



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Issue 35  
8 November 2017

Kia ora everyone,

A Maori Whakatauki lends itself well to this week's newsletter. A sense of co-operation where everyone does their part to complete the work. ***Ma whero ma pango ka oti ai te mahi - with red and black the work is complete.*** The colours can refer to the traditional kowhaiwhai patterns found in meeting houses.

To **Gary Miller** and his team we say an enormous "thank you" - for your support, energy, team work, foresight, tirelessness and vision - to bring to the St Mark's School Fair a rich sense of community and love - the work is complete. And we thank God for your gifts and talents, and the proceeds of your work and how this will be wisely used to support our school.

At the time of writing there is much to organise and contemplate as the last six weeks of the school year unfold. There is much to be thankful to God for, but as we reflect on this year and look forward to the next, the overriding and unrelenting focus on students and their families and how we partner together is never far from our thoughts or planning.

## Base Group Configurations for 2018

After consultation with staff and parents, the decision has been made to make some changes to the base group configuration for 2018. The following base groups will be allocated:

1. Year 8
2. Year 6/7
3. Year 6/7
4. Year 4/5
5. Year 4/5
6. Year 3
7. Year 1/2
8. Year 1/2
9. Year 0/1
10. Year 0

As indicated staffing will be confirmed at the end of this year as staffing is finalised for 2018. Staff are confident that these groupings reflect transitional, social emotional and academic needs as we strive for excellence in all areas. Our teams will remain the same - Waka Hourua: years 6-8, Waka Puhara: years 3-5, Mokihi: years 0-2.

## Letter

Attached to this week's edition is a letter regarding a student at our school. Please take time to read it and ensure that if your child develops measles or chickenpox that the office is informed immediately. Please keep this family and child in your prayers as they negotiate this condition.



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

**Grandparents Day!**

This **Friday 10th November starting with a church service at 9.30am**. We look forward to welcoming as many of our senior whanau members as possible. Thank you to those families who have confirmed the attendance of grandparents and family members with the office. This helps enormously with catering for the Parents' Association.

At this service we are hoping to have anthems from our Performance Choir, and our Middle School Choir for the first time.

**Senior Church Service at St Mark's/St Anne's**

This was originally pencilled in for this Sunday but not confirmed. This has likely been a casualty of the changeover from Rev. Helen Roud to Rev. Ben Truman. After discussion with Rev. Ben, we have decided to postpone this service until 2018 and he and I will meet to confirm dates for 2018 before the end of the year.

**Book Fair**

The book fair has been set up in Omōho, our Information Centre, from 2.30pm today. There are many wonderful items for sale. We look forward to welcoming Mr Gavin Bishop tomorrow and catching those students who are taking up the option of dressing up as a book character tomorrow. Buddy reading has been flourishing this week! Older and younger students alike have enjoyed reading to each other across teams. Please find photographs of this rich opportunity for everyone!

Thank you once again to all those community members who joined us on Saturday for the fair. It was so heartening to be part of such a family orientated fair that strengthens our ties to each other and wider.

Blessings to you all

Averil

# School Notices

## Upcoming Events

8-10 November	Book Fair
10 November	Grandparents' Day
17 November	Show Day
30 November	Advent Service
12 December	Internal Prizegiving
14 December	Formal Prizegiving
15 December	End of Year Service

## Church Certificates

Inaka	Joshua W
Raupo	Louisa T
Kereru	Piper E
Ti Kouka	Jackson V
Kotuku	Max P
Paua	Daniel H
ToeToe	Asay U

## Sports Results

### Basketball

St Mark's Lions 15 v Beckenham Bombers 19  
Player of the Day: Max P  
St Mark's Lions 22 v Pioneer Rockets 2  
St Mark's Cubs 4 v Halswell 22  
Player of the Day: Julia M  
St Mark's Cubs 6 v Spreydon 12  
Player of the Day: Ethan K

## 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)



## Book Fair

This is being held this **Wednesday to Friday, 2.30 - 3.30 pm**. The display will be in Omōho, and eftpos will be available.

This is an opportunity to purchase books for your child or maybe Christmas presents.

## Music Performers Night

Wow! A huge congratulations to the 60 amazing musicians who delighted a large audience with their musical performances. Last night showed the enormous amount of talent in our school. I was especially impressed with the confidence shown by all the performers. This concert gave the opportunity for our students to develop the skills necessary for performing – introducing themselves clearly, overcoming nerves, persisting through occasional mistakes (making it appear as though they didn't happen) and bowing to acknowledge an audience are all part of this. Right from our youngest performer, James, to our Year 8's, everybody gave it a go! It was amazing also to see the number of students who performed on more than one instrument. Thank you to our wonderful Itinerant Music teachers for all their work and dedication, giving up their time to be with us last night.

Emily Wells

## Student Achievements

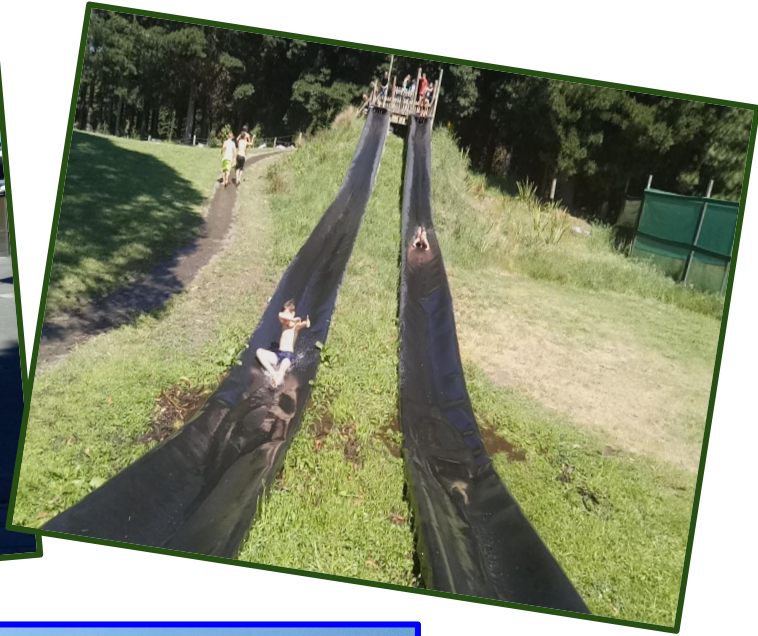
Congratulations to Peter S who passed his Trinity College Grade 1 Guitar with Distinction.

Congratulations to Ethan K who gained Merit in his Grade One Violin exam.

## Fair News

**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** that helped out, pitched in, stepped up, lent something, made something, donated something, sponsored something, lifted, fetched, carried and helped with a multitude of other things that are needed to make OUR School Fair the GREATEST Little Fair in Town.

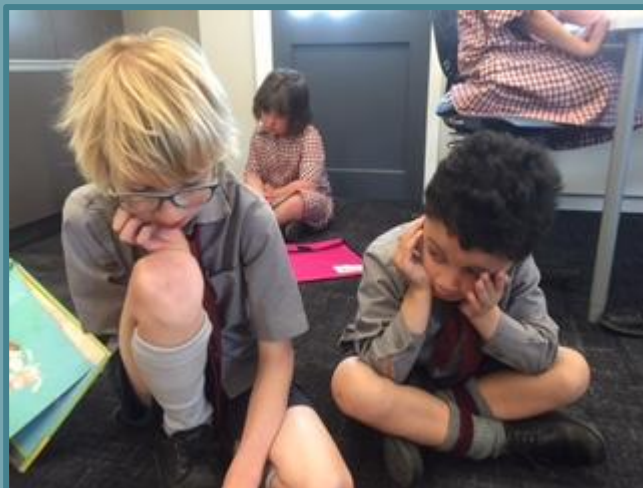
# WAKA PUHARA - WOODEND CAMP



Lots of  
great  
activities  
to do.



