



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 1
2 May 2018

Dear Parents and Whanau,

Welcome back to Term 2. It has been lovely seeing many of you and catching up with holiday happenings. The winter uniform at St Mark's is so smart and the students are so proud to wear it.

The start of the term for Mrs Emily Wells and Ms May Bryant has been met with sadness with the death of much loved mothers. I know that you all join with staff in offering prayers and support for both of them at this time. Last year Bishop Victoria preached a sermon at the opening service to mark our new buildings about comings and goings. Life lived without love however is unimaginable. The comfort and hope for us is in the message of "abiding in Christ and he in us".

Annual St Mark's School Cross Country

This is set down in the calendar for next **Friday 11th May at Hansen Park**, with the first race scheduled for **10.00am**. We will send a separate communication with approximate times for races for ages once finalised. As with all school events, all whanau are welcome to attend to support the students - this is a family event!

St Mark's School Chess Club

Under the expert guidance of **Mr Tom Gordon**, the school chess club is flourishing, and reaching a point where a number of players are earning badges for their expertise. There is also the likelihood that a number of students will form a school chess team to compete against other Canterbury school teams in the future. This represents another opportunity for our students to grow in different areas of interest.

Lunch Options

Just a reminder that Willow Lunches start next week, and Subway delivers lunches on a weekly basis. You can get details from the office if you want to access these options for your child.

Staff and students, in particular our Eco Warriors, are working to develop plans and educate our community about how we as a community can lower our litter output and contribute positively with sustainable practices in recycling, gardening and planting.

Activities

The calendar marks some events of significance and we ask that you check the online calendar for details and dates. A quick glance at the start of the term shows our cross country, a Year 8 Trip to Rutherford's Den, our Open Day on the 24th May, and Mid year reports and Whanau/Teacher interviews offer formal reporting on student progress and achievement. Of course ongoing conversations with your child's teacher are encouraged to strengthen the partnerships between home and school.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Waterpolo - Winners again!

On the last Friday of Term 1, I joined a large contingent of family supporters on the side of Jellie Park pool to witness our team win the final of the E grade against **St Patricks**. The team played so well together never really looking like being threatened for the lead. I want to publicly thank on behalf of parents, students and staff the sterling work of **Ms Hannah Sherwood** who has coached the team this term. Hannah is an ex St Mark's student, and we have been extremely grateful that she stepped into the coaching role with such skill and commitment. We have loved your approach to coaching this team and we look forward to their future competition in Term 4.



It is great to be sharing Term 2 with you all.

Blessings everyone
Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

9 May	Yr 8 Rutherford's Den trip
11 May	School Cross Country - 10am
17 May	Strike to Schools Concert
24 May	Open Day - 10am-2pm
25 May	Make a Wish Mufti Day
27May-1 June	Book Week
29 May	Court Theatre Performance - 2pm
30 May	Speech Finals
4 June	Queen's Birthday
5 June	Teacher Only Day
11-22 June	Y0-3 Swimming - Pioneer
17 June	Mokihi Service - St Mark's/St Anne's Church - 10am
21 June	Sport/Cultural Photographs
25-27	Whanau/Teacher Interviews
6 July	End of Term Service - 2.30pm

Strike to Schools Concert

On Thursday 17 May, we are lucky to be hosting the Strike Percussion Ensemble at school for a 45 minute high energy show. This is an amazing opportunity for our students to see a live performance. The show draws on styles from around the world to introduce a range of modern percussion instruments. A charge of \$5 per student will be added to your child's account to cover the cost of the performance.

Emily Wells
Lead Teacher Music

Student Success

Vanessa A - Yr 4 from Kotuku was awarded the team player and sportsmanship award for her cricket team (Lancaster Park Cricket Club)
Well done Vanessa!

Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz. An easy way to order online yourself and will be delivered direct to school. Orders close on **Friday 11 May**.



Entertainment Book

It's that time of year - St Mark's is fundraising with the Entertainment Book.

We will be sending books home for you to have a look at and for you to show family and friends. Opt out forms are being sent home today. If you would not like a book to come home please return the form by Friday 4th May.

Thank you for the support - let's beat last years numbers!!!!

Serena
St Mark's PA

Willows Lunch Bags

These will start next week - You will find order forms and a box to post them into in the office so you can order in plenty of time for next week.

Lunch Bags will be available Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday each week with orders needing to be in (and paid for) by 3pm Monday each week.
Any queries contact me directly.

Regards - Gary Miller