



ST ALBANS SCHOOL

Te Kura o Hato Opani. est 1873

Term 1 Week 1

5 February 2015

Phone: 355 9132 #0 Reception

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Kia ora whānau,

Welcome back to school everyone, and to our new whānau welcome to our school! I wish you a very happy New Year and trust that you have enjoyed a relaxing and safe holiday break. As usual, Term 1 promises to be very busy with lots of exciting events for students, staff and parents to be involved with.

Our pōwhiri was held in brilliant sunshine again this year as we welcomed new staff: Shelley Barbour, Krysta Geerling, Renee Kake and Felicia Ward along with new students and their whānau. As always we are thrilled to have new staff join our team and new members join our burgeoning school community.

As you know we are a sun safe school. Thank you for ensuring your child has a hat or cap to wear at school when they are outdoors. We also recommend the application of sunscreen before they leave home.

Just a reminder that we ask that all children and their whānau to gather in the areas of the netball and basketball courts before 8.30am. Children are welcome to play and enjoy themselves, however, we ask that they do not enter the cloakrooms or classrooms until the bell rings at 8.30am. We also ask them to stay off the adventure playgrounds as no active supervision is in place at this time. We appreciate your support in this matter, as it ensures the teachers have uninterrupted time to prepare for the busy day ahead.

The school website is constantly updated. A full staff list, classrooms blogs, information about school events can be accessed via www.stalbans.school.nz. Blogs are currently coming on line now; please take time to visit these and celebrate what is happening in your child's class.

We love to celebrate the many opportunities, talents and achievements experienced by our students. Please send your photos and a brief explanation to g.warren@stalbans.school.nz.

Learning Information Evening - Meeting with Teaching Teams

In past years we have held goal-setting meetings in Term 1. As we move forward with future focused teaching and learning practices we believe it is important that you have time to meet with the team that your child is part of at the beginning of the year. These are rolling times to allow families with more than one child to attend all sessions. Please

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join us on Monday 16th February:

Year 1 (Rms 6/7/8)	5.00 - 5.30pm
Year 2 (Rms 4/5/13/14/15)	5.30 - 6.00pm
Year 3 (Rms 16/17/18)	6.00 - 6.30pm
TTRR	6.00 - 6.30pm
Year 4 (Rms 3/19/20/21)	6.30 - 7.00pm
Year5/6 (Rms 22/23/24/25/26/27)	7.00 - 7.30pm

If weather permits we suggest you bring along a picnic dinner and join other families on the field. You might be able to get another family to keep an eye on your children while you pop into the hall to meet your child's teaching team. During that time staff will be available to discuss aspects of the school programme: Sport, Gifted and Talented Education, ESOL, Targeted Learning. Teams will start together in the hall and may then move to classrooms for short time. You will hear from individual teachers and about how the year and learning will look for children in that team.

Goal Setting

Shortly you will receive an information sheet that asks you about your child, we ask that you quickly complete and return to school. This information will form part of a goal-setting sheet that will be developed by children and teachers. These will be uploaded onto our STAR reporting system by the end of Week 5 to allow you to access and reference from home. As per our open-door policy you are welcome to schedule a time to meet with your child's classroom teacher if you have specific questions or concerns.

***Have a great long weekend,
Ginnie and the team***



NEW PUPILS

We welcome the following new pupils: Leo Kawazu, Mizuki Kajikawa, Wolfie Moeller, Zoe Bunker, Janika Jackson, Mischa Myers, Zeke Berry-Tuahine, Naomi-Kate Crocombe, Benjamin Thomson, Trey Peters, Jayzaiah Bennett-Davis, Miles Fenton, Lucas Robertson, Zoe Lamb, Sara Rafyee, Ollie Ellis, Oscar Baker, Senha Battrick, Sarah Strong, Evie Cole, Lilly Cole, Arsh Gilani, Hannah Jermy, Vinnie Peake, Sam Tipa-Crockett, Bowman Wilson, Izaac Adamson, Hazel Buckingham, Raylene Butler-Gage. It is wonderful to have you join our St Albans family.

Disabled Parking: Please do not park in the disabled parking spaces if you are not entitled to do so. The Go Bus personnel who pick up disabled students are finding cars not displaying disability stickers are taking the parking spaces.

Subway: Subway lunches will re-commence next week: Notices go home Monday, orders in by Tuesday morning, lunches delivered Wednesday. This is run outside of school so orders must be in cash.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Happy New Year we hope you all had a relaxing and enjoyable break. Welcome to all our new families to St Albans School.

