

# 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 19  
22 June 2016

Kia ora everyone,

Another wonderful week at our school and still many firsts!

Last night I went to my first Fair Committee meeting! Plied by wonderful company and enthusiasm for success, I commend their work to everyone. If you have any talents that you think may be useful for this community event, I am sure they would love to hear from you as at this stage there are some specific gaps to fill.

This week I also sat in on the School Orchestra rehearsal and was amazed at the quality of the sound and the proficiencies of individual children. We are so fortunate to have the expertise of Mrs Wells and we look forward to their first performance.

I also joined the Senior Band which runs on a Monday lunchtime. This group of students are being challenged with a more contemporary repertoire under the guidance of Matt. The contrast in style with the orchestra is a testament to the variety and balance of our developing musical program.

## Parent/whanau interviews

We look forward to welcoming many of you to school as you talk with teachers about the achievements and progress of your children. If you are unable to take this opportunity you are of course able to make a separate meeting with your child's teacher/s.

## Open Day - Wednesday 29th June, 11.00am - 12.00pm and 7pm - 8pm.

The recent advertising for this event indicated that visitors would "join us for a student-led tour of our school". I think our students are the greatest advertisement we have, and to that end I would appreciate all Year 8 students wearing white shirts in the event of being required for a tour - full training will be offered! We are enjoying high levels of interest at the moment which augurs well for our future roll and staffing.

## **Community Consultation - tonight 7.30 Waka Hourua**

By now you will be aware that I love quotations and bible verses to reinforce some of the thinking we as a staff and community are gathering some words around! One of my favourites of all times comes from Lewis Carroll and "Alice in Wonderland". Here is the conversation between Alice and the Cheshire Cat in chapter 6.

*"Would you tell me please which way I ought to go?"*

*"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.*

*"I don't much care where -," said Alice.*

*"Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat.*

*"- so long as I get SOMEWHERE," Alice added an explanation.*

*"Oh, you're sure to do that," said the Cat, "If you only walk long enough."*

Unlike Alice we do want to set the way forward and choose our path. To set new directions for the school via a new Charter and mission statements. Tonight is about building on the conversations that started with the survey monkey, and now shift to a positive community conversation about where we want St Mark's to move to. It does matter which directions we take and it does matter how we do that together. I am encouraged by the timing of this meeting and buoyed by the good things happening already and the great things yet to come.

Averil



Kereru	Benjamin Allan
Ti Kouka	Finn McWhirter
ToeToe	Theo Shayler
Kotuku	Olivia Bayne
Paua	Amelia Mander/Daniel Heinz
Rimurimu	Julia Glassey
Toroa	Ashley Powell
Wheke	Oliver Clark

## Sports Results

### Netball

St Mark's Leopards 12 v Cashmere 4  
St Mark's Lions 19 v Cashmere 2

Player of the Day: Olivia Yule  
Player of the Day: Brie Sinclair

### Basketball

St Mark's Titans 13 v Medbury Black 3

Player of the Day: Lucy Norton

### Hockey

St Mark's Ministicks Girls 1 v HSOB 1  
St Mark's Ministicks Boys 0 v Cathedral Grammar 13

Player of the Day: Melody Harrison  
Player of the Day: Mason Whitta

# School Notices

## Upcoming Events

22 June	Community Consultation - 7.30pm
23 June	Year 5/6 Mind Lab Trip
23 June	Year 3/4 Science Alive visit at school
24 June	ToeToe/Kotuku trip to Museum
27/28 June	Parent-Teacher Interviews 3.15-8.00pm <b>(please see details of the contents of a report attached from Mr Rennie)</b>
29 June	Open Day - 11am-12pm, 7-8pm Year 3/4 Science Alive visit at school
1 July	School Disco
8 July	Term 2 ends.

## Student Success

Congratulations to Peter Smith who passed his Piano Grade 3 exam with higher distinction. He scored 96 marks out of 100.

## PA News

### Disco

The first disco for the year is to be held on Friday 1 July at St Mark's Church Hall.

Entry Fee \$2 – Glo products will be available for sale.

Years 0-3	Drop Off 6.00pm Pick Up 7.15pm
Years 4-8	Drop Off 7.30pm Pick Up 9.00pm

Complimentary cordial (Vita Fresh) will be supplied and potato chips (Pams) are available for purchase at 50 cents a bag. If your child has allergies please note the brands we will be supplying and plan accordingly.

The disco is for school students only. Parents are not required to stay for the duration of the disco. There are several parent and staff supervisors on duty.  
If you have any questions please contact Sarah secuthbert@yahoo.co.nz.

## Entertainment Book

If you still have a book you can pay for these online [www.entbook.co.nz/1341r76](http://www.entbook.co.nz/1341r76) or by dropping payment along with your details into the drop box in the office. Alternatively just return your book if it is unwanted or you would prefer digital membership.

## General Notices

### Situation Vacant

The parish of Opawa- St Martins is seeking a part-time Parish Administrator (for 3 mornings a week), to provide administrative support to the Clergy staff and Vestry and to be a welcoming face for groups using our church buildings. The fixed-term position will be based at St Mark's Church complex, 101 Opawa Road, Opawa, Christchurch, in place for a 12 month period.

The successful applicant will be an effective communicator, and able to operate office equipment, with the ability to be flexible and adaptable to the tasks at hand. Tasks will be varied and may comprise putting together service sheets, maintaining correspondence on behalf of the parish, welcoming public enquiries, attending to invoices and ordering in supplies when required.

We are seeking someone who is well organised, friendly, reliable and proficient with Microsoft Office (including Publisher), and who is capable and efficient in keeping the parish office in good order. Though the role requires an understanding of parish life and church culture, knowledge and experience in the Anglican church while helpful is not essential.

For further details, please contact the parish office via email: [opawastmartins@clear.net.nz](mailto:opawastmartins@clear.net.nz). A job description for this role is available upon request.

To apply please send your CV and a covering letter addressed to: The Wardens, Opawa St-Martins Parish, 101 Opawa Road.

Remuneration will be based on qualifications and experience of the successful applicant.

# Habits of Mind

We will soon be reporting to you on student progress against the National Standards. Included in your student report will be a section on the Habits Of Mind. They are a list of 16 thoughtful dispositions that raise student success. They can easily be described as thoughtful common sense. Another way to describe them is as a framework for successful thinking.

St Mark's uses the Habits Of Mind in classroom programmes. In this report we have selected Habits that research has found contribute most to academic success. Below is a description of two of those Habits.



## Persistence

Successful problem solvers do not give up quickly when it becomes difficult. They carry on until the task is complete or until it is obvious that the right decision is to stop. They can see the whole problem in its entirety by analysing it thoroughly. Once they understand it they are able to generate an approach or a strategy to solve it. They are able to consider a wide range of possible solutions. They are aware of, and notice how they are progressing. They know when to change tack and try another way. They have an idea as to the steps needed for success and their correct order.

Persistent people are not frustrated by feelings of frustration. They view failure as interesting and challenging. They are able to reject the easy path in favour of the more difficult, and more rewarding one.

They have a long attention span at their disposal. They are not easily distracted. They value the fact that they are able to finish the job. They have developed an innate desire "to see how it turns out" no matter how long it takes or how much effort is needed.





# Managing Impulsivity

Impulsive people are quick to rush into things. People who manage their impulsivity well are deliberate and measured in their actions. They are able stop and think about the possible consequences of their actions and to alter their approach to bring about a more favourable outcome. They can channel their enthusiasm for maximum success. They don't need to be first to finish a task or give an answer. Instead they need to give the best answer they can after considering alternatives.

Students who have difficulty managing impulsivity often seem to make silly mistakes. They have to screw up their paper and start again, often more than once. They are the ones that want to run ahead of the class to a destination even though they would only be standing and waiting for everyone else to catch up after they arrive first. They will only consider one option, usually the first one, when solving problems.

Good managers of impulsivity take the time, and are able to consider different sides of an argument. They see all the different shades of grey, not just the black and white. They are able to visualise the finished project before they start and the steps needed to get there in the correct order. There is not as much need for trial and error.





## **New Non Perishable Donations For St Mark's School Fair 2016**

We are seeking YOUR Help to donate any of the following items for this year's School Fair. These items are to be used for prizes and raffles.

**Vouchers, small appliances, toiletry items, toys, games, giftware and home wares, sporting goods, puzzles, stationery, craft items, etc. – anything along these lines would be fantastic! \*\*Please no wine/alcohol, as we are unable to include these\*\***

Donation boxes will be placed in classrooms from June 20th – 24th. Larger Items can be left at the School's Office. These donations play a big part in making the fair a success.

We will be collecting White Elephant items closer to the Fair date.

Thank you from the St Mark's Fair Committee.

# On Our Blogs This Week



## Waka Hourua Senior Zone

<http://stmarkswakahourua.blogspot.co.nz/>

[Home Learning](#)

[Our Entire Festival Choir Repertoire](#)

[Our Responses to Luke 9:18-20](#)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Waka Hourua Senior Zone blog. The main content features a painting of Jesus with a golden halo and rays of light. The sidebar includes links for St Mark's School Links, Learning Tools (Google Classroom, Google Drive, Kahoot!), Maths Resources (Multiplying Fractions, Adding Fractions), and Resources (EDIGO News, Inspire My Kids, Kiwi Kids News, NZSL Dictionary).



## Waka Pūhara Middle Zone

<http://stmarkswakapuhara.blogspot.co.nz/>

[Home Learning](#)

[Beebots at Play](#)

[Ride The Wave of Kindness](#)

The screenshot shows a post titled "Beebots at play" from the Waka Pūhara Middle Zone blog. It includes a photograph of three children sitting on the floor, interacting with Beebots (small yellow robots) and writing in notebooks. The post is categorized under "Thursday Year 3 and 4 Technology".



## Mōkihi Junior Zone

<http://stmarksomkihi.blogspot.co.nz/>

[The Impossible Bridge](#)

The screenshot shows a post titled "The Impossible Bridge" from the Mōkihi Junior Zone blog. It includes a photograph of the book "The Impossible Bridge" by Jane Buxton, photographs by Jamie Lean. The post is dated Wednesday, 22 June 2016. The sidebar includes links for St Mark's School Links, Resources (Storyline), and a博Archive section.