

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 36
16 November 2016

Kia ora everyone,

By the end of the week our Year 7 students will have completed various leadership training opportunities around our city. This is to grow their capacity as leaders. Not everyone wants to lead but everyone can lead using their own gifts and talents. That has been the focus for all year 7 students.

"To everything there is a season, and a time for every purpose under the heaven" Ecc 3:1 and the inspiration for a famous song written and performed by the Byrds. And so the season is drawing to a close for our wonderful Year 8 students and their leadership and contribution to our school. It will be a time of mixed feelings for our families too. We look forward to the many events - both formal and informal - to honour them amongst us.

*To that end the diary is full! **Please check times and dates** as there is much on, and to celebrate.*

Singing Cup - A huge thank you to Mr Peter Hind and Mrs Shelley Spang for accompanying and judging the singing cup for 2016. Congratulations to **Samantha Pegg (Solo Girls Cup), Emily Garden and Olivia Blake (Duet Cup) and Zen Kuwasaki (Solo Boys Cup)** who were our winners for 2016. Congratulations also to everyone who entered and shared their singing talent with us all.

Advent Carol Service - Transitional Cathedral

I look forward to joining you at the Transitional Cathedral tomorrow evening at 7pm for our annual Advent Carol Service. We are privileged that Dean Lawrence Kimberley will be joining us and the service will be lead by Rev. Helen Roud. This is a formal service with carols and readings and anthems sung by the Performance Choir and Waka Puhara Choir. We are grateful Mr Paul Ellis will be the accompanying organist. Whilst there may be differences from other years, the emphasis on building faith with each other around this holy time of the year remains.

Elocution Cup

You are welcome to join us tomorrow for this competition. We welcome Bindy Buchanan back to St Mark's School to adjudicate for this important event on our calendar. Opportunities for public speaking and sharing of ideas have much tradition, but importantly build confidence and assurance around how to organise and share ideas.

Music Performers Evening

We are currently finalising the programme for this special event set down for next Tuesday in our school hall at 7pm. I am grateful for the patience of all itinerant teachers as we have had to delay this highlight due to access to the hall. As I walk the floors past the music suite I am taken by the commitment of our music teachers and their skill in growing a love of music and talent for our students.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the whole school community for your patience around the seemingly ever changing landscape of the school. Your forbearance is so appreciated as we head into the home straight of physical change.

Ngā mihi nui

Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

17 November	Advent Service - 7pm Transitional Cathedral
21 November	Independent Schools' Athletics
22 November	Music Performers Night - 7pm
23 November	Whanau Hui
24 November	Elocution Cup Competition
30 November	New Parents Evening - 7-8pm
1 December	Primary Schools' Triathlon
5 December	Mokihi Visit to Cathedral
12 December	Mokihi Riccarton Bush Visit
14 December	Cultural & Sporting Excellence Awards - 1.30pm
15 December	Prize Giving in School Hall - 7pm
16 December	School finishes at 12.30pm

Year 8 Events

24 November	Independent Schools' Dance - 7-9pm
25 November	Sailing Trip - 9am-12pm
6 December	Leavers' Dinner - 7pm
13 December	Fish & Chips
14 December	Jellie Park

Sports Results

Miniball

St Mark's Tigers 18 v Our Lady of Assumption 12
Player of the Day: Elizabeth Redmile

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Charlotte Panckhurst who passed her ABRSM Grade 3 exam with distinction.

Lost Property

A pearl and gemstone ear ring was found on the grounds after the Fair. It is at the school office if you have lost it.

PA NEWS

The Fair Raffle was drawn last week by a member of the NZ Community Police, Principal Averil Worner and a member of the Fair Committee.

Thank you for the support.

Congratulations to our Raffle Prize Winners;

Prize 1 = Pennie

Prize 2 = Colin Wall

Prize 3 = Annie

Prize 4 = Lily Julian

Prize 5 = Carla Davidson

Prize 6 = Paul Goosey

Prize 7 = Andy

Prize 8 = Trish Treden

Prize 9 = Natasha Northcott

Prize 10 = Tom Aton

Prize 11 = Raylene McEwan

Prize 12 = Rod Pearson





A Message from the Board

An Opportunity to Have your Say!

As part of our legal requirements as a Board, we must review the school's policies every 3years as a minimum.

A key part of this is getting feedback from our school community about how they see the policy? Is it fit for purpose? Are there any gaps? Does it need updating?

This term we are reviewing the following 3 Policies:

- Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC)
- Sun Protection
- Health Safety and Welfare
(this includes areas such as behaviour management, emergency plans, stand-downs, suspensions, exclusions, expulsions).

If you would like to view and give feedback on the policies it's easy as 1,2,3!

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on search for your school – pick St Marks School
2. Enter the following user name and password
username - stmarks
password – saint
3. Find the policy that's up for review, read it, click on the red bubble in the top right hand corner of the policy and enter your feedback. (if there is no red option, pick the green speech bubble)

Feedback can be given anonymously if you choose.

Remember – this review is focussing on the **policy** – not the operational procedures that sit underneath.

The cutoff date for feedback is the end of term 4 – Dec 16th 2016.



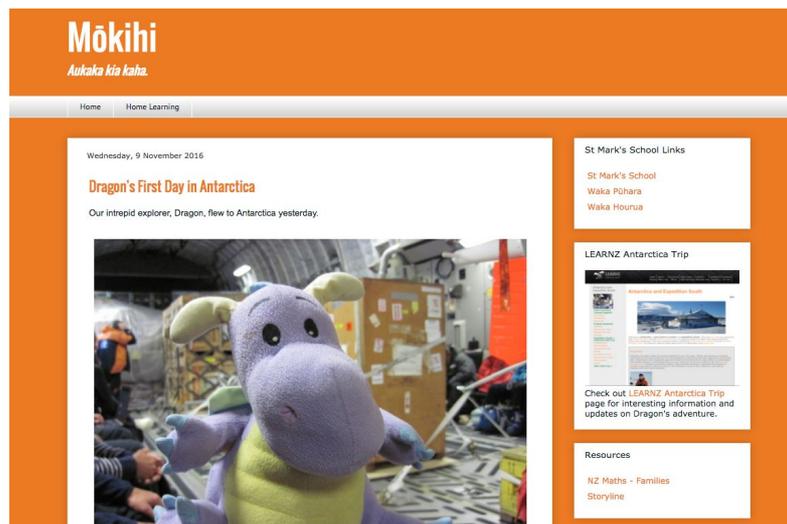
Dragon's Antarctic Adventure

St Mark's School's very own Dragon is currently in Antarctica! As our ambassador, Dragon is exploring Antarctica along with LEARNZ field trip teacher, Shelley.

All of our blogs currently have a link to the [LEARNZ website](#) in their menu on the right:



In addition to [Dragon's own blog](#), there are [videos](#) and [activities](#) for students. These are a great way to take our learning about exploration beyond the classroom.



Dragon has a look around Shackleton's Hut at Cape Royds. Image: LEARNZ.