Decile rating

Last year the Ministry of Education (MOE) informed us that our decile rating would increase from 7O to 8P as communicated in the school newsletter of the 27 November 2014. At the board meeting on the 15 December 2014 the Board decided to appeal this decision. Decile ratings are linked to MOE funding NOT school performance and the change from 7O to 8P decreases our funding by approximately \$13,000 per year. The Board and Ginnie will work through the appeal process and report back to the school community.

School Donation and Activity Contribution

The school donation for 2015 will remain at \$100 for one child (\$25 per term) or \$180 per family (two or more children at St Albans School \$45 per term). Due to increasing costs for school trips, transport and activities the cost will increase from \$15 to \$20 per term per child (an increase of \$5 per term). We understand that there are a number of financial pressures on our school community and we appreciate your support in paying the school donation and activity contribution. If you are interested in setting up a payment plan for your fees and contributions please contact Diane Mawhinney, you can pop in to the school office and see her or email her diane.mawhinney@stalbans.school.nz. The school donation and activity contribution are both tax-deductible donations.

Acorn Fund

The Board has increased the Acorn funding available for families in financial need to help pay for school charter related educational activities. The amount available has increased from \$50 to \$70 per annum per child. This may, for example, be a contribution towards fees for sports or cultural club membership, ICAS exam costs, camps, uniforms, books or musical tuition. Applications should be made in writing to the Principal and funding is payable only on evidence of an invoice.

Pool update

It has been great to see so many people taking advantage of the great weather and the school pool over the holidays. We are very pleased with the new filtration system, which is making the job of maintaining the pool a lot easier this season. One of the issues we do have with the pool is items making their way into the filtration system; please refrain from bringing water balloons and polystyrene floatation items to the pool as they do clog up the filtration system. With the large amount of people enjoying the pool we also ask that you do not bring large floatation items to the pool. If you leave the pool and there are no other swimmers please padlock the gate at the bottom using the code on your pool rules to insure the pool area is secure.

Enjoy the fabulous weather.

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SCHOOL NOTICES

2015 Fees and Contributions: For those wanting to get school costs out of the way early, here are the 2015 amounts:

- Activity Contribution \$80 for the year or \$20 per term
- Swimming at AquaGym \$30
- School Donation: \$100 for one child (\$25 per term) or \$180 for families (\$45 per term)

Payment may be made at the office by cash, cheque or eftpos (sorry, no credit cards) or by direct credit to our bank account: St Albans School 123151-0178176-00. All these costs are tax-deductible ☺

French Lessons: We are pleased to announce that Justine Lee, our French teacher, is keen to return in 2015. Lessons will be held on a Thursday afternoon in Room 9. We may have to review options later in the year when this classroom is in use. If there are enough children interested we will be able to run two classes, Year 4 - 6 children would have their lesson from 1.30 – 2.15pm and Year 1 - 3 children from 2.15 – 2.55pm. The cost for Term 1 will be \$40 (\$5 per lesson), payable in advance for the term. Places are limited so please contact the office as soon as possible as lessons will start on Thursday 12 February. Please pop into the office and request a notice if interested. If places fill we will keep a waiting list for Term 2.

ASB School Banking: If you would like to enrol your child please contact the office.

Senior Sport: This term Year 5/6 students will be involved in the following:

- Summer sport on a Friday afternoon at South Hagley from 1.30-2.30pm – Ripper Rugby and T-Ball
- Girls cricket (fortnightly)

Sports competitions start 20 February and run until 27 March. If any parents are available to help out please email: dionne.fowley@stalbans.school.nz

PTA NEWS: Welcome back everyone! Hope you managed to get some time with the family in the beautiful weather over the holidays and relax a wee bit. The PTA look forward to 2015 with the St Albans School community. Over the year we will keep you up to date with the PTA activities in the school newsletter and on the PTA Facebook site, <https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Albans-School-PTA/110387819038922>.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Summer Soccer: Would any Year 5's like to join a summer soccer team? Games are at ASB Football Park on Monday afternoons, anytime between 3.30 – 5.50pm. It's 5-aside and teams play for 30 minutes. The season goes from Monday 9th February to 30th March. Cost is \$20. Please call/text Annabel ASAP on 027 216 7771 if your child is interested.

CGHS Uniform Items for Sale: Kilt, senior Blazer, dresses, sports jacket, netball uniform and more. Sold individually or the lot for \$160. Please see Diane in the office.

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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