



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 4
20 February 2019

Kia ora St Mark's Whanau,

Thank you to our wonderful PA for the opportunity to gather as a school family at the Back to School BBQ. Those salads were delicious!

Special Character Review

In Term 4 there will be a review of our school through the lens of our Special Character. Dr Anne van Gend, who led the review in 2015 will join us again. This will afford us the chance to speak of our progress, innovations and shifts to infuse the Special Anglican Character across all dimensions of our life in the school. Your voice as a community will be valued and needed!

Board of Trustees

Please see a separate document attached to the newsletter for important information for 2019.

Alumni

This year will be an important one for reconnecting with Alumni in anticipation of our school centenary in 2021. This year we congratulate **Alice Tiso** (Head Girl of Cashmere High School) and **Luca Vinnell** (Head Boy at St Andrew's College). Staff and a small committee are looking at ways to connect within Christchurch, NZ and the global community to connect us to as many ex-students to add significance to the celebrations.



Open Day

At the other end of the spectrum we want to draw your attention to **The St Mark's School Open Day - Wednesday 22nd May from 9.00am** - for 2020.

Communication

Last year we trialled **Seesaw** - a program of "in time" sharing where students can send their learning directly to parents during the school day. This enables parents to be engaged at the time and comment on what their child has achieved. The **free app** allowed parents to receive this information on their mobile device.

In 2019 as a trial, we will shift the newsletter and other class and team communication to Seesaw ensuring school information is not buried in your inbox!

We will make this shift in **Term 2** giving everyone time to download the app, talk to their class teacher and team leader, and practice using its features. The newsletter and other communications will be available in print or digital form initially.



Swimming

A reminder that this starts for all students next week. Any questions regarding this please contact your teacher immediately. We are committed to having a robust swimming program across the school - NZ is surrounded by water, and safety and skill in this area needs our attention.

Mathematics

As a collective staff constantly ask themselves: What is best practice? What shifts in pedagogy inform this practice? Is there research that informs this practice? One of the major shifts that has been going on across the world - the work of **internationally renowned Jo Boaler** may be of interest to you - is understanding how teaching and learning can support the development of "mathematical communities and mathematical thinkers". Yes this includes content and knowledge but also the processes around how children learn to manipulate mathematical concepts in the real world.

As we work through our professional learning in this area we will share our learning and involve you in the development of our local curriculum. Key pieces of research indicate that extended whanau are vital in this process. Communities of mathematical thinkers pay attention to the needs of everyone in a developmental context.

If Mathematics wasn't for you at school do not fear! "Maths Cafés" - where the mix of coffee/tea and number will be great places for understanding our partnerships going forward! If you cannot get to them we will post on **Seesaw!**

Courage

"I learnt that courage was not the absence of fear but the triumph over it" Nelson Mandela.

Blessings
Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

School Notices

Upcoming Events

19-22 Feb	Year 8 Leadership Camp
25 Feb-7 Mar	Year 0-3 Swimming - Pioneer
	Year 4-8 Swimming -Waltham
8 Mar	Year 4-8 School Swimming Sports

2019 School Term Dates and Holidays

Monday 28 January - Friday 12 April
Monday 29 April - Friday 5 July
Monday 22 July - Friday 27 September
Monday 14 October - Friday 13 December

Church Certificates

Kereru	Frankie E
Ti Kouka	Ariya S
ToeToe	Isabella S
Kamana	Catalina M
Kawau	Ethan S
Kutai	Nathaniel B
Mako	Summer McC
Rimurimu	Asay U
Toroa	Jeremy H

School Garden

Does anyone have any spare winter vege plants they could donate to the school vege garden please? The Mokihi gardening group would love to get some veges planted now, so we can harvest them for Matariki at the end of June.



Please contact Emily Wells if you have any to spare.



Subway can be ordered for lunch every Tuesday. To place an online order, visit 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.

Student Success

Congratulations to Olivia C who passed Royal Academy of Dance Grade 4 Ballet with Distinction and NZAMD American Jazz Level 3 with Honours.

Year 8 2019 School Based Vaccination Programme

We are pleased to inform you the Canterbury DHB will continue to offer a School Based Vaccination Programme to Year 8 boys and girls, who have not completed their eleven year old vaccinations in General Practice.

The School Based Vaccination programme will offer the two dose HPV vaccinations to protect against genital warts, cervical cancer, throat and mouth cancers, and other types of cancers later in life. In 2018 the programme has been extended to include a one dose Boostrix vaccination to provide protection against Tetanus, Diphtheria and Whooping Cough.

To enable students to receive the vaccinations at school, a vaccination pack will be sent home in Term 1. Parent/Caregiver will need to complete and return the consent form to school.

Billets required for the evening of Tuesday 21st May 2019

The Anglican Schools' Conference is being held in Timaru this year. Delegates travelling internationally to the conference will need to arrive in Christchurch on Tuesday 21st May. The Polynesian delegates will include school chaplains, school principals and some Year 12 students. It is preferably that 2 students be billeted together. If you are able to provide dinner, bed and breakfast for people travelling from Fiji and Tonga to the Anglican Schools' Conference please let the School Office know.

