



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 7  
11 March 2020

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

## ST MARK'S SCHOOL APP - Number one item AGAIN this week!!! AGAIN

Thank you to all whānau who have downloaded the St Mark's School app and enjoying the benefits of its functions. Communicating an absence has never been easier and you will never lose the newsletter!!!! I know how much you love it!

In all seriousness this app will be used in Term 2 for all major communications and we need all whānau to download it - it is free and we include the easy steps to achieve that in this newsletter.

## Christchurch Music Festival

It is now time for our wonderful musicians and singers to apply to audition for the special groups of the festival - junior and senior choirs, orchestra and concert band. Please follow the link below to locate an application form and fly!!

[Festival website here.](#)

## Ngāi Tahu

Further to my conversation last week, I am thrilled the first set of teachers - Mrs Bigelow, Mrs Campbell, Mrs Coster and Mrs Brereton will attend the first of 3 hui at Tuahiwi on 24th March.

In arranging these cultural experiences for staff to enable us to be responsive in our practice at school, I forgot to include Rev. Ben and myself! This will happen also!

## Covid-19

There is additional information on our notice boards this week just reminding us all of our hand hygiene. I am aware of "arm bumping" people instead of a handshake and the visitor who experienced that this morning was very positive!! As we head into flu season anyway, it is important that we observe the best hygiene practices - hand washing 20 seconds (**2 rounds of Happy Birthday**) and coughing into our elbow. If your child is unwell - coughing, temperature, runny nose and listless - school is not the best place for them or others.

The Board of Trustees and the school will follow the guidance of the Government and Ministry of Education if and when the advice changes.

## Staff news

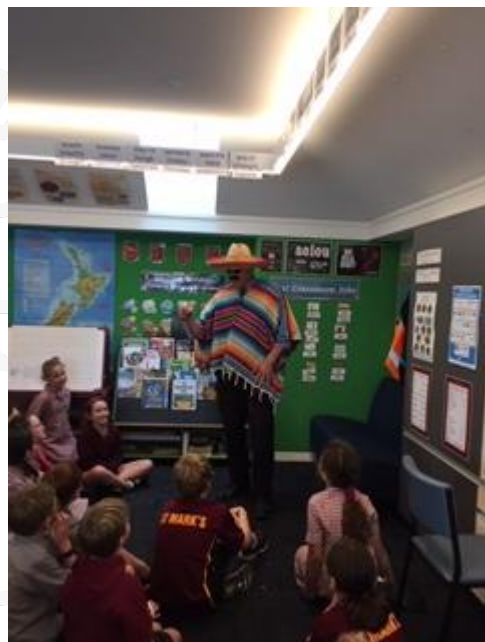
Two weeks ago Mrs Brereton's son and daughter-in-law welcomed a precious new son Darcy, into their lives. This week Mrs Brereton has joined them in Auckland to help with the transition into life at home. This gives me an opportunity to join Kōura on Thursday and Friday. I really look forward to these times, as I really get to connect with students in their learning, in their sense of fun and humour, and to add a few Wornerisms to the day. If I don't return phone calls or emails quickly you will know I am busy at the coal face - one of the staff!!

## Swimming Zones

What a joy to join our school representatives at Wharenui pool on Monday. Competition was tough but our swimmers remained positive and made many finals. Mrs Bigelow and I were so proud of everyone and congratulate **Monty S** and **Felicity W** on reaching the Canterbury Championships.

## Year 5 and 6 Technology

Started today in one class with a visit from **Mr Rennie's** "cousin". This is a specific program joining year 5 and 6 students developing their skills in digital technology and e-learning. Engagement was high!



