



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Issue 5  
28 February 2018

Kia ora everyone,

Week 5 has been wet and cold, disrupting our swimming program, but seeing extra use of our hall and Ōmoho. With regards to Ōmoho, we are so thrilled that many are taking books out, and using the space creatively. Not all our furniture has arrived yet, however I have begun the process of purchasing items for "Make a Space". We have been working with our leadership team of **Samantha P, Harry C and William M**, to develop areas over time. Their student voice is invaluable as we take our time to set this up well.

## **Ethel and Bethel**

I cannot say my husband and I have had great success at quiz or bingo evenings, however **Ethel and Bethel** on Saturday night is much anticipated for other reasons!! Community and family is central to who we are as a school and fellowship strengthens those ties that bind. SEE YOU THERE!

## **CURRICULUM AREA: MUSIC**

Reorganising the archive room has been a delight, as many gems of the past have been found. This has included some wonderful photographs of past choirs, orchestras and other music groups. Such is the heritage!! And very easy to honour and develop for the next stage.

Photographs of **Mr Lennox Willet and Mrs Christine Sullivan** with scores of students over the year, contributing so much to the musical life of the school.

In 2018 we have started with a **Junior Choir (Year 4 and 5)** and a **Performance Choir (Years 6, 7 and 8)** under the expert tutelage of **Mr Paul Ellis**. We will be looking for opportunities to showcase this talent in church services and in our community.

A further and exciting development has been the spearheading of our Classroom Music Program delivered expertly by our Music Specialist **Ms Adrienne Hale**. Adrienne comes to the school with many years of experience in other schools, but with a christian faith to lead so sympathetically with our special character. The students have a tailor made curriculum which tracks right across the school with consistency and development of every child in mind. I joined **Miss Bryant's** class last week, playing glockenspiels and resonator bells to pre-recorded music. Many of the Year 3's were better coordinated with two beaters than I!

Our Lead Teacher in Music - **Mrs Emily Wells** writes:

*Music is such an integral part of life at St Mark's. The singing in our weekly services is so beautiful it makes me start the day with a huge smile - and often with goosebumps! Standing outside the hall on a Wednesday or Friday morning before school is a joy - listening to the rehearsals of the Performance Choir and Year 4/5 choir.*

*To compliment the classroom music programme, this year we have 90 students having individual / group lessons from our talented team of Itinerant Music Teachers. They offer instruction in singing, piano, guitar, bass guitar, drums, trumpet, trombone, recorder and violin. When students have been learning for a few years, they can audition to join the school orchestra - developing the skill of playing music together as a group.*



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

**Cellphones**

Staff ensure that all student cellphones are kept in bags from 8.30am - 3.00pm. Recently I have learned that parents have given their child permission to contact them during these times using their cellphone. Staff and I ask that this does not happen. If you need to get a message to your child during school hours please contact your teacher or the school office, as this is best practice for health and safety reasons. We can easily locate your child at any time.

**St Mark's School Swimming Sports**

This Friday, we will celebrate everything aqua! This is a school family event and you are warmly welcome to join us on Friday afternoon for the competition and house spirit. We are praying for a fine afternoon, and honouring those for whom participation requires courage, and those for whom swimming is a strength. There is a long history of the presentation of cups and awards, dating back to the opening of the school and we seek to honour this tradition again on Friday.

**Parent/Teacher Interviews**

"Thank you" to you all for joining in partnership with staff to discuss and plan what 2018 holds for your child. At this point in the year, most testing has been completed and this combined with staff and parental conversation opens the door on what personalised learning strategies are needed for the best outcomes for your child. There will be an opportunity to review these strategies at the mid-year conferences.

It has been so heartening to hear such positive feedback about how the year has started for so many. When challenges occur, these conversations will provide the best backstop for open dialogue.

**Five Marks of Mission**

We have talked about these before in the newsletter but over the coming weeks I hope to highlight once again their significance, central to the school's Integration Agreement with the Crown. A lengthy but prayerful process by the Board of Proprietors arrived at this articulation of what is central to the special character of our school. Staff are already using these as guides and outworking them in all aspects of the school. Yes the Marks of Mission ensure daily attention to compliance with the ministry, but more importantly to the Hope of the Gospel. As you will see, St Mark's School has always held fast to this hope, but in the Five Marks we have an easy vehicle for the articulation of this Hope for children.

Blessings everyone

Averil

# School Notices

# PA News

## Upcoming Events

1 Mar	PA Meeting - 7.30pm
2 Mar	Y4-8 Swimming Sports
3 Mar	PA "Ethel & Bethel" Fundraiser
6 Mar	Y6-7 Ferrymead trip
26 Mar	Holy Week Service - 9am
27 Mar	Holy Week Service - 9am
28 Mar	Eucharist Service - 9am
29 Mar	Holy Week Service - 9am
30 Mar	Good Friday
2 Apr	Easter Monday
3 Apr	Easter Tuesday
5 Apr	ISSA Swimming Sports
13 Apr	End of term service - 2.15pm

## Church Certificates

Inaka	Leo D
Kereru	Angel S
Ti Kouka	Finn J
Kamana	Nikhil J
ToeToe	Tessa C
Kotuku	Tommy P
Paua	Rafi W-S
Mako	Ella R
Wheke	Hannah W
Toroa	Trinity M



## Subway Lunch

Just a reminder that Subway can be ordered for lunch every Tuesday.

