



ST ALBANS SCHOOL

Te Kura o Hato Opani. est 1873

Term 2 Week 8 11 June 2015

Phone: 355 9132 #0 Reception

Absentee Line: 355 9132 # 1 or 027 750 3559 (text only)

Email: stalbans@stalbans.school.nz

Website: www.stalbans.school.nz

Kia ora whānau,

MASTER PLANNING UPDATE

We are currently near the end of our master planning process and will soon begin detailed design. This is a process that will move our school forward into the future and provide teaching and learning spaces that are purpose built, adaptable and flexible. We anticipate our major works will begin in 2016 presenting us with the need to look at accommodating our burgeoning roll numbers in a creative way through to the end of 2015.

Sadly this means that once again our library will have to close for terms 3 and 4. We have considered carefully the needs of all our learners and know you will recognise the importance of ensuring our new pupils have the best start to their schooling. We were determined not to see a repeat of new entrant classrooms being set up in our school hall.

One of our options was to consider bringing in a prefabricated building, however, the cost for this is in the region of \$120,000 and this funding would then be deducted from our overall master planning budget, which is already tight.

As part of the master planning process many schools have chosen to decentralise their library and have books in classrooms areas. We have not done that and have instead made the library a feature of the new community hub being incorporated into our master plan.

In the interim we will have book kits rotating around classrooms, teachers will continue to make use of the National Library and we encourage you to make use of local libraries at this time. Our library will be re-established and ready to open at the start of 2016.

I would like to acknowledge our wonderful librarian Lauren Bartram who has had the unenviable task of managing our library in recent years and has seen her manage many different versions of this, including our 'pop up library'. Lauren has remained so positive throughout and has demonstrated such dedication to our readers.

Please know that we are committed to making purposeful change when it is required and have not made this decision without careful consideration. We appreciate your on-going support as we work through our master planning process. We will be in the position very soon to share this with you and help you see the vision for the future St Albans School.

He moana pukepuke e ekengia e te waka. A choppy sea can be navigated.

Celebrating Support Staff

Yesterday was Support Staff Day and our teachers took this opportunity to show this fantastic team just how much we appreciate them. Whether they be in the office, working with children or maintaining our school environment each member of this team adds something special to our school.

Outcome of Decile Review

Earlier in the year we were grateful for your support as we contested the increase in our decile rating from 7 to 8. As we communicated at that time this increase meant a reduction in funding for the school, hence we believed it was worth taking the time to process the documentation required for the review. This week we received confirmation from the Ministry of Education that our decile rating will not change and remain at 8P.

Emergency Protocols

Did you receive the text message last Friday? If not it means we do not have your current mobile number in our database. Please contact us to update your contact details.

Rock Band

Yesterday our very own Rock Band performed a lunchtime concert. Under the watchful eye of Matt Hall and his group of support parents this group of very talented students entertained the crowds. Sweet Home Alabama was definitely a crowd pleaser as were the many other songs. We are so fortunate to have Matt nurturing this young talent.

Digital Citizenship Evening

St Albans School and other schools in our cluster are hosting a digital citizenship evening. Janelle Rikki from Core Education will speak about:

- the 'why' in relation to the use of digital technology in schools
- global shifts in educational practice & shifts we are seeing in South Island Schools
- digital citizenship - how to keep your kids safe online (tips for parents & whānau)

This will be followed by a short talk by Constable Debbie from the NZ Police. There will be time for questions followed by hot drinks and a chance to chat with others. We encourage you to attend this information evening. Please mark it on your calendar now – Wednesday 12th August at 7pm at Heaton Intermediate.

Nga mihi,

Ginnie and the team

NEW PUPILS

We welcome the following new pupils: Chloe Bartlett-Magill and Joe Dunkin. It is wonderful to have you join our school.

SCHOOL NOTICES

Scooters

Heather has a collection of scooters that have been left behind at school. Please talk to her if you are missing one. Also a reminder that scooters and bikes should be locked, as we cannot guarantee the security of anything parked in the bike or scooter stands.

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Dyslexia

Have you ever wondered what Dyslexia is and how it might affect children? Loriann Wakefield our Special Needs Coordinator will be giving a short talk on Dyslexia on Friday 19th June at 9.10am.



This is an informal talk in the Targeted Learning Centre (between Rooms 18 & 19). Bring your coffee and come along! All welcome.

