



St Mark's School Newsletter

Issue 33
25 October 2017

Kia ora everyone

Last week some of our year 7 students spent time contributing to a new garden project. Great progress was made! Thanks and acknowledgement must go to Charlotte, Tania and Paula for their passion, commitment and organisation and to George who arrived with all of the gear on the day, in seeing this project get off the ground.



The second week of the term sees us gearing up for the St Mark's School Fair on Saturday 4 November. I have to acknowledge the tireless work of the school parents association. Our fair is widely regarded as one of the best in Christchurch and this well deserved reputation does not happen accidentally. I know that Gary and his team are still needing extra helpers on the day. Every dollar raised makes such a difference to the quality resourcing of our school.

It was wonderful to hear of the success of our water polo team over the long weekend. Those senior students involved played well and represented St Mark's proudly. The team won the bronze medal. Great preparation for the South Island Championship in Dunedin this weekend.



Continuing the theme of student success, Sophia G in year 8 will be competing in the Otago Problem Solving "extra challenge" later this week. Good luck to her!



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

The Athletic Sports held last week were a great success. It was heartening to see parents supporting students in their endeavors. We had several records broken on the day in some standout performances.

Bonnie S 10 Yr Girls Shotput 6.70m from 6.66m

Myro M 12 Yr Girls High Jump 1.33m from 1.28m

Myro M 12 Yr Girls Long Jump 4.35m from 4.34m

Myro also won every event for her age group, a great achievement. Many thanks to Delwyn Wright for the work she put in to make this important school event run so well.

The staff worked hard yesterday at our teacher only day on writing and E learning. Much progress was made in these areas as we focus on improving learning outcomes for students.

We are holding Grandparents' Day on Friday, 10 November starting at 9.30am with a church service, followed by a tour of the school and ending with morning tea. For catering purposes, please RSVP to office@saintmarks.school.nz or 332 7339. In conjunction with this we are holding a Book Fair where there will be an opportunity to purchase books either for a grandchild or to donate to the school library.

I know many families are anxious to hear if they have secured a place in the school next year for their son or daughter. St Mark's is becoming a popular choice and we are now under a lot of strain to provide places as we approach our roll cap of 245 students. We wish to make the enrolment process fair, clear and well documented. Senior staff and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees have spent a lot of time on this and I can assure you families with pending applications for new students in 2018 will be contacted early next week.

Blessings to all,
Adrian Rennie
Acting Principal

Mr Curtis' Welcome to St Patrick's, Waimate

Last Monday I was very fortunate to be part of Mr Curtis' support team when he started the next part of his journey as the Principal of St Patrick's, Waimate. Mr Curtis' school is a delightful rural school with students who are 5 through to 13 years old. At present there are two classes, a junior one and senior one. The students were delighted to be getting a new principal and are looking forward to finding out about Jump Jam.

There was a lovely warm welcome to Mr Curtis. The boys performed a haka, the whole school sang the school song, the senior choir sang, the Board Chairperson welcomed him, the past principal welcomed him, I spoke about his qualities, Mr Curtis talked about himself and then the two student leaders gave him gifts.

When the students returned to class Mr Curtis showed us around his school. I was impressed by the size of the playground. You could fit several soccer or rugby fields in their playground. They have a hall, library and the church is a quick walk across the playground.

I am sure we will all miss Mr Curtis but the children in Waimate will make him feel at home very quickly.

Lorraine Brereton



School Notices

Upcoming Events

30 October-	Waka Puhara Camp
1 November	
1 November	Junior Tabloid Sports Day
2-3 November	Year 7 Leadership Camp
6 November	Class/Individual Photographs
7 November	Music Performers Night
10 November	Grandparents' Day

Term Dates 2017

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)

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Solomon S represented the North team in the Under 11 zones rugby tournament playing against other Metro and Canterbury Country zone teams.

Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at www.mybookclub.scholastic.co.nz. Orders close on Friday, 27 October.

Coffee Cart

"School Grounds"

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

Lost

Harry C's scooter has gone missing from the school playground on Thursday afternoon after Athletics Day. If you have seen the scooter please advise the office.

Taylor's Mistake Surf Life Saving Club Open

Day - Sunday 29th October 10am-12.30pm

Registrations of Juniors from age 7 to 13. For details visit the club website at taylormistake.com

PA News

Artwork Calendars/Diary/Cards

The artwork done by the children is now ready to be viewed, order forms are with the class teacher or your child. Payment details are on the form, please can the forms be returned to the office (remember to return the order form if you pay by internet banking) along with payment, by cash or cheque, by Friday 27th October.

There will be no late orders accepted as we need to get the order back before the end of the term.

St Mark's School Fair 2017

RAFFLE BOOKS

THANK YOU to all those that have already returned their sold Raffle Books. If you have books still to return please do this as soon as you are able.

Not very long now until The St Mark's School Fair, thank you to all those that responded to our call for help last week, we still have areas where help is required on the day on various stalls, so if you have not yet volunteered please get in touch and do so. We do need a couple more people on Fri morning between 9-11am to help with the heavy lifting. Please email fair@saintmarks.school.nz or txt Gary on 0275-918-777 to offer your help.

Gazebos - Do you have a Gazebo we could borrow on the day, please let us know if you do.

White Elephant, Clothes, Toys and Books can be dropped off in the School Hall from Wednesday, 25 October. Please look for the signs for each section.

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/>

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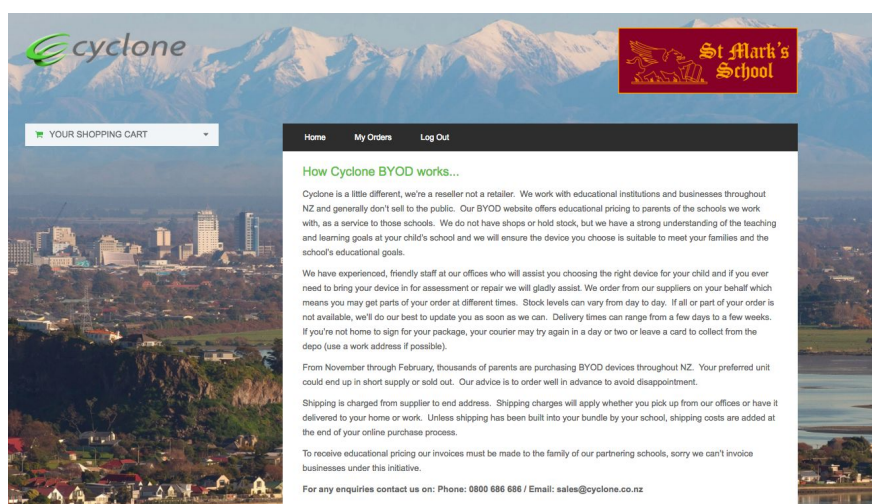
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Chromebooks for Education



Acer Chromebook 11 N7 (C731) 3 year Warranty Complete Bundle

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Lenovo Chromebook N23 3 year Warranty Complete Bundle

\$554.42 Inc GST

Our [BYOC portal](#) is now live. Students who will be in years 6-8 in 2018 have the option of bringing their own Chromebook to use in Waka Hourua from term one onwards. We encourage ordering early through this [BYOC portal](#) to ensure that you get a Chromebook that is optimised for learning. Please feel free to contact us with questions or concerns:

Cristy Yonetani

E-Learning Lead Teacher

c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz

