

Newsletter



St Mark's School exists to provide a balanced education, where a child's academic, cultural, physical, social and spiritual needs are identified and nurtured in a dynamic Christian environment, grounded in the Anglican way and supported by a family orientated community.



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22 February 2017

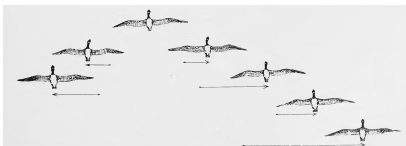
Kia ora koutou everyone

Another newsletter! And another opportunity to touch base from the musings in a principal's office. On the wall in my office I have a story about the way geese work together across their lives and particularly during migration.

The Goose Story - part 1 - ***When geese fly in "V" formation heading south for the winter, they increase the flying range of the flock by 71%.***

This is a great visual for the St Mark's family as we continue to build a common direction and sense of community around our story. Our common direction is God, and the example of the geese suggests strongly that we need to do it with all the strengths and talents of everyone.

Kia ora koutou everyone



Student service

A wonderful example of our students learning beyond the classroom, and offering service in the community in the past weeks has been captured below. Congratulations to the efforts of Lily and Iva who have written the following message:

Dear St Mark's family,

We had a bake sale for poor children around the world and we made a donation of \$80.00 to UNICEF. In the letter we got back from the people at UNICEF they said it was enough for "9 thermal blankets, eight baby quilts or one whole clothing kit."

We were also part of a beach clean up and there were even trolleys and TV's on the sand. God is pleased when you look after His creation.

Lily Ball and Iva Filipaina (see them in our photo gallery)

Curriculum

Spelling! Phonics!

"How do you spell 'love'?" - Piglet

"You don't spell it ... you feel it." - Pooh

A school wide spelling program (WordLab), and a phonics program for all Junior students (Yolanda Soryl Literacy) make a welcome comeback into our Literacy Curriculum this term. There are strong academic indications for the inclusion of these in a robust literacy program, and both will be phased in over time as level testing and setting are finalised.



Reading Books Amnesty

We are offering an amnesty on all school readers that might be in your home. Sometimes they lurk in the depths of schoolbags and make appearances long after they should have re-appeared at school. We would love any that you have at home to complete sets - we don't mind how long you have had them.

From our Senior Students

Tena koutou katoa

We have had a very eventful start to school with the back to school bbq, the year eight leadership camp and the still upcoming swimming sports.

During the leadership camp at Hanmer Springs, all the year eights participated in challenging activities such as a day tramp to a waterfall, rock climbing and mountain biking. We also visited the pools twice, played mini golf and cooked all our own food. The year eights have really advanced their leadership skills, and are ready to lead the St Mark's school family to a great year.

Sophia Goodrick and Zen Kuwasaki

Rev. Helen Roud

Rev. Helen is recovering at home from minor surgery and is unlikely to be with us until the beginning of March. We include her in our prayers and wish her a speedy recovery and plenty of patience as she spends time recuperating. In her absence our services on Thursday and Friday will continue with the support of **Mrs Margrett Sherwood**. We are grateful for her willingness and experience stepping into this worship space. Parents are always welcome to join us on these days and on Monday at our student lead service.

Canterbury Cricket Representatives

It is with great pleasure that I write of the recent success of three of our year 6 boys, who have all been selected in the **Team Bond - the Canterbury Development Team**. Congratulations go to **Vivek Lallu, Raj Ravi and Solomon Spanton**. We wish them every success in their upcoming games and look forward to hearing of their experiences.

Facebook

Whilst I am aware of two facebook pages related to St Mark's School, I wish to advise that as yet we do not have an official school facebook page. Whilst we recognise this can be a vital way to communicate school events and connect many people, an official Facebook page is yet to be developed. It would only be done in consultation with staff and community. Further to this, there will be a community meeting on **Thursday April 6th at 7pm** where there will be an opportunity to discuss this and e-learning at St Mark's School. Our Information Technology provider, Cyclone, will join staff at this meeting.

Lost property

There is a large collection of clothing and other items on a trestle table in the hall. We will leave this up until the end of the week and after that school clothing will make their way back to the uniform shop and other clothing donated to charity.

Blessings everyone

Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

20 Feb- 3 Mar	Y4-8 Swimming
24 Feb	Swimming Sports
28 Feb-1 Mar	Three Way Conferences
7-10 Mar	Year 6/7 Camp

Church Certificates

Inaka	Hugo Fleischer
Kereru	Islah Say
Ti Kouka	Lincoln Stapleton
Kotuku	Michael Chinula
ToeToe	Vanessa Ashton
Year 6 & 7	Max Harpur
	Lucy Norton

Bank account information – when paying an invoice to St Mark's.

Just a reminder of the bank account to use when paying invoices to the Board of Proprietors and the Board of Trustees.

St Mark's Board of Proprietors: 020800-0014224-00

Attendance Dues, Special Character Contribution and Parents Association Contribution.

St Mark's Board of Trustees: 031599-0032504-00

Camps, trips, school donation, swimming, technology etc.

If you require any further information please make contact with me.

Thank you - Louise

SPORTS RESULTS

Waterpolo

St Mark's Gold 5 v St Martins 2

Player of the Day: James Garden

St Mark's Maroon 13 v Selwyn House 0

Player of the Day: Zen Kuwasaki

PA News

We had a very successful AGM and it was great to see so many junior school parents joining the committee. Susan Bain is the new President, Sarah Cuthbert is the Secretary and Vicki Flavall is our returning Treasurer. Susan Fisher is the teacher representative and Gary has put his hand up to run the Fair again. We would like to thank Shane Grose for his hard work as the previous President. Ange Bachop has stepped down from her role as Secretary after an incredible term of close to 15 years. She is supporting us still, and is a massive part of why the PA is in such good standing. Thanks Ange!

Photo Gallery



Iva Filipaina and Lily Ball



Vivek, Solomon Spanton and Raj Ravji



Inside Waka Puhara!

Year 8 Camp



