



St Mark's School Newsletter

Issue 27
30 August 2017

Kia ora everyone,

Signs of Spring! And the promise of warmer weather, drier grass and fast approaching productions! Honing those final touches to performances and singing will gradually take up more of our weekly programs as we outwork the performing arts in our school in this way.

SPORT!

It has been satisfying to include so many athletes in recent sporting events. A record 64 students attended the Independent Schools Winter Tournament, and our Year 5 / 6 hockey team represented the zone on Thursday at the Canterbury Winter Tournament finishing 4th!! Fantastic result for our school and the students - **Vivek L, Ella R, Olivia B, Raj R, Sophie F-D, Liam S, Ayrton E and Elizabeth R** - and a huge thank you to **Mr Yateen Lallu** who coached the team so superbly. As we build our capacity in hockey, we continue to be grateful to **Mr George Carnoutsos** who is coaching our Mokihi students on a Tuesday morning - another gift to the school!

Today at the time of writing we have a team of five skiers hitting the slopes of Porter Heights, representing St Mark's School in the Canterbury Independent Schools Ski Races - go well **Naomi J, Max Y, Brie S, Liam S and Kaelen G**.

The successes of our waterpolo team, our basketball teams and all those involved in other sports are occasions to recognise and celebrate

Sport open doors of success and comradeship, and a healthy environment for learning those social and life skills that encourage resilience and tolerance. Competitiveness - a much maligned word - understood well, encourages us to strive to be our best.

Sausage Sizzle - will be held this **Friday 1st September** to support our waterpolo team to attend the South Island tournament. We need your orders and money by **Thursday 31st August**.

FIRST MARK OF MISSION! - 5 MOM Part 2!

The first Mark of Mission is a summary of all the other marks and is the most primary: To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom. We see it most clearly in Jesus' life and His work of mission in the world. It is often identified as the most difficult. We are happy it seems to support others in need, work on an environmental project or volunteer for aid agencies. But proclaiming faith in a living God can be challenging yet must be overcome.

1 Peter 3:15 says *"Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give a reason for the hope that you have"*. And this should always be with respect and gentleness.

For us at St Mark's School we are on a journey with children and whanau to be open about our faith and how this defines us. This must be developmentally appropriate for our students but woven across all we do. To make it a natural part of our learning here sets us apart - it is part of our story and the fabric of the traditions laid down by those who came before us.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

STORIES capturing attention

This morning in The Press there is a story about research in Canterbury indicating the alarming rates of PTSD in Canterbury children. It is so easy to look at this research in relation to your own child, and imagine that this research somehow overstates the issue. However as I have pointed to Dr Kathleen Liberty's research in previous newsletters, some of the baseline data, gathered prior to 2011 from study on children's respiratory conditions, provides a significant indication of the physiological, psychological and developmental consequences for children. The findings for parents, whanau and educators can be part of our conversations. If reading this article raises any concerns for you about you or your child, we are here to listen.

The other story related to National Standards, which are an inevitable political football in an election year. As a staff, we work within the compliance requirements of the Ministry of Education and report progress of every student to parents and the Ministry as part of this process. Whilst some may say they are a "blunt instrument" of achievement, being assessed and measured against some form of standard is a consequence for us all. Quantitative measures have to sit alongside qualitative ones - because what is changing for every student to make them successful might not be seen in numbers! - yet! Again you can talk with your child's teacher or any staff member teaching your child for information.

SHAVE FOR A CURE

On Monday the entire school gathered to support **Ioli K** as he had his head shorn by his father to support this wonderful cause. Thank you to everyone who supported this cause financially and we will be thrilled to pass on \$400.00 as a result of **Ioli's** decision to the charity.

PRODUCTION TICKETS

We are currently in the process of finalising these and will announce pricing and seating arrangements in a separate communication. There will be inevitably a ticket limit per family initially, but we are hoping with 3 performances, no one will be disappointed. At the time of writing we are rehearsing the entire production of the Lion King Jr - I won't say we are ahead of schedule but things are shaping well!

"Three of a Kind" - every Mokihi and Year 3 student is on stage! This promises to be a special production for them, at their level and a chance for the talents of everyone to shine!

KAPA HAKA - COMPETITION TEAM

All students selected for our Kapa Haka team have received individual notices today. Two tickets per student are available from the office for family to attend this event. Last week I indicated that due to number restrictions some students who have worked hard in Kapa Haka have not made this particular team. We ask that those students who are disappointed as a result of Matu Steve Reid's selection criteria, be encouraged by families to continue to strive in Kapa Haka as we expect to be part of future competitions.

