



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 2
9 May 2018

Kia ora everyone,

What glorious weather we are having to start Term 2. While we know the real winter weather is yet to arrive, when I was on duty yesterday, I realised how thankful I am that we live in a place in the world where all the seasons are obvious. Thank you for continuing to uphold **Mrs Emily Wells and Ms May Bryant** in your prayers as they continue to journey with grief and sadness.

Winter Sport Thursday and Friday afternoons.

As previously communicated all year 5-8 students have been placed in St Mark's School teams to compete against other schools in Canterbury for terms 2 and 3. Hockey, Netball, Football and Table Tennis are all included with year 5/6 playing on Thursdays and year 7 / 8 playing on Fridays. I want to thank all those parents who have volunteered to join staff for this and acknowledge that we appreciate work commitments prohibit many from offering. It is no small undertaking to have all our senior students on the sports fields but what a sense of pride in our school this will encourage along with all the social and emotional benefits of team sport.

City Mission

We have had an appeal from the **City Mission for cans of baked beans and spaghetti**. There is a great need for these items. We will place a box in the foyer from Thursday where you can place the cans if you are able. No outreach can happen without donations and volunteers and giving in this way is an outward sign of how we express our special character.

Uniform

Our formal uniform is a significant identifying feature of our school and a significant asset to parents. Recently I have been made aware of an amount of uniform that has been lost or misplaced. Replacing items is not something we wish on parents and on two fronts we need your help to address this issue.

Ownership. There is a lost property cupboard in the foyer however this is **not** a "second hand" area. If children are uniting themselves with items that are not their own then we would be remiss in not indicating to them that this is wrong, and reinforcing the importance of valuing their own uniform. Teachers make every effort to reunite students with items however without a permanent and fixed name this opens debate on whose the item is. Can we encourage you to find a permanent fixed solution to naming clothing? This encourages your child to value their uniform, allows staff to make clear decisions and instills the values of honesty and integrity when it comes to ownership.

Pride and Faithfulness. Encouraging responsibility and independence takes time and can be age related. However educating students around our responsibility to the environment - a key feature of our special character, the Five Marks of Mission number 5 and protecting our future - some would argue starts with care and responsibility for oneself. The number of lunchboxes left at school yesterday numbered 10. What questions could we ask at home when the lunchbox doesn't arrive? Pride and care for ourselves and possessions is a first step for caring for others and our world. Creating faithful stewards of the environment in our students starts with adults. Our school can be held up as an enviro school with active members if we achieve this together.

Home Learning Policy

The Board of Trustees acknowledges that there were 22 responses to the review of this policy, which the review committee will consider and respond to later in the term.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Cross Country

By now you will have details of this annual event. **Mrs Marie Bigelow** has been working with staff to ensure the day runs smoothly. Hansen Park can accommodate all parents and we are looking forward to seeing many of you on Friday.

Unfortunately the Christchurch City Council have advised that we now **cannot** use Risingholme as a venue for our Junior runners. The time has not changed, but we are now working on an interesting and challenging course here at school on Friday afternoon. Again we look forward to seeing as many of you who are able to join us for this event.

Make-A-Wish Mufti Day

Please find attached to this newsletter a poster (crafted specially for us by **Mrs Annie Pearce! - thank you!**) advertising this very worthwhile mufti day. The students (and staff!) are encouraged to dress up as you what you wish to be. This worthwhile charity enables the lives of those children living with critical illnesses and a voluntary donation will be collected on the day.

Open Day

Thursday 24th May 2018. We look forward to welcoming visitors to our school on this day between **10.00am and 2.00pm**. Open days are an unknown quantity and visitor numbers will vary.

Book Week

Just advanced notice that this is scheduled for **Week 5 beginning Monday 28th June.** **Mrs Lorraine Brereton** is working with our Ōmoho leaders to plan the activities for this week likely culminating in a Book Character dress up day!

Pink Ribbon Breakfast!

If you see a lot of pink on the morning of Monday 14th May, it is because staff will be enjoying a breakfast supporting this charity and contributing to breast cancer research.

Hockey Winter Tournament

There will be 3 year 5 and 6 hockey teams competing on a Thursday at Nunweek Park and one year 7 and 8 team competing on a Friday.

Practices for Years 5 and 6 **Wednesdays - Mr George Carnoutsos will join us.**

Practices for Years 7 and 8 **Fridays - with Mrs Worner**

Ukulele

In this newsletter is an image of some of our Year 6 and 7 students learning to play ukulele. It was a fabulous sound as I walked past! **Ms Adrienne Hale** is bringing a fresh approach to classroom music and we can be thankful. Individual gifts and talents might sit outside ukulele playing! However engagement was high and music in this school has echoed down the years. This new echo resonates with our roots and values.

Our values and their significance!

Through GRACE we act with compassion and humility to achieve EXCELLENCE, using the potential of our God given talents and gifts. This gives us the COURAGE to act to bring about change, as we show FAITHFULNESS to God and others.

It is with joy and pride that I inform you that the above will be translated into Te Reo and set to music as a waiata unique and special to St Mark's school. We thank **Matua Steve Reid** for enabling this gift and **Mrs Emily Wells** who will have oversight.

