



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 4
19 February 2020

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

There have been wonderful opportunities for learning together in the last 2 weeks: Year 6/7 and Year 8 camps, Junior swimming, and time to meet at the Back to School BBQ.

It is a great shift now into the routines of classroom learning - the staff really welcome this time.

ST MARK'S SCHOOL APP

Please find details of how to download this app in this newsletter. From **Term 2** we will be using this app for **ALL** formal communications to the school community including **EMERGENCY** notifications such as lockdown. Seesaw will remain a communication from children to whānau about their learning **ONLY**. **PLEASE** download this app and start using it immediately. We have strong positive parental feedback about its ease of use!

Christchurch Music Festival

It is now time for our wonderful musicians and singers to apply to audition for the special groups of the festival - junior and senior choirs, orchestra and concert band. Please follow the link below to locate an application form and fly!!

[Festival website here.](#)

Orchestra, Instrumental Groups and Music Extension.

Mrs Wells and I are currently working through new programs for our talented musicians, particularly our instrumentalists with a view to offer an extension space. Details to follow.

A message from MASH

Soon MASH will be operating a before school program. Watch this space for starting date and time.

Swimming

Our swim weeks offer 2 weeks of swimming programs for every student. They are largely water safety programs not squad or technique focussed. We appreciate that some of our families have long standing relationships with swim schools and that the progress of talented swimmers are best met outside our school swim weeks. That said we are proud of the progress of many and encourage families to access swimming programs beyond that

which the school includes. There is no compulsion for the school to provide swimming programs for every child, every year. In fact guidelines around swimming programs (under the PE curriculum) are *"The New Zealand curriculum specifies that all children should get the opportunity, through school, to learn basic aquatic skills by the end of Year 6"*.

Senior Staff have agreed to review the provision of swimming programs at St Mark's School and ask for your feedback.

Teacher Only Days

As you may be aware the Ministry of Education, as part of negotiations with NZEI members in 2019, offered an additional 8 days over 3 years (the period of current contracts). St Mark's School staff have decided in 2020 that Teacher Only days will be:

Tuesday 28th April - Teacher Only Day: Kahui Ako Kaiako day.

Tuesday 2nd June - Teacher Only Day - Curriculum (Tuesday after Queen's Birthday Weekend).

Tuesday 27th October - Teacher Only Day - Teaching and Learning Teams (Tuesday after Labour Weekend).

These days are **always** used to benefit our practice and work with students.

Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is a small group of parents - both elected and Board of Proprietor representatives: NZSTA: *Every state and state-integrated school and kura in New Zealand has a board of trustees. The board of trustees is a crown entity - that is an organisation that is part of the New Zealand public sector. They are responsible for the school or kura's performance and ensuring that all legal requirements are met".*

Among other things, in 2020 the Board has funded additional teaching staff to raise achievement and support programs - we are so grateful and so blessed.

A parents' guide - NZSTA

Ehara taku toa i te toa

Takitahi engari he toa takimano

My strength is not that of an individual but that of the collective.

Blessings everyone, Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Upcoming Events

24 Feb - 6 Mar	Year 4-8 Swimming - Waltham
25 Feb	Shrove Tuesday - Pancake Day
26 Feb	Ash Wednesday Service
	Y0-3 9.00am
	Y4-8 2.15pm
5 Mar	Swimming Sports - Christ's College - 9.30am - 2.30pm
9 Mar	Independent Swimming Zones
6-8 Apr	Holy Week Service - 9.00am

2020 Term Dates

Term 1 - Monday 27 January - Thursday 9 April
Term 2 - Tuesday 28 April - Friday 3rd July.
Teacher only day - Tuesday 2 June
Term 3 - Monday 20 July - Friday 25 September
Term 4 - Monday 12 October - Friday 11 December
Teacher only day - Tuesday 27 October

Church Certificates

Inaka	Madison A
Kōura	Emily T
Pūtakitaki	Faith L
Tuaki	Caeli McL
Karoro	Austin S
Kāmana	Thomas O
Kahawai	Sienna G/Foster H
Karengo	Vanessa A/Mirirama N

Board of Proprietors and Board of Trustees Payments

Please ensure when you pay the Attendance Dues invoice you deposit into the St Mark's School Board of Proprietors account.

BNZ account number: 02-0800- 0014224 00

When paying for camps, trips etc please deposit in the St Mark's School Board of Trustees account.

Westpac account number: 03-1599-0032504-00

Please use your family name as a reference.



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.

The Board Of Proprietors Seek Your Help!

The BoP has Trustee positions vacant which we are looking to fill.

By Deed these positions cannot be filled by parents, so we seek your help to find people from our wider community.

Do you know anyone keen to give back in this rewarding voluntary position?

Some experience with legal and/or accounting jargon would be beneficial but not necessary.

Please drop us an email at chairperson@saintmarks.bop.nz or contact Raylene on 021 300 686

St Marks Board of Proprietors

'Holding the vision of St Marks School, protecting and enhancing the Special Character'

Help!

Kāmana need 2 litre or 1.5 litre fizzy drink bottles.

Lots of them! We would like them ASAP!

We need to use them to make scientific models on Monday next week!

Student News

Tyronne competed in the Colgate Games over the school holidays and achieved the following divisional results.

1st Relay 4 x 100m
2nd Discus
3rd 100m Sprint
3rd 200m sprint
Finalist top 8 in the long jump and 60m sprint.

Miriama and Tyronne competed in the South Island Junior Surf Champs at New Brighton beach on the 15th February. Miriama won a bronze medal in the Run Swim Run in trying surf conditions.



What's new?

We are truly blessed to have such an engaged and supportive community. Thank you for your feedback in 2019. We hear you loud and clear! While we love Seesaw as a tool for sharing learning, it didn't turn out to be the best fit as a communication platform for our St Mark's School Family. There is *so much going on* in our St Mark's School Family, the information overload was simply impractical (especially for families with siblings at school). Subsequently, we are keeping Seesaw as a learning journal and launching our own School App for communication.



If you are already on Seesaw, you don't need to do anything. You will continue to receive updates from your child and their teacher, celebrating learning. Please remember that Seesaw is a learning journal and not a publishing portfolio. Mistakes are a part of learning. You will gain insight into your child's learning journey and have the opportunity to encourage them, every step of the way.

Each child's learning journey is unique. **Seesaw comments will be private within families.** Every day, we are showcasing learning, sharing in class, and utilising peer feedback to deepen learning. We know that home-school partnerships are key to quality learning, so Seesaw will be a special link between you and your child.



With our St Mark's School App, communication is simple and clear. Please feel free to download SchoolAppsNZ from the App Store or Google Play. For term one, communication will be via email, in addition to our St Mark's School App. This will ensure that key information is available for everyone. From term two onwards, our St Mark's School App will be the primary communication platform for our school.

Once again, thank you for your support and engagement. Please feel free to share your questions or feedback:

Cristy Yonetani

E-Learning Lead Teacher

c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz

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AT THE CATHEDRAL

I BELIEVE IN ...

Sunday Evensong Preaching Series
Sundays at 5.00pm

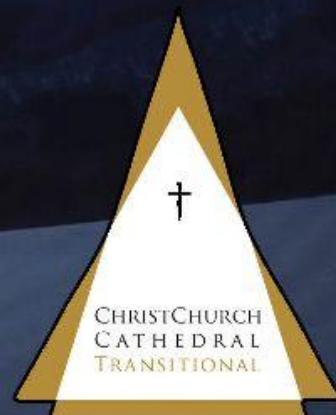
Sunday 1 March The Rev'd Canon Mark Chamberlain, Vicar General

Sunday 8 March Gareth Bezett, Director of Theology House

**Sunday 15 March Susan Rendall, Cathedral Regular
& GM of the Court Theatre**

Sunday 22 March Councillor Anne Galloway, Christchurch City Council

**Sunday 29 March Victoria Henstock, Executive Director, Christ