Blessings everyone

Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

11 September	BOT Meeting - 7.00pm
20 September	School Production matinee & evening performance
21 September	School Production Performance Evening
22 September	Tuhono Kapa Festival - Hillview Christian School
28 September	E-learning Day - 12.00pm-7.00pm

Church Certificates

Inaka	Hosea Frost
Raupo	Lakshmi M
Kereru	Harrison B
Ti Kouka	Shree L
Paua	Isaac W
ToeToe	Ruby H-R
Rimurimu	Bede H
Toroa	Max H
Wheke	Vivek L

Sports Results

Waterpolo

St Mark's 4 v Canterbury 3
Player of the Day: Lilly O

Netball

St Mark's Leopards 17 v Cashmere Charmers 4
Player of the Day: The Whole Team

Basketball

St Mark's Titans 14 v Somerfield 8
Player of the Day: Heath H
18 August
St Mark's Lions 3 v Christchurch South Rockets 19
Player of the Day: Jacob Y
25 August
St Mark's Lions 8 v St Martins Phantoms 10
Player of the Day: Freddie T

Board of Proprietors Invoices

Term 3 and 4 invoices have been emailed out to families for payment by the 20th September. Please ensure payment goes to St Mark's Board of Proprietors bank account - BNZ 020800 0014224 00, thank you.

Term Dates 2017

Term 3 - Monday 24 July to Friday 29 September
Term 4 - Monday 16 October to Friday 15 December

Term Dates 2018

Term 1 - Monday 29 January to Friday 13 April
Term 2 - Monday 30 April to Friday 6 July
Term 3 - Monday 23 July to Friday 28 September
Term 4 - Monday 15 October to (to be confirmed)



On behalf of Ioli, we would like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who supported him for this Shave for a Cure charity event supporting Leukaemia & Blood Cancer New Zealand.

It was a heartwarming experience having the whole school supporting and cheering Ioli during the event. We are very appreciative of such an amazing school environment.

As a result Ioli was able to raise over \$400 which is a huge amount for a 9 year old and he is very happy with his effort. We are very appreciative of all your help.

Every dollar goes towards helping the Leukaemia Foundation's work supporting people living with blood cancer.

Thank you!

Miho and Tatsu Kuwasaki

Canterbury Schools Tournament

The Year 5 and 6 hockey team competed at the Canterbury Tournament last week. Coached by Yateen Lallu, the team (Vivek, Raj, Elizabeth, Liam, Ayrton, Ella, Sophia, Olivia) came 4th out of 16 teams. An impressive effort. Congratulations to them!



Children's Vegetable Garden

We are in the early stages of developing the children's eatable garden with the St Marks students. Garden designer John Allen has just completed a lovely garden plan which we are looking forward to seeing come to life. It would be great to have the garden ready for planting with the students this spring.

We are wondering if there are any parents in our school community who are able to help with the building of planter boxes, or to help with supplying the timber that is required to build them. We are also requiring paint for the fence!

If you are interested in helping or becoming a "Friend of the Garden" can you please contact Tania Sharr. Email tania.sharr@hotmail.com. Phone 021 380 559

Thanks so much!



St Mark's School Fair

Lots of activity has been taking place behind the scenes as the Fair Team get things underway for this year's School Fair.

Being held on Saturday 4th November - Look out NEXT week for a 'Special' printed School Fair newsletter that will outline how you can help, get involved and participate with this year's Fair!!

School Fair Team



Student Success

Daniel and Emily Heinz recently competed in the Mainland Dance Festival.
Their results included:


Daniel obtaining first place in Partnership, Rhythm Foxtrot, Cha Cha, Waltz, Samba and Jive with Emily getting third place in the same categories.

Both Emily and Daniel were glad that Mr Curtis came to check out their performances.






SAUSAGE SIZZLE FRIDAY 1ST SEPTEMBER





FUNDRAISER TO SEND THE ST
MARK'S WATER POLO TEAM TO
THE CANTERBURY WATER POLO
TOURNAMENT



\$2 PER SAUSAGE



PLEASE BRING YOUR MONEY ON
THURSDAY 31ST AUGUST TO
ORDER YOUR SAUSAGES



St Mark's School Blogs

Please visit our blogs to see some of the teaching and learning happening in our St Mark's School family. There are also extra learning opportunities online for students.

We welcome your comments!

Mōkihi

Aukaha kia kaha.

Strengthen the bindings.



<http://stmarksmokihi.blogspot.co.nz/>

Waka Pūhara

Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka.

Let's paddle in unison.



<http://stmarkswakapuhara.blogspot.co.nz/>

Waka Hourua

He moana pukepuke ka ekengia e te waka.

A choppy sea can be navigated.



<http://stmarkswakahourua.blogspot.co.nz/>