



St Mark's School Newsletter

Issue 36
15 November 2017

Dear Parents and Whanau,

Two spectacular events last Thursday and Friday highlight our St Mark's Family, that those who have gone before speak about but those of us here and now are living. Book week and the visit of **Mr Gavin Bishop** an illustrious and renowned author/illustrator was a joy. He was a welcome addition to the week, and spoke highly of his experience. Thank you to **Mrs Pascoe** who not only organised this visit but wowed with her costume!!

Grandparents day on Friday was such a success and within the large crowd is a source of support for the school that can go unnoticed. We appreciate all that grandparents or senior family members offer our school including practical support, emotional support and unconditional love. We thank God for them:

Psalm 145:4 One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

Dates for New Entrant Visits.

The beginning of 2018 will see an influx of New Entrants on day one. Visits for these children and their families have been scheduled for Monday 27th November and 4th December, and Thursday 7th December from 9.00am - 11.00am. If you see some unfamiliar faces on these days please make them welcome.

Those children arriving before the end of the term 1 will be New Entrants and the year will be classified as their first year. Those arriving at the beginning of Term 2 will be New Entrants and 2019 will be classified as their first year. These dates are common across schools in the country, allow us to manage the roll appropriately, however individual needs are always considered on a confidential basis and different decisions about children can be made within these guidelines. Classroom teachers are always open to the first conversation.

Our calendar!!

Although all of the following have been on our school calendar for a long time, I thought it might be helpful to make a list in this newsletter to avoid any clashes for you and your family.

- **Friday 17th November - SHOW DAY/CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY - School Closed**
- **Tuesday 21st November - New Parent/Family evening - 7.00pm - 8.00pm**
- **Thursday 23rd November - Kids in town - Orchestra and Performance Choir - 1.00pm - 3.00pm**
- **Thursday 23rd November - Year 8 Independent Schools Dance**
- **Week 7 - Year 6 Cycle Safety.**
- **Tuesday 28th November - Horizons Leadership Course - Year 7**
- **Thursday 30th November - Full School Advent Carol Service Transitional Cathedral- 7.00pm**
- **Wednesday 6th December- Mokihi Carol Singing Transitional Cathedral - 1.45pm - 2.45pm**
- **Wednesday 6th December - Year 8 Day Jellie Park**
- **Wednesday 6th December - Year 8 and Families Leavers Dinner**



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

- **Friday 8th December - Year 8 Sailing Day**
- **Friday 8th December - Year 3 - 7 Day at Spencer Park**
- **Tuesday 12th December - Internal Prize Giving**
- **Thursday 14th December - School Prize Giving - 7.00pm**
- **Friday 15th December - End of Year Service - 2.15pm**

NZEI 2017 Release Days.

As part of the collective agreement negotiations last year the Ministry of Education agreed to a one off provision of release days equivalent to one day per full time teacher. This one off provision is for the purpose of strengthening the knowledge of the primary profession around literacy and numeracy progressions as part of supporting teachers' assessment reporting practices.

Senior Staff decided that these days would be best placed with teams on one day in Term 4, so that collaborative assessment and related practice to all students could be undertaken and be the most valuable use of this time.

The following days have been allocated with relieving staff so our staff can use this resource for developing best practice around assessment of teaching and learning in literacy and numeracy:

- **Waka Hourua - Thursday 16th November**
- **Waka Puhara - Monday 20th November**
- **Mokihi - Wednesday 22nd November**

Prayer Prompts

Today I add this heading for you all as our constant media filled world finds images and words to highlight the plight of individuals and organisations. Fractured relationships, acts of bullying and the vulnerability of our environment in the last week make for difficult reading.

Christchurch schools, a special needs girl, Manus Island and the sea of plastic larger than Mexico floating in the Pacific are things we can pray about even if we think there is little we can do as an individual. Teaching our children to pray about such things as the next generation of caretakers takes time but is part of our call. At St Mark's School we encourage students to write their own prayers and they are expressed every Friday morning during our service. Prayer need not be elaborate just deliberate!

Blessings

Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

17 November	Show Day
21 November	New Parent/Family Evening - 7-8pm
23 November	Kids in Town - Orchestra & Performance Choir
	Year 8 Independent Schools Dance
26-28 Nov	Year 6 Cycle Safety
28 November	Horizons Leadership Course - Year 7
30 November	Advent Service, Transitional Cathedral - 7pm
6 December	Mokihi Carol Singing - Transitional Cathedral - 12.45pm - 2.45pm
	Year 8 Day - Jellie Park
	Year 8 and Families Leavers Dinner
8 December	Year 8 Sailing Day
	Year 3-7 Day at Spencer Park
12 December	Internal Prizegiving
14 December	Formal Prizegiving - 7pm
15 December	End of Year Service - 2.15pm

Church Certificates

Inaka	Alexandra H
Raupo	Cchavi D
Kereru	Ethan S
Kotuku	Liam S
Paua	Oliver C/Nariah D
ToeToe	Miriama N
Rimurimu	Isabel B
Toroa	Max W
Wheke	Myro M

Sports Results

Waterpolo

St Mark's 7 v Medbury 9

Miniball

St Mark's Lions 32 v Pioneer Pumas 7

Player of the Day: Dustin S

St Mark's Cubs 6 v Somerfield Keas 12

Player of the Day: Sebastian J

St Mark's Tigers 0 v St Martins 44

Player of the Day: Matthew C

ISSA Athletics

Congratulations to these students who gained placings at this competition.

