

# Newsletter



*St Mark's School exists to provide a balanced education, where a child's academic, cultural, physical, social and spiritual needs are identified and nurtured in a dynamic Christian environment, grounded in the Anglican way and supported by a family orientated community.*

Issue 1  
1 February 2017

Kia ora koutou everyone,

What a great two days we have had already! Welcome to 2017 at St Mark's school! It has been a joy welcoming those faces that are familiar and meeting some new faces for the first time. As we start our journey together this year this newsletter sits alongside the communication you will receive from your learning teams.

We welcome with love the following families:

At our church service on Friday we will welcome the students formally with a commencement certificate and house badge. All families are welcome.

Sofia Seruitanoa and her mother Johanne  
Isabella Stephen and her mother Alexis  
Kali Niall and her parents Sandy and Rob  
Hannah Tremain and her parents Leighton and Kylie  
Loukas Saxton and his parents Jon and Sarah  
Hugo Fleischer and his parents Dominic and Jill  
Thomas Osborne and his parents Graham and Jenny  
Shree Lathiya and her parents Nainesh and Priti  
Ari Rosanowski and her parents Jonathan and Barbara  
Harrison Ballantyne and his parents Chris and Marianne  
Hannah and Mike Anderson and their parents Matt and Rose  
Monty Stracey and his parents Craig and Rachel  
Olive Harris and her parents Timothy and Charlotte  
Joseph McLister and his parents John and Yaeko  
Naomi Johnstone and her father Nick  
Jeremy Hawke and his parents Gavin and Vanessa  
Freddie and Plumm Twist and their parents Rod and Polly  
Liam Regan and his parents Mark and Karen

## Staffing

We are delighted that **Mrs Delwyn Wright** has accepted the fixed term position in the new entrant area of Mokihi, and look forward to her warmth and skills across the school.

We are thrilled to announce the appointment of **Mr Kevin McKinnel** as our school caretaker. Kevin brings a wealth of experience to this role, having previously worked as a caretaker at Fendalton and Hoon Hay schools. Welcome Kevin.

## **Church and Assembly.**

Our weekly church services in the hall will run on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays in 2017. The Wednesday service has now shifted to a base group devotional time lead by the teacher including bible reading, singing and prayer. Each teacher can build on the connections and relationships within the base group where children can share in a more personal way in their faith journey.

Friday church services will be our usual service and accompanying certificate assembly. You are welcome at all of our church services.

## **Calendar**

We are in the final stages of completing our calendar for 2017. Important dates, events and annual fixtures are all but decided. This will be available on the website and in paper copy in the school foyer. We hope this will help with your own planning for the year well in advance of school commitments. Whilst there will likely be additions, significant dates are set.

## **Building Project**

You will have noticed great progress on the building site of the middle school. I was fortunate to don a hard hat and vis vest in the holidays and experience the sense of space that is shaping behind the barriers. Along with the classrooms, is the much anticipated Information Centre which is sizable. Utility areas and staff workspaces will make this a much loved area of the school for all of us.

## **Parents' Association**

This organisation within our school is second to none!! There has been a strong team of people leading fundraising, uniform shop sales, supporting school functions, the school fair, catering and many other roles within our school. The PA is vital in this school. To this end, can I recommend you consider nominations for this year's team. **The AGM of the PA is on Thursday 16th February at 7.30pm in the school hall.**

The first St Mark's School family event is the **Back to School BBQ on Friday 10th February from 5.00pm.** This is a perfect way to meet with others both new and familiar to our school - everyone welcome!

"He kai kei aku ringa"

There is food at the end of my hands.

## **Student Leadership**

The leadership roles for 2017 were announced at prizegiving last year. Each year 8 student has a specific leadership role to perform. Over the coming weeks we will see each in action and we hope to have a specific area of the newsletter dedicated to their presence in our school. On Monday our two Student leaders for 2017 - **Sophia Goodrick and Zen Kuwasaki** - ably lead our Monday church service with aplomb. We look forward to working with our highly motivated year 8 group - a church service to dedicate them to the work and year ahead, and present them with their badges will be held on **Friday 10th February during our Friday Church Service (parents welcome).** We also look forward to developing the leadership skills of our talented year 7 students across the year.

So welcome back everyone. Remember no question is too silly! Staff have worked hard to be ready for your children, to build relationships and to personalise learning for each and every child in their class. Your child's uniqueness, talents and challenges are all part of that rich fabric of them, and in partnership with parents there is much to achieve.

This is a new season for your family here at St Mark's and we look forward to all that 2017 will hold.

"To everything there is a season and a time to every purpose under the heaven" Ecc 3:1

Nga mihi nui  
Averil

# School Notices

## School and Office Hours

The school day for students starts at 8.55am and finishes at 3.00pm.

The school office is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm.

## Forms

Emergency contact forms are to be returned to the school office by Wednesday 8 February. This enables us to keep our records up-to-date.

Permission forms for music lessons also need to be returned by Wednesday 8 February. Music tutors will be in touch in the next two weeks.

## Upcoming Events

6 Feb	Waitangi Day
10 Feb	Parents' Association BBQ - 5.00pm
16 Feb	Parents' Association AGM - 7.00pm
14-17 Feb	Year 8 Camp
24 Feb	Swimming Sports

## Ukulele Club

Ukulele club begins this Friday in Toroa. Beginners welcome! (Mōkihi students might find playing a bit tricky, but are welcome to sing along.) Students should arrive promptly at 12:45pm so we can finish at 1:15pm. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cristy Yonetani: [c.yonetani@gmail.com](mailto:c.yonetani@gmail.com).



## Yr 7 & 8 Waterpolo

For those that are interested there is an opportunity to play waterpolo for St Mark's in Term 1. Practices are on Tuesdays 3.45-4.45 pm at St Margaret's outdoor pool. Games are on Friday nights at Jellie park.

Any student in Yr 7 & 8 who would like to play and hasn't already signed up, please contact Kate Goodrick [goodygoodrick@gmail.com](mailto:goodygoodrick@gmail.com)

## 2017 Year 8 School Based HPV Vaccination Programme

Human Papillomavirus (HPV) is a common viral infection which can cause several cancers affecting both men and women later in life. Early HPV immunisation offers the best protection against contracting this virus.

Starting 2017, **both girls and boys** in Year 8 will be offered free HPV Vaccination through the school based programme. A new updated version of the vaccine (Gardasil 9) will cover more strains of the virus, providing cover with 2 doses rather than 3 with Gardasil 4.

The vaccination will continue to be available within the GP Practices, however, we encourage you to participate in the school based programme. Girls and boys who have partially started the process with their GP will have the option to complete the course through the school based programme. To enable students to receive the vaccination at school, parents will need to complete the consent form which will be sent home with the student along with supporting information during the first weeks of term one. Please check with your child or the school to ensure you receive the consent form and information pack.

For more information about the vaccine, contact Public Health Nursing Service at 03 383 6877 Ext. 99469 or 99698, talk to your doctor, practice nurse or visit [www.health.govt.nz/hpv](http://www.health.govt.nz/hpv).

This programme is optional for boys and girls.

6-10 Feb - Distribution of Consent Forms  
13-17 Feb - Collection of Signed Consent Forms

## PA NEWS

### Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop is open on Tuesday 8.30-9.30am and Thursday 2.30-3.30pm.

We are seeking volunteers to help in the Shop. If you can give even a little time, please let the school office know.

### Coffee Cart

The Coffee Cart is open on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