Blessings everyone, Averil



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

## Upcoming Events

13 Mar	Williams House Sausage
20 Mar	Mufti Day
6-8 Apr	Holy Week Service - 9.00am

## 2020 Term Dates

Term 1 - Monday 27 January - Thursday 9 April

Teacher only day - Tuesday 28 April

Term 2 - Wednesday 29 April - Friday 3rd July

Teacher only day - Tuesday 2 June

Term 3 - Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September

Term 4 - Monday 12 October - Friday 11 December

Teacher only day - Tuesday 27 October

## Church Certificates

Pūtakitaki	Indigo J
Kōura	Madelyn E
Tuaki	Pippa F-D
Karoro	Aria R
Kāmana	Lucas C-B

## Sport Results

### Miniball

St Mark's Tigers 11 v Somerfield Pukekos 6

POD: Charlie B - for your best game of miniball so far, awesome defence and intercept, keep up the good work! Charlie B - for your best game of miniball so far, awesome defence and intercept, keep up the good work!

## Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at [www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz](http://www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz). An easy way to order online yourself and will be delivered direct to school. Orders close on **Friday 25 March**. The Gift Function has been turned on in LOOP! This allows parents to place a separate order as a surprise gift for their child. Items marked as a gift will be delivered to school and will be set aside at the school office for parents to collect.

## The Board Of Proprietors Seek Your Help!

The BoP has Trustee positions vacant which we are looking to fill. By Deed these positions cannot be filled by parents, so we seek your help to find people from our wider community.

Do you know anyone keen to give back in this rewarding voluntary position? Some experience with legal and/or accounting jargon would be beneficial but not necessary.

Please drop us an email at [chairperson@saintmarks.bop.nz](mailto:chairperson@saintmarks.bop.nz) or contact Raylene on 021 300 686

St Mark's Board of Proprietors' *Holding the vision of St Mark's School, protecting and enhancing the Special Character*

## Grow Ō Tautahi 2020 Garden Show 20-22 March

Free entry into the Christchurch Botanic Gardens

At St Mark's School we are very excited to be part of this show which celebrates gardening and growth by presenting a school entry that showcases the history of our school community. The students will have contributed to the school creation either with their care of the gardens, garden design and artwork.

Last year there was a group of parents who have indicated that they would like to be a part of this competition. Are there any people who would also like to assist with either donations of plants or planting materials, building construction of the garden entry structure before the show or with painting materials.

Please email Liz Coster: [l.coster@saintmarks.school.nz](mailto:l.coster@saintmarks.school.nz).

## St Mark's Church - Book Sale

Book Sale Saturday 21 March 9 am- 1 pm at St Mark's Church 101 Opawa Rd. Donations of recently released fiction and children's books would be greatly appreciated, and can be left by the church foyer door.



## An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



### WE NEED YOUR INPUT PLEASE

#### 2020 Term 1 – Policy Reviews:

This term we are reviewing the following policy and invite your feedback, anonymously if desired, as part of our three-year review cycle.

- Recognition of Cultural Diversity

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

The cut off for feedback is the last day of Term 1 – **Thursday 9th April 2020**.

#### **Giving feedback on the policy it's as easy as 1,2,3!**

1. Go to [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz) and click on search for your school.
2. Type "St Marks School"
3. Pick "St Marks School"
4. Enter the following