Sophia W who was placed 2nd in 10yr Girls' High Jump and 50m Final.

Bonnie S who was placed 2nd in 10yr Girls' Discus.

Myro M who was placed 2nd in 12 yr Girls' High Jump and 1st in 12yr Girls' Long Jump.

Student Achievements

Congratulations to the following students who have achieved fantastic results in various areas.

Olivia C passed Grade 2 NZAMD Jazz Ballet exam with High Honours (94%).

Madeleine C passed Singing Exam Grade 1 with Merit.

Amelia H passed Singing Exam Grade 1 with Distinction.

Peter S passed Singing Exam Grade 3 with Distinction.

Mackenzie J passed Singing Exam Grade 3 with Merit.

Ana S passed Violin Grade 2 exam with Merit.

Book Week with a Visit from Gavin Bishop



Opawa, St Martins
Parish FAIR

Saturday 2 December
St Anne's Church
8:30 am

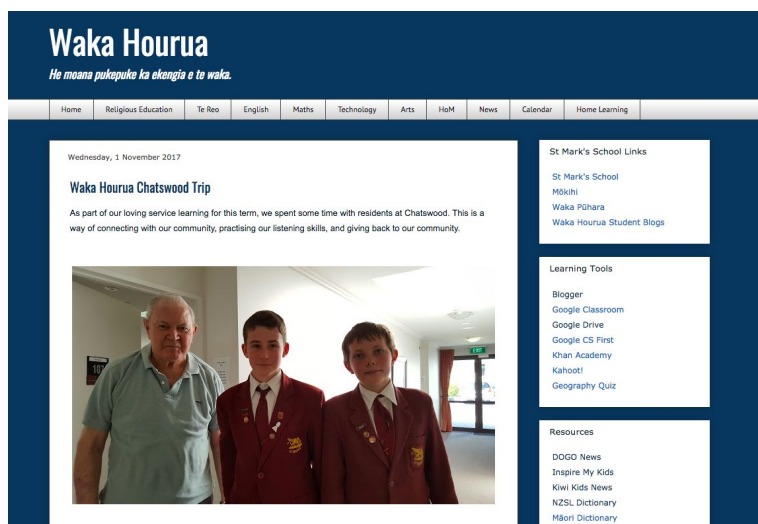


Cash only
Cor Wilsons & Centaurus Rd

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.

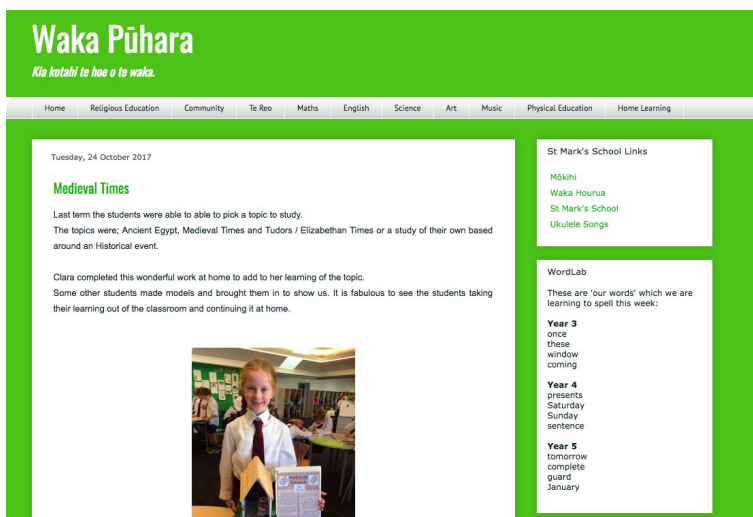
We welcome your comments!



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

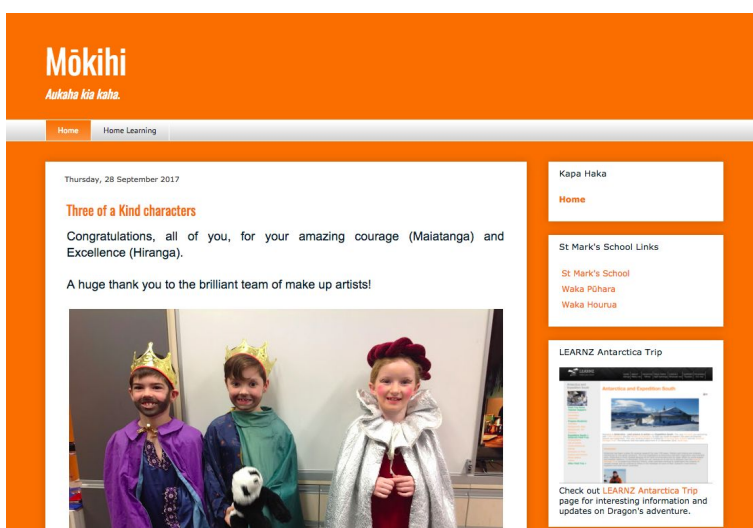
We are even starting to create our own student blogs!

<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

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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

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Visit 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.

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