# BUDDY READING IN BOOK WEEK



Buddy reading is great fun.





Date:



NEW ZEALAND  
PAEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY SERVICE

Dear Parent

A student in the school has recently been diagnosed with a Chronic medical condition requiring treatment. With treatment, the child is able to be at school and enjoy the company of his/her classmates.

We would like to reassure you that this condition is not contagious. However, a side effect of treatment is a lowered immune system (the body's natural defense against infections) and we ask you to:

**Please contact the principal or your child's teacher should your child develop chicken pox or measles.**

These illnesses can have serious implications for a person on treatment with a lowered immune system.

The sooner the child's family is informed of infectious exposure, the sooner they can get the appropriate treatment to prevent potentially serious complications.

Thank you for your help.

Yours sincerely

Principal



**The Christchurch Boys' Choir  
is looking for new members.**

The CBC performs regularly throughout the year. Members have recently been involved in NZ Opera's production of *Carmen* and Showbiz Christchurch's productions of *Evita* and *Sister Act*.

It also sang at the British Lions vs Crusaders rugby match this year.

**Auditions for boys with treble (unbroken) voices are being held on  
2nd December 2017  
from 4pm, at Christ's College Music School on Rolleston Ave.**

Boys who audition will be required to sing the English verse of the  
New Zealand national anthem.

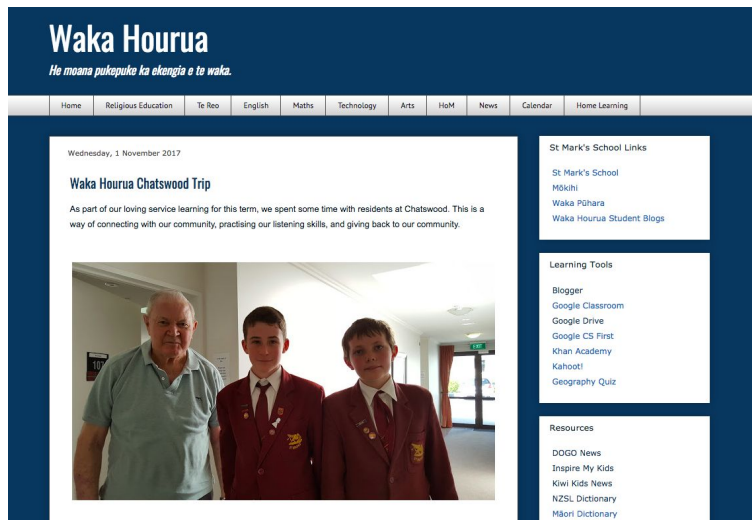
**To register your interest in auditioning, please email**  
[musicaldirector@christchurchboyschoir.co.nz](mailto:musicaldirector@christchurchboyschoir.co.nz).

[www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBoysCh](http://www.facebook.com/ChristchurchBoysCh)

# 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.

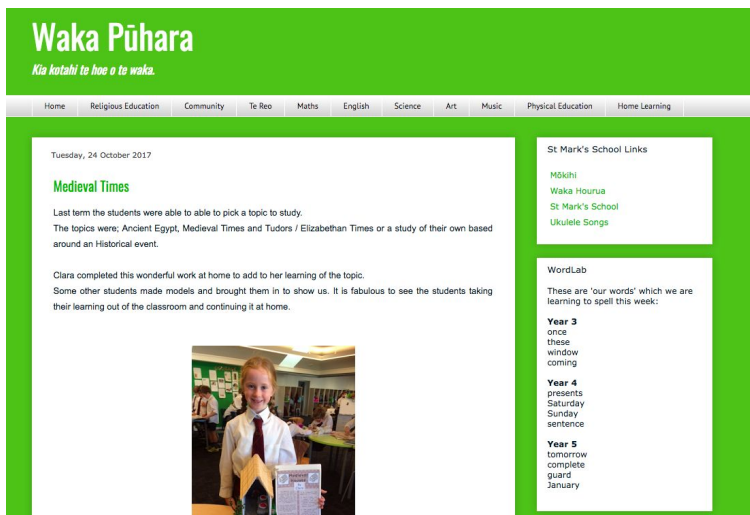
We welcome your comments!