Username: stmarks

Password: saint

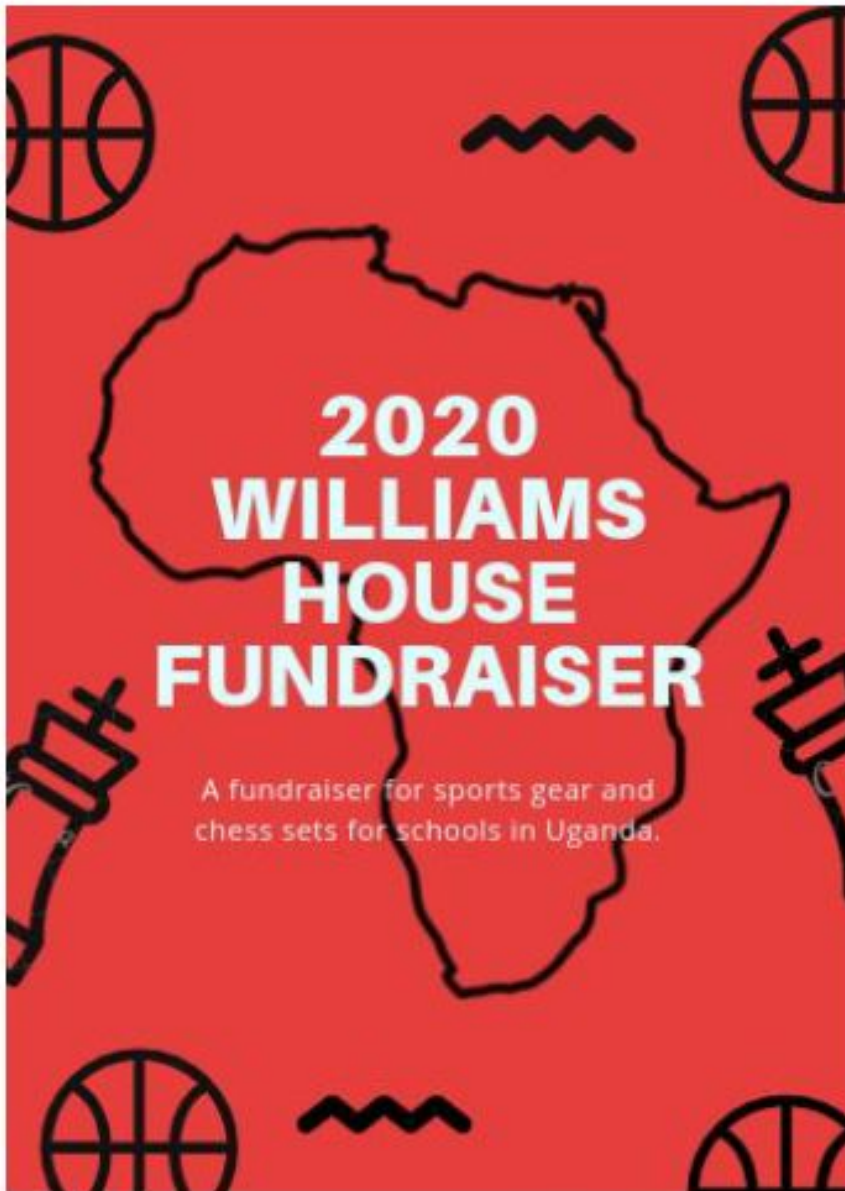
5. Find the policy that's up for review, read it, click on the red bubble in the top right-hand corner of the policy and enter your feedback. (if there is no red option, pick the green speech bubble instead).

#### 2020 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

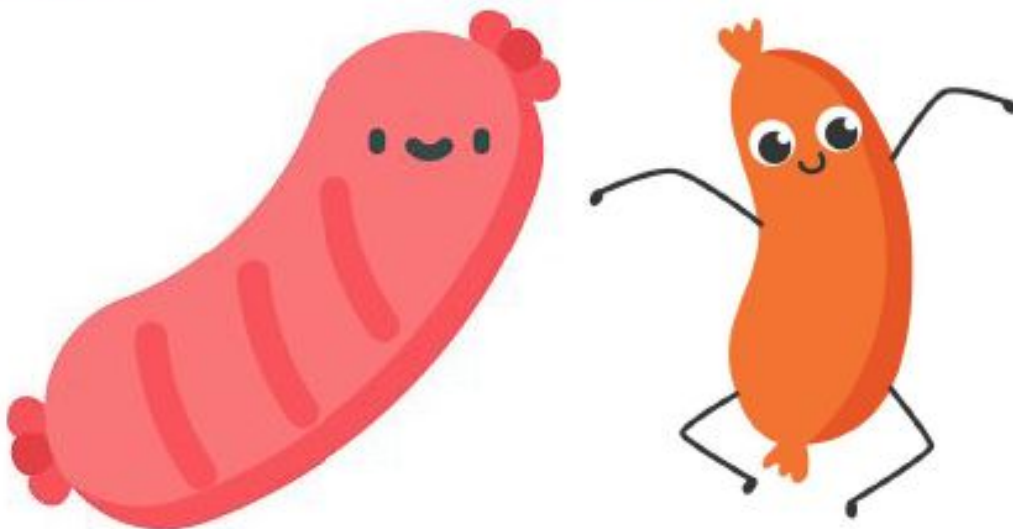
<u>Employer responsibility</u>	<u>Finance and property management</u>	<u>Health, Safety and Welfare</u>	<u>Legislation and administration</u>
- EEO Policy - Police Vetting for Non-Teachers	- 10 Year Property Plan (10 YPP)	- Medicines, Minor/Moderate Injury or Illness - Risk Management	- Length of School Year