To place an online order, visit [www.subway.co.nz/schools](http://www.subway.co.nz/schools) and follow the instructions to place your order by 9am each Subway day.

Alternatively, envelopes are in the office and you can either pay with the correct cash or credit card.

## Ethel & Bethel

Ethel and Bethel R18 event information  
What you can expect on the night

Doors open at 7pm EYES DOWN 7:30pm SHARP!!!!  
Bingo cards will be \$2 each available as you come in cash only for these please  
There will be beer wine and non alcoholic drinks available for purchase eftpos will be available for this sorry no cash out option.  
The entry ticket you have pre-purchased from the school office includes 1 free drink and a supper.  
We will have raffles, chocolate wheel and a live auction on the night so bring cash for these amazing prizes  
One of the prizes up for auction on the night will be 1 student of your choice to be PRINCIPAL FOR A DAY!!!!!! 🎉🎉🎉🎉

So dust off ya hair nets, bust out ya good pearls and lucky charms coz Ethel and Bethel bingo babes are coming to St Marks!!!!

**Thank you to all who have donated prizes for the event - it is much appreciated!**

## Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open on Tuesday 8.30-9.30am and Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm. You can contact them at [uniformshop@saintmarks.s](mailto:uniformshop@saintmarks.school.nz) forget to join the Facebook page to s marks uniform shop'



## Coffee Cart

"School Grounds" is a volunteer run coffee cart, operating out of the school foyer.

Open Mon/Wed/Fri mornings 8:30 – 9:10am

Our coffees are great value, our fluffies are a hit and all profits feed back into the school under the PA umbrella.

We offer cash and eftpos facilities  
Coffee Cards are great value pay for 10 coffees or fluffies and get 2 FREE!

The School Grounds Team

# Congratulations

Ben Milligan (pictured) is working for the Autogas Race Team doing the communication radios during the race for the New Zealand Endurance Series. Ben is connected to the track coordinator and relays all information to the crew! Congratulations Ben



# STRONGER TOGETHER NZEI TE RIUROA

You may be aware of the nationwide crisis in recruiting and retaining teachers.

Children need teachers with enough time to teach so they can give each child the attention they deserve, and children need talented and inspiring people to be attracted to teaching.

Children are missing out on some opportunities to learn because teachers are bogged down in administration or are struggling to get enough support for children with additional learning needs.

Teachers at our school are joining an NZEI Te Riu Roa campaign, called *Kua Tae Te Wā – It's Time* to address these issues.

Our goal is to free teachers to teach, and principals to lead, by getting the additional support and staff that schools need. And we'll attract more people to teaching by respecting and paying them as the professionals they are.

NZEI Te Riu Roa members at our school have been invited to paid union meetings in March so that we can plan and discuss the campaign and their upcoming collective agreement negotiations.

The meeting schedule has been planned so that teachers and principals across the country can work out the best meetings for them to attend, including the option of groups of teachers attending meetings at different times. This is to help reduce disruption to teaching programmes, children and parents.

Our children deserve the best education in the world, and New Zealand can afford to provide it. It's just a matter of priorities.

Thanks for your co-operation in this important matter.

St Mark's Parents' Association  
Social Night and Fundraiser  
March 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7pm



# **Ethel and Bethel**

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## **BINGO BABES**

Doors open at 7pm – time enough to grab a great spot, get a drink from the bar, buy bingo cards and check out raffles and auctions before eyes down at 7.30pm prompt. Eftpos for bar, raffles and auctions. Bring cash for bingo cards - \$2.00 each. This is an R18 event.

\$30.00 per ticket or 2 for \$50.00  
Includes first drink and a light supper.



# The School for Young Writers

*Te Kura Kaituhi Rangatahi*

## One-day Lyric Writing Classes for Year 7 and 8 students

run by **The School for Young Writers**

with support from the **Christchurch School of Music**

Singer-songwriter, **Lisa Tui Jonathan**, will guide young writers/musicians through the starting points of lyric writing: form, structure and rhythm.

Students will learn and practise techniques designed to draw out their lyric writing abilities, utilise traditional song forms and structures to shape their stories, and begin the process of learning about music and rhythmic patterns.

Can't play music?

No worries –this workshop is mostly about the words.

Can play music?

Brilliant! Students are encouraged to bring an instrument, or use one provided to help their words become songs.

Two sessions available. Please pick one. Places are strictly limited. Schools may nominate up to 4 students to attend.

**Friday April 6 : 9.15 to 2.45**

**OR Friday April 13: 9.15 to 2.45**

At the Christchurch School of Music Rooms, 60 Ferry Rd

\$50 per student. Register via  
[www.schoolforyoungwriters.org](http://www.schoolforyoungwriters.org)

or email [schoolforyoungwriters@gmail.com](mailto:schoolforyoungwriters@gmail.com) for more details.



# Lyric Writing

# Master Class