Canterbury Cross Country

Yesterday twelve St Albans School children represented the North East Zone at the Canterbury Primary School's Cross Country, held at Halswell Quarry. The children all ran well, enjoying the experience of running in large fields with over 120 children in each race. My thanks go to all the parents that assisted with transport and supported the children on the day. The following children gained places in the top 40:



Year 5 girls

Lucy Haller 20th

Julie Worthington

Year 6 Girls

Niamh McKenzie 33rd

Year 6 Boys

Angus Hill 20th

Weird & Wacky Wednesday - Mufti Day

St Albans School is having a mufti day on Wednesday 17th June. Donations will go to reducing camp costs for our Year 4 to 6 students. Full camp cost is approximately \$180 per student so we are hoping to decrease this by various fundraising activities and this is the first one. We are asking for a donation of a gold coin. We are encouraging children to wear their hair and/or clothes in a unique or wacky way.

When – **Wednesday 17th June**

Why – **Camp Fundraising**

Wear – **Wacky Mufti /or Wacky Hair/or Normal Mufti**

Cost – **Gold Coin Please**

Thank you for your support,

St Albans School Council

Teacher/Parent/Student Interviews - Have you booked your interview on-line?

Wednesday 1st July, 3.15pm to 7pm and Thursday 2nd July, 2.15pm to 6pm. Interviews are 15 minutes in duration and we ask you to please keep to these times. We also ask that you bring your child to these interviews. Book at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code using the code **MAA9V** or call into the office and we can book a time for you.

PTA NEWS

- ⊛ School Photos are on Wednesday 1st July – if you need uniform items check out the PTA Second Hand Uniform Shop operating in the hall from 8am to 9.30am.
- ⊛ Next Friday is Sushi for lunch. A reminder will be sent home on Wednesday and payment is due on Thursday by 9am outside the office.

Entertainment Books – memberships books & digital are still available. The 2014/2015 Entertainment Memberships have expired & 2015/2016 memberships started 1 June. Order your digital/book at www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/134943x or the book through the envelope sent home or ask at the office.

- Entertainment digital membership can be shared between 2 phones.
- Even with a hard copy of the entertainment book, you can download the Entertainment app & use the GPS service to find your nearest store to redeem vouchers.
- Friends and family throughout New Zealand & Australia can purchase the membership for their area but still support St Albans School.

You can view the new look book at the office. Any questions, please contact Sue Bagnall 027 222 0614.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

2 Ginger Cats at St Albans! We are the Baker family and live at 6 Roosevelt Ave. We have 2 young ginger cats that have befriended the schools playground and the pupils. One is short-haired Persian named OJ, the other is fluffy ragdoll named Flash. We are thankful to all families who have cared for and returned them to us from various areas of our community! They are very friendly cats but also much loved by our children who want them to know their home. Please, if you see them, could you kindly not feed them or entice them to your homes and if at all possible please pop them back to our address. Their tags have our contact phone number on them. We have tried to lock them in when walking to school but can not always locate them and have since been told Flash was locked inside the Rutland Street Church rooms overnight setting off the burglar alarms! Some families have found them in their garages too. They are both neutered so their roaming is unusual but if they are fed and tempted regularly they will continue to do it.

Dinner Parties with a Difference - Take a journey of discovery with a world of cuisine. Private chef available for fully catered dinner parties. Private cooking lessons of international cuisine. Cooking parties with group lesson. Contact Liz: 021 544 029 Privatecheftutor@gmail.com



Holiday programme

The July school holidays are approaching fast. Sport Canterbury have action packed programmes with exciting activities and awesome excursions open for bookings now! Active Kids is an exciting structured programme of sport, physical activity and play for primary school aged children. The programmes are safe and affordable; there are a number of programme/venue options to suit you and your children's needs. Visit our website for full details: www.sportcanterbury.org.nz

Disclaimer: St Albans School does not necessarily support or endorse any of the services advertised in this newsletter.

If you wish to unsubscribe to the newsletter please click here: mailto:diane.mawhinney@stalbans.school.nz

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****New Dates****
CHILD FIRST AID COURSE

Are you a parent, grandparent, caregiver, baby sitter or in any way involved with children?

This course will prepare you for any emergency

Tuesdays 30 June and 7 July
6.45pm - 8.45pm
at the Elmwood Bowling Club Heaton Street
LIMITED SPACES NOW AVAILABLE
Approximately \$39 per person

This is a well-designed and practical course covering: Scene assessment CPR, managing choking, control of bleeding, broken bones, asthma, fever seizures, meningococcal disease, burns, poisoning, head injury.

Please call Julia on at the Merevale Corner 355-4197 ASAP to reserve a place. Leave a message.