"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases" Lamentations 3:22-23

Blessings everyone, Averil

School Notices

Upcoming Events

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

Church Certificates

Inaka	Frankie E
ToeToe	Coco A
Paua	Hannah P
Kotuku	Jasmine G, Morgan D-N
Mako	Alex N
Wheke	Genavieve N
Toroa	Ben M, Olivia C-S

Welcome to New Families

Lucy C and her parents Simon and Charlotte
Cristian D-N and his parents Martina and Rick
Genevieve F and her parents Brad and Vicki
Nathan H and his parents Abby and Jason
Elijah H and his parents Paul and Victoria
Isla and Deegan M and their parents Steven and Victoria

Enviro Group

The St Mark's School Enviro group, the Eco Warriors are looking for parent/grandparent volunteers to come into the school on a regular basis to work with small groups of children in the school gardens, worm farms and with our bird and insect studies. If you are available could you please contact Liz Coster the school's Enviro Coordinator: l.coster@saintmarks.school.nz.

The Eco Warriors would also like to ask the school community if there is someone who is capable of putting wires on the fence to enable us to espalier the wonderful fruit trees that we have established in the school gardens.

Sports Results

St Mark's Leopards (Yr3) 1 v Cashmere 0
Player of the Day: Islah S
St Mark's Lions (Yr4) 4 v Mt Pleasant 5
Player of the Day: Miriama N

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 this **Friday 11 May**.

Willows Lunch Bags

Order forms are available at the school office. 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

Subway can be ordered for lunch every Tuesday.



To place an online order, visit www.subway.co.nz/schools and follow the instructions to place your order by 9am each Subway day.

Alternatively, envelopes are in the office and you can either pay with the correct cash or credit card.



Ukulele
Year 6 & 7



PA Notices



Entertainment Book

Keep an eye out for your chance to take a look through the new 2018 Entertainment Book.

Today your eldest or only child will be receiving an envelope with the brand new 2018 Entertainment Book inside. This is for you to take a look at all the new and returning offers inside the new book and app before making a purchase. The books and digital memberships are packed with plenty of up to 50% off and 2-for-1 dining options and activities for the whole family such as, the upcoming Hoyts reclining cinemas, Mega Air, Zone 67 with their indoor archery, airsoft and gellblasters, the VR room, takeaways, cafes, favourite restaurants, shopping, travel and so much more (over \$20,000 of savings in each Book and App!). Save money and support the school at the same time. If you would like to purchase the book, or someone you know would like to purchase it, there will be simple instructions in the pack on how to do this. If you'd like to purchase a digital membership which is accessible on two devices and has the same offers, please follow the instructions in the pack and return the book to school, in the drop box at the office. If it's not for you, or you don't know anyone who would like to purchase the book sent home, please return the book to school office drop box. 20% of every membership go directly to the PA, for school projects like sports equipment and school resources.

The class who sells the most Entertainment Books or apps will win a Pizza Party shout for the whole class! The class with highest percentage of student versus sales will take away the annual prize.

We really appreciate your support.

Coffee Cart

School Grounds" is a volunteer run coffee cart, operating out of the school foyer.



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

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop is open on Tuesday 8.30-9.30am and Wednesday 2.30-3.30pm. You can contact them at uniformshop@saintmarks.school.nz and don't forget to join the Facebook page to stay up to date 'st marks uniform ship'

Community Notices



**Girl Guiding
New Zealand**
Ngā Kōhine Whakamahiri O Aotearoa

Girl Guides

GirlGuiding currently need volunteers to help us out in the Opawa area! We would welcome anyone who wants to help young girls and women in the community, regardless of how much time you can give.

GirlGuiding New Zealand is New Zealand's largest girl-only organisation and it's our vision to see that all girls and young women are inspired and empowered to take action to change their world, but we can't do that without volunteers.

To find out more information about volunteering, or to register your interest, visit this link:

<https://www.girlguidingnz.org.nz/join-us/leaders-volunteers>.

Alternatively, you can email Tegan on

Tegan.Dunne@girlguidingnz.org.nz or call 0800 22 22 92 to chat about the different options available!



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



Term 2 2018 Reviews: **WE NEED YOUR INPUT PLEASE**

This term we are reviewing the following policies and invite your feedback as part of our three year review cycle.

Reporting to Parents

It is from these policies that the procedures are developed in relation to the way the school approaches these things operationally. For this reason, we want to encourage parents to become familiar with these policies and recommend any changes that might be required..

If you would like to view and give feedback on the policy its as easy as 1,2,3!

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on search for your school. Pick St Mark's School.
2. Enter the following user name and password
Username: stmarks Password: saint
3. Find the policy that's up for review, read it, click on the red bubble in the top right hand corner of the policy and enter your feedback. (if there is no red option, pick the green speech bubble instead).
Feedback can be given anonymously if you choose.
The cut off for feedback is the last day of Term 2 – 7th July 2018.

Term 2 Assurance:

In addition to reviewing policy, it is also the role of the Board to gain **ASSURANCE** that the operational policy and procedures are being operationalised in the school.

This term we will undertake assurance on a variety of areas including

- Digital Technology and Cybersafety
- Student Attendance
- Abuse Reporting and Procedure
- Emergency Evacuation/Emergency Kit
- SUE reports
- Risk Management

I WISH I WAS DAY

FRIDAY MAY 25

**DRESS UP AS WHAT YOU WISH
TO BE AND HELP MAKE
WISHES COME TRUE!**

**BRING A DONATION TO SCHOOL
FOR MAKE-A-WISH!**