13th March,  
Friday lunch.

**\$2.**

We are  
raising money  
for schools  
in Uganda, so  
that they can  
buy school  
equipment and  
sports gear.





# CHOLMONDELEY FOR CHARITY

Cholmondeley House Captains chose to fundraise for the SPCA. This was really successful as every single student who said they would contribute, came and helped. By coming and helping everyone gave up one hour of their weekend. This shows that everyone has a heart for the animals.

Thank you so much teachers for giving up your weekend to help with the fundraising. Students who participated also did an amazing job with helping us Cholmondeley House Captains.



# Corona Virus Information

Hello everyone,

As you will all be aware there is heightened awareness currently within NZ and in all communities regarding the potential spread of the Corona Virus (COVID19).

If you have any queries we are referring everyone to the Ministry of Health website for the latest information and advice

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov> as this will provide the most current and up to date information and resources. If there are any queries locally you can also make contact with your MOE office or advisor.

Further to this please see below the link to a great little Comic explaining the Corona Virus and how we can keep ourselves healthy and to try and reduce the anxiety that some children will also be experiencing as they are exposed to all this information in the media and at home. This Comic is useful in explaining the current situation in a child friendly manner so they have a better understanding of what it is all about. This Comic can be printed and makes a small booklet.

<https://www.nzta.govt.nz/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/and-for-a-little-comic-explaining-the-novel-coronavirus/>

Please also see attached the Handwashing poster as this is one of the best ways minimise spread of any virus along with good coughing and sneezing etiquette and staying at home if unwell.

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any further queries.

Nga Mihi,

Anna Marshall

Public Health Nursing Service

Burwood Hospital

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Website: [www.cdhb.health.nz/phns](http://www.cdhb.health.nz/phns)



# ST MARK'S SCHOOL PARENTS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A GREAT Response to the Chocolate FUNdraiser so far, THANK YOU to all whom have been selling.

We would ask that if anyone has chocolates left that they feel they now can't sell to return these with your monies for those that you have sold as we do have some very keen people waiting for more.

The Playground ideas board should now be up in the foyer, apologies for the delay, it's taken longer to arrive than first thought. So start jotting down your ideas, drawing your pictures and stick them to the ideas board.

## **Term 2 Events and FUNdraisers.**

In Term 2 we shall have the 2020 edition of the Entertainment Book available for purchase, this year is going to be a bit different with the books as they will be a phone app instead of a printed book and they run from 12 months from the date of purchase, instead of June to June. This year you can decide to purchase it as a local, regional or international app.

School Disco – watch out for this, a popular event with the students, we run both a junior and senior disco, details out early next term.

And something for the adults, May 9<sup>th</sup> we shall be hosting our popular Quiz Night so start getting your teams together for a night of Cranium Crunching Fun, lots of Prizes and Fun to be Had.....Watch out for the posters for this in the near future.

Nga  
Gary Miller, Chairperson

mihi

nui





*Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi Engari, he toa takitini.*

For many November the 7<sup>th</sup> is a mere speck in the far distance of the 2020 calendar. For some of us, this is one of the most important days of the 2020 school calendar. It's the day that The Greatest Lil Fair Rolls into town and the school field and surrounds bursts into a scenes of mirth, merriment and fun.

Many of our previous Fair Committee Parents have now moved on, and it is now time to seek out new members from the St Mark's parent community to come on board to help make sure that our Lil Fair continues to grow and to enhance what we already have.