Our Waka Hourua blog currently features photos from our Chatswood trip and plenty of examples of our storytelling learning.

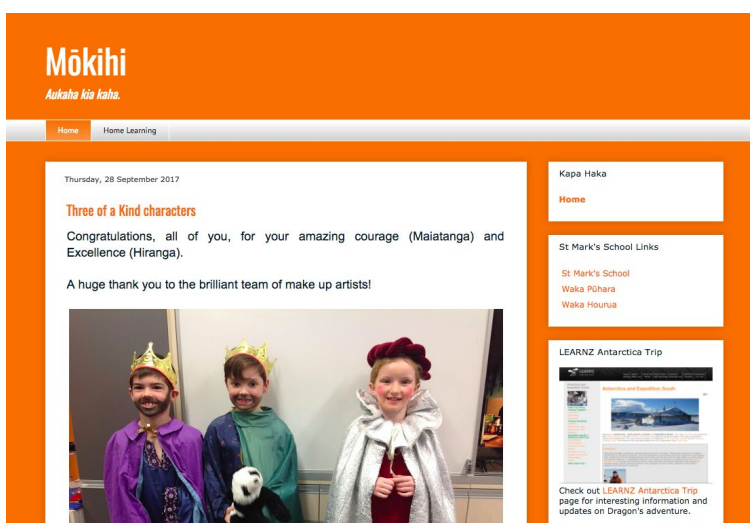
We are even starting to create our own student blogs!

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



Our Waka Pūhara blog currently features work on medieval times and plenty of drawing tutorials.

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



Our Mōkihi blog has lots of photos from our Three of a Kind production. Please check them out and give us some comments!

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

## Optional BYOC

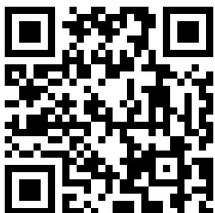
## Years 6-8 in 2018

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



## This Week's Featured Chromebook



+



**Crown**  
Insurance

+



The rugged Acer Chromebook 11 N7 (C731) has passed US MIL-STD 810G military testing. This Chromebook can withstand drops from up to 1.2 meters and can handle 60 kg of downward force on its lid! The spill-resistant keyboard helps make this the toughest, most durable Chromebook in our lineup.

For \$569.60, this Chromebook comes with a case, education licence, 3-year warranty, and 3-year material damage insurance (\$0 Excess). If you order through our portal, it will arrive 100% ready to go at school.



## BYOD Made Easy

### OUTCOMES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Visit [www.cyclone.co.nz/byod](http://www.cyclone.co.nz/byod). Select your school name and you will be redirected to your schools specific portal login page. Enter the login name and password given to you from the school.

#### Why purchase through Cyclone?

- **Solutions to fit your school:** Avoid potential confusion on which device to buy -- your school's portal only features devices with specifications that fit the minimum recommendations of the school.
- **Education pricing:** Take advantage of Cyclone's special education pricing thanks to their high-level partnerships with vendors.
- **Quality warranty & insurance options:** Cyclone lists devices with a three-year warranty as part of their device bundles, plus excellent insurance options with super-low excess.
- **Easy Checkout:** Cyclone's checkout process makes it simple to add the items you want to your cart and then complete your order. A variety of payment options are available, including credit card and direct deposit. Shop online, anytime!

[www.cyclone.co.nz/byod](http://www.cyclone.co.nz/byod)

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