



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 5
27 February 2019

Kia ora St Mark's family,

We are now fully into our swimming program and looking forward to the senior swimming sports (Years 4 - 8) next Friday. All are welcome!!

Strategic Plan

On February 9th, the Board of Trustees gathered for a strategic planning day, using information from consultation last year and the ERO report of 2018, to craft a strategic plan for 2019. In a changing education climate and in the context of the Tomorrow's Schools Review signalled by the government, the resulting document has the growth of St Mark's School in the holistic development of every student, family member and wider community at its heart. This strategic plan will be published next week and the strategy to embed special character, teaching and learning and community is innovative.

Annual Plan

From this strategic plan the staff write an annual plan to outwork the vision of the board in everyday school life. This will also be available on the school website next week.

Examples of upcoming events mirroring our Special Character, Teaching and Learning Programs and our Community focus:

- Ash Wednesday service - Wednesday 6 March: Year 0-3 9.00am - 9.30am, Year 4-6 2.30pm - 3.00pm.
- SPCA collection day - Saturday 9th March
- SPCA Mufti Day - Animal Theme - Friday 15th March
- Travis Wetlands visit Year 3 Monday 18th March



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 it's features. The newsletter and other communications will be available in print or digital form initially.



Open Day - Wednesday 22nd May - from 9.00am

Prospective parents for students starting in 2020 are beginning to make appointments and seeking tours of our school. Just a reminder of the open day (although I think every day is open day!!) for any friends and family who might be considering us as a destination for their child, and also to those of you who have siblings of current students who turn 5 in 2020 that the deadline for applications is **August 31st 2019**.

Our values story!

*Through **Grace/Huatau**, we act with compassion and humility to achieve **Excellence/Hiranga** using the potential of our God given talents and gifts. This gives us the **Courage/Māiatanga** to bring about change as we show **Faithfulness/Piriponotanga** to God and others.*

Our prayer is that every family member learns this story over time.

Blessings, Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

School Notices

Upcoming Events

25 Feb-7 Mar	Year 0-3 Swimming - Pioneer
	Year 4-8 Swimming -Waltham
8 Mar	Year 4-8 School Swimming Sports
6 Mar	Ash Wednesday
15 Mar	SPCA Mufti Day
	Zone Swimming Sports
18 Mar	Year 3 trip to Travis Wetlands

Church Certificates

Inaka	Mackenzie H
Kererū	Hosea F
Toetoe	Zachary O
Kāmana	Lennix C
Kawau	Jesse S
Kūtai	Danielle G/Tommy P
Mako	Andrew G
Rimurimu	Olivia Y

Sports Results

Miniball

St Mark's Tigers 32 v Somerfield Scorpions 4
Player of the D: Zara P

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.

MCDONALDS YOUTH DUATHLON ORGANISED BY GARDEN CITY ROTARY

Registrations open now.

The 2019 McDonald's Duathlon to be held at Hagley Park on Sunday, 7 April 2019. This event is run by volunteers from Garden City Rotary Club.

Entries are open to 7 -15 year olds and the duathlon includes a run, bike and run. Entrants can look forward to receiving a Competition Medal, Gift Pack of sponsors' products and a competition T-shirt.

7 - 10 Years - Run 1km, Cycle 4km, Run 500m

11 - 15 Years - Run 2km, Cycle 8km, Run 1km

This community event is held by Garden City Rotary Club. To enter go to www.gardencityrotary.org.nz

Tena Koutou Katoa

We have been advised by the NZEI that there will be a paid union meeting for teachers on the afternoon of Wednesday 20th March.

Due to being unable to provide the required levels of supervision the Board of Trustees has made the decision that

the school will be closed for instruction/classes/teaching/supervision of students from 1:30pm on Wednesday 20th March.

We appreciate that this may cause some disruptions for families which is why the Board wishes to give parents advance notice so that they can make suitable arrangements for the pickup and supervision of their children on this date.

There will not be any ability for students to remain onsite at the school after 1:30pm.

St Mark's School Board of Trustees

Year 8 2019 School Based Vaccination

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.

Water Polo Team - Term 1

Bede H	Inaki B
Solomon S	Olivia Y
Elizabeth R	Sophie F-D
Jackson P	London V
Ayrton E	Liam S
Jeremy H	

Coaches: Ngaio Shaw and Lucy Floris

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

Year 6/7 Camp



Year 8 Camp