We are looking for parents who can give up a couple of hours per month between now and November to make sure all the nuts and bolts are securely fastened so the wheels turn smoothly on the day.

If you'd like to learn more and/or become involved please email [fair@saintmarks.school.nz](mailto:fair@saintmarks.school.nz)

Nga  
Gary Miller, Chairperson

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## MASH St Marks

33 Cholmondeley Avenue, Opawa

St Marks 7:30-3pm Session \$43.00

St Marks 7:30-6pm Session \$50.00

St Marks 8:30-3pm Session \$38.00

St Marks 8:30-6pm Session \$45.00

Trip fees extra as advertised

### No MASH Today

Mon  
13  
Apr



No MASH today due to the public holiday, so enjoy an extra day at home!

### Artful Antics

Tue  
14  
Apr



Let's get messy and creative! We are igniting our creative streaks and making MASH masterpieces.

### Reading Cinema Movie

Wed  
15  
Apr



We're off to check out the latest flick today at Reading Cinema at the Palms. \$15 Trip Fee

### MASH Bake Off

Thu  
16  
Apr



Are you ready to get hands on, and create some delicious treats in a MASH styled Bake Off?

### Freaky Friday

Fri  
17  
Apr



Topsy-turvy, inside out, spookiness- it's all things freaky today at MASH!

### Flip Out

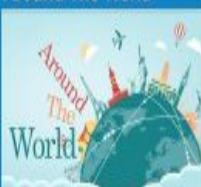
Mon  
20  
Apr



Flip, Jump and Bounce! It's time to become little ninjas today at Flip Out! Remember, don't forget your socks. \$15 Trip Fee.

### Around The World

Tue  
21  
Apr



We're exploring loads of different amazing countries and cultures today. Think language, food, clothes- the works!

### Swimming

Wed  
22  
Apr



Splash, Dive, Kick and Float! It's swim time! Be sure not to forget to pack your togs and a towel! \$5 Trip Fee

### ANZAC Celebrations

Thu  
23  
Apr



A day to remember and a day to be proud! We are going to be creating all things ANZAC, including baking poppy cookies.

### Awesome Autumn Party

Fri  
24  
Apr



The leaves are falling, and we are partying! All things Autumn today for our MASH party. Don't forget to bring a plate for the shared lunch.

For more information, call 03 366 9408 Or 022 516 7453

or email [stmarks@mashkids.co.nz](mailto:stmarks@mashkids.co.nz)

Book now at [www.mashkids.co.nz](http://www.mashkids.co.nz)

# What's new?

We are truly blessed to have such an engaged and supportive community. Thank you for your feedback in 2019. We hear you loud and clear! While we love Seesaw as a tool for sharing learning, it didn't turn out to be the best fit as a communication platform for our St Mark's School Family. There is *so much going on* in our St Mark's School Family, the information overload was simply impractical (especially for families with siblings at school). Subsequently, we are keeping Seesaw as a learning journal and launching our own School App for communication.



If you are already on Seesaw, you don't need to do anything. You will continue to receive updates from your child and their teacher, celebrating learning. Please remember that Seesaw is a learning journal and not a publishing portfolio. Mistakes are a part of learning. You will gain insight into your child's learning journey and have the opportunity to encourage them, every step of the way.

Each child's learning journey is unique. **Seesaw comments will be private within families.** Every day, we are showcasing learning, sharing in class, and utilising peer feedback to deepen learning. We know that home-school partnerships are key to quality learning, so Seesaw will be a special link between you and your child.



With our St Mark's School App, communication is simple and clear. Please feel free to download SchoolAppsNZ from the App Store or Google Play. For term one, communication will be via email, in addition to our St Mark's School App. This will ensure that key information is available for everyone. From term two onwards, our St Mark's School App will be the primary communication platform for our school.

Once again, thank you for your support and engagement. Please feel free to share your questions or feedback:

Cristy Yonetani

E-Learning Lead Teacher

[c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz](mailto:c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz)