



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 9
27 June 2018

Kia ora St Mark's whanau,

Today's newsletter is a brief one! I am spending time in classes today releasing teachers - I secretly love this and welcome the opportunity! So today is about what is "on top" while ensuring you have updated communication.

ERO

I can confirm that ERO will be with us in week 3 of Term 3. The Board of Trustees and Board of Proprietors welcome this opportunity to share the journey of our school since the last external evaluation. There will be further communication as it comes to hand.

Parent/Teacher Interviews

Thank you to everyone who has joined us this week using the student reports as discussion documents. It is always a privilege to have face to face conversations that reflect staff strong desire to partner with family and whanau for the best outcomes for every student.

Olive's Walk for Water

What a joy to share in Olive's success on Monday morning. Setting off at 5.30am Olive (and her dad) walked from Lyttelton to St Mark's School!!!! Raising money for a charity supporting the addition of clean water in places where people have to walk miles for one cup, Olive articulately communicated this to the whole school! We are so proud of you Olive - what an amazing initiative and strong expression of things we value in our school!

Praise and Concerns!

We are always open to hear from you if either of these areas present themselves. There is a process for both and clearly outlined in the Board of Trustees policies which you all have access to. For transparency, I will post a copy on the parent noticeboard. As indicated last week your classroom teacher is the best place to start and staff are always open to discussions relating to your family and child.

Eucharist Service - THIS Friday 29th June 9.00am.

ALL are welcome to this service on Friday. Rev. Ben offers the warmest welcome to you all!

Chess competitions!

Yes we sent a chess team to the Canterbury Competitions - after a hiatus - and thank you to **Mr Tom Gordon** for spearheading this revival!

Canterbury Cross Country

Today **Ioli K** and **Rafi W-S** represented our school and zone at the Canterbury wide event. **Rafi** was really successful running in the mid twenties while **Ioli's 8th place** ensures him a place in the South Island event. Congratulations to you both and we look forward to hearing of Ioli's experience in Nelson!!

Elocution Cup Results - hot off the press!

Year 5 and 6

1st - Isabella S

2nd - Olivia C

3rd - Michael C

Year 7 and 8

1st - Inaki I-B

2nd - Lilah J

3rd - Samantha P

Blessings everyone - Averil

See you at the PA Disco on Friday!!



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

School Notices

Upcoming Events

29 June	Book Character Day
29 June	School Disco
2 July	Strike Concert
6 July	Eucharist Service - 9.00am
23 July	Teacher Only Day
19-20 Sept	Wearable Arts Show

Church Certificates

Raupo	Nathan H
Inaka	Judah C
Kereru	Kali N
Ti Kouka	Ariya S
Kamana	Sebastien D
ToeToe	Deegan J
Paua	Hannah A
Kotuku	Meg W
Mako	Charlotte P
Wheke	London V
Toroa	Thomas H

Sports Results

Basketball

St Mark's Titans 19 v Medbury Black 13

Player of the Day: Trinity M

St Mark's Saints 8 v SOM Stingrays

Player of the Day: Ioli K

Strike to Schools Concert

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 has been added to your child's account to cover the cost of the performance.

Music Festival Celebrations

This year we have three talented musicians selected to represent the school at the Christchurch Schools' Music Festival in October. Huge congratulations go to them as there were only 330 places for 562 people auditioning. Madeleine C is selected for the Junior Choir, Charlotte P is selected for the Senior Choir and Harriet P is selected for the orchestra. We are looking forward to hearing your items at the Music Festival.

PA NEWS

Uniform Shop

The uniform shop will not be open over the school holidays as Term 3 is still winter uniform so please plan accordingly. We are open Tuesday 8:30-9:30am and Wednesday 2:30-3:30pm during term time. Also don't forget to stay up to date by adding the Facebook page 'st marks uniform shop'

School Disco

This Friday 29th June - \$2.00 entry.

Y0-4 - 6.00-7.15pm

Y5-8 7.30-9.00pm

Parents are to come and collect your child (sign in hall and sign out hall exit).

Glow sticks and chips available for purchase. Drinks free.

Please see the poster later in the newsletter.

Student Success



Jackson P had a great result at the NZ Highland Dancing Championships in Invercargill, receiving a 3rd placing in his 10 years age group Sword Dance.

Austin S has completed his Level 4 in Kiwi Gym fun.

Harriet P represented St Mark's in the Canterbury Schools Fencing competition last weekend. She competed in the Primary and Intermediate Individual Foil Mixed competition and was placed 3rd.

JUNIOR SWIMMING



CANTERBURY CROSS COUNTRY



OLIVE'S WALK FOR WATER



ANNUAL INTER-SCHOOL CHESS COMPETITION



St Marks

DISCO

ENTRY
\$2



JUNE
29TH

Yr 0-4 6pm-7:15pm

Yr 5-8 7:30pm to 9pm

**Parent to come and collect your child (sign
in hall/sign out hall exit)**

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Drinks free. \$2.00 entry.**



E-Learning

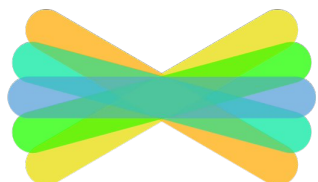
2018 Community E-Learning Hui Summary



Mako is leading the way with 85% of students now bringing their own Chromebook to school.

We are so pleased with the BYOC uptake. Students are really driving their learning and making the most of e-learning opportunities. We are seeing fantastic home learning in addition to our classroom programme.

Based on your feedback, we are now exploring the possibility of extending BYOC to year 4-5 students.



Seesaw

Feedback about Seesaw was overwhelmingly positive.

Seesaw is a multi-platform app, which enables our students to share their learning with you. We have familiarised ourselves with Seesaw and believe it is an excellent fit for our St Mark's School family. We look forward to launching Seesaw with you next term. Stay tuned!



We had a rich discussion about screen time at home.

The key messages which resonated with us were:

*Not every hour of screen time is equal.
There is no golden rule or magic formula.*

Please see the following page for expert advice on screen time. Check out [Netsafe](#) for plenty of useful tips and support.



Thanks for your interest and active involvement!
As always, please feel free to contact me with questions, concerns, or feedback.

Cristy Yonetani E-Learning Lead Teacher c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz

How much is too much screen time?

There is no golden rule or magic formula for screen time - some experts say two hours a day should be the maximum, others say it depends on what your child is actually doing online. As a rule of thumb, if your child is doing well in school, playing sport or other online hobbies, has friends, and seems happy and healthy, you probably have the balance about right.

3 simple ways to keep screen time in check

All things considered, screen time in itself can become an issue. Here's 3 tips to keep it in check:

1. Watch the clock: If your child's online life is affecting their routines or their ability to interact with people offline, you need to have a talk.
2. Recognise signs of distress: For many children, the internet is a place to cope with problems they face at school or other areas of their life. Be sure to keep dialogue open to spot any such developments.
3. Meet more people: Whether it's visiting family, having people over for dinner, setting them up for sports or even just setting up a board games night give your child options to interact with people offline and see the value of it. Organise offline activities and opportunities to balance out time in front of a screen.



Is your child spending too much time online?

If the time your child is spending on the internet is having a negative effect on other areas of their development, it's important to look at their internet use.

Questions to think about

- Is excessive internet use affecting their sleep?
- Is excessive internet use affecting the quality of their schoolwork?
- Has their behaviour changed?
- Do they become angry or even aggressive if you try to limit their time online?
- Are they spending so much time online that other hobbies are becoming less important?

If your children take their phone to bed with them to ensure they can keep communicating with friends late into the night, this can lead to disrupted sleep and leave your children tired, grumpy, keen to skip school or have an impact on their learning.