With thanks

Carol Trotter



Anglican Schools
of Aotearoa New Zealand
and Polynesia

St Mark's School Board of Trustees Communication

Tena Koutou Katoa

Warm greetings as we commence a new school year in the life of St Mark's School. There's already a wonderful hum of productivity around the school with camps, trips out and about already commencing. We hope that if you are a new family to the school this year that you have felt warmly welcomed and we look forward to working alongside you as the years progress.

For us as a Board of Trustees, as you will be aware from Averils newsletter last week, we commenced with revisiting our strategic goals for the school, which then sets the operational plan developed by the leadership team.

We hope to be able to distribute this to you in early March. In developing these goals, we have incorporated some goals around a number of key themes that emerged from the community consultation last year.

It is important for all members of the school community to feel that you are represented by your board members in our decision making, and as such we have a continued commitment to consultation and engagement. Every term we welcome your feedback on policies that are up for review – as these influence the way school operations are conducted.

2019 – Board of Trustee Elections

This year marks the opportunity for a Board election. We would encourage members of our school community who have knowledge and passion for governance, for financial management, for bi-cultural governance considerations and strategic planning and monitoring to consider running for election this year.

If you would like to chat with a current board member to find out what's involved, or to attend a meeting – please don't hesitate to contact us. As an initial contact please contact Lauren Ball at laurenloz@xtra.co.nz.

HAVE YOUR SAY IN PROPOSED SCHOOL CHANGES

This term, we would like to encourage our school community to become informed about the proposed changes to the way schools will be governed and run. One of the proposals includes that school principals may be rotated every few years, and that school Boards of Trustees might be replaced by Boards that oversee many schools. As an integrated school, with a special character there may be implications – so we would encourage you to read the documentation and have your say in the proposed changes. Will will be making a submission as a Board.

The following is the proposed changes to the education model and structure which as a Board we feel could significantly impact on the way St Marks School would be governed and operate in the future.

<https://conversation.education.govt.nz/assets/TSR/Tomorrows-Schools-Review-Report-13Dec2018.PDF>

Ways to have your voice heard are as follows:

- Nationwide public consultation meetings, including one in Timaru on Wednesday, 20 February and two in Christchurch on Thursday, 21 February. The full schedule is now available on our website (venues will be added for meetings as they are confirmed) <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/tomorrows-schools-review/have-your-say-today/>

Christchurch, Thursday 21 Feb, 4-6pm – venue yet to be confirmed soon

Christchurch, Thursday 21 Feb, 7-9pm – venue yet to be confirmed soon

- An online survey which canvasses opinion on each of the 32 recommendations is now available here <https://consultation.education.govt.nz/tsr/survey2019/>

and will remain open until 31 March 2019.

- Formal written submissions about the report can be sent to: tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz

As parents and caregivers and as a school community, we encourage you to be informed and have a voice in the shape of what education will look like for our students and young people in the future.

St Marks Board of Trustees



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee

WE NEED YOUR INPUT PLEASE



2019 Term 1 - Policy Reviews:

This term we are reviewing the following policies and invite your feedback as part of our three-year review cycle.

- **Alcohol/Drugs and Other Harmful Substances**

It is from these policies that the procedures are developed in relation to the way the school approaches these things operationally. For this reason, we want to encourage parents to become familiar with these policies and recommend any changes that might be required.

Feedback can be given anonymously if you choose

The cut off for feedback is the last day of Term 1 – **Friday 12th April 2019.**

If you would like to view and give feedback on the policy its as easy as 1,2,3!

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on search for your school. Pick St Mark's 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 instead).

2019 Term 1 - Assurance:

In addition to reviewing policy, it's also the role of the Board to gain **ASSURANCE** that the operational policy and procedures are being operationalised in the school.

This term we will undertake assurance on a variety of areas including

Employer responsibility	Finance and Property Management	Health, Safety and Welfare	Legislation and administration
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EEO Policy - Police Vetting for Non - Teachers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 10 Year Property Plan (10YPP) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Medicines, Minor/Moderate Injury or Illness Risk Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Length of School Year

SWIMMING TIMETABLE 2019

Waltham Pool

**Swimming Starts Week 5 Monday 25
February**

Monday - Thursday (Week 5) *pool not available Friday
1st*

Monday - Thursday (Week 6)

25 minute lessons

9.30	Year 8
10.00	Year 7
10.30	Year 6
11.00	Year 5
11.30	Year 4

**SWIMMING SPORTS
FRIDAY 8TH MARCH**

YEAR 3/4 MINIBALL TEAMS FOR TERM 1

LIONS

Jackson V
Xavier F
Felicity W
Piper E
Abigail W
Phoebe M
Finn M
Tessa W

PUMAS

Laurika de L
Olivia S
Coco A
Iva F
Kali V
Islah S
Violet H
Lincoln S
Finn J

TIGERS

Zara P
Angel S
Pippa W
Loukas S
Holly R
Stella P
Catalina M
Indie L