fun way for kids to play and learn tennis. Starting with smaller courts, shorter racquets and softer balls, each stage provides the right equipment and court size to match their ability. If you're not sure, come and try it out at our open morning on October 12 th . Session times: 8:30-9:15 am for 5-7 year olds and 9:15-10:15 am for 8 years and over. To learn more, please visit our website, come to one of the open days, or contact clairemcsherry86@gmail.com.

Halswell Softball Club - Have-a-go Day
Want to do something fun with Dad on Father day? Looking for a fun inclusive sport this summer? Come down to Halswell Domain on September 1st for our Have-a-go Day. All grades available from U7s all the way up to Seniors. Free sausage sizzle and treats for the little ones. For more information scan this barcode to join our facebook page



GET YOUR SWEET TREAT.

HipHop Bake Sale

fundraise to help the year 7/8 Hip Hop team go to Queenstown for the championships

AUGUST 26, 2024 • MONDAY
WAHAROA AT LUNCH TIME- 12.25

LEFTOVERS WILL BE SOLD AFTER SCHOOL AT A DISCOUNTED PRICE.

PRICES WILL VARY BETWEEN $1-$3



TERM 3 2024

To stay up to date with any changes to our events calendar visit our school website at this link. Or access the calendar via your HERO app.

5	Mon 19 Aug	Tues 20 Aug	Wed 21 Aug	Thur 22 Aug	Fri 23 Aug
	BOOK WEEK				
	Keeping Ourselves Safe Whānau Hui 2.15-3pm	ICAS Science 9am EPro8 Grand Finals 7/8 4-8pm South	Canterbury CantaMath GTT Rm 15 & 16	Year 5-8 winter sports Newsletter ICAS Spelling Bee 9am	Year 7/8 Technology
6	Mon 26 Aug	Tues 27 Aug	Wed 28 Aug	Thur 29 Aug	Fri 30 Aug
			GTT Rm 13 & 14	Year 5-8 winter sports	Year 7/8 Technology Year 0-4 assembly 9.15 - 9.45 Year 5-8 assembly 2.15 - 2.45
7	Mon 2 Sept	Tues 3 Sept	Wed 4 Sept	Thur 5 Sept	Fri 6 Sept
			GTT Rm 15 & 16	Year 5-8 winter sports Canterbury Winter Tournament Newsletter	Year 7/8 Technology
8	Mon 9 Sept	Tues 10 Sept	Wed 11 Sept	Thur 12 Sept	Fri 13 Sept
	Y5 - 8 Canterbury Duathlon		St Johns visit the Navigators GTT Rm 13 & 14	St Johns visit the Navigators Mihi Comp (hall) Year 5-8 winter sports	Year 7/8 Technology Year 0-4 assembly 9.15 - 9.45 Year 5-8 assembly 2.15 - 2.45
9	Mon 16 Sept	Tues 17 Sept	Wed 18 Sept	Thur 19 Sept	Fri 20 Sept
	Maori Language Week				
	PTA meeting (staffroom 7.30pm)	Board meeting (staffroom, 6.30pm)	Navigators Camp - Living Springs		
			GTT Rm 15 & 16	Year 5-8 winter sports Newsletter	Year 7/8 Technology
10	Mon 23 Sept	Tues 24 sept	Wed 25 Sept	Thur 26 Sept	Fri 27 Sept
	Yr 5-8 Korfball Tournament	Y7 /8 Koru Games	Y7 / 8 Koru Games	Y7 / 8 Koru Games	Year 0-4 assembly 9.15 - 9.45 Year 5-8 assembly 2.15 - 2.45 Last day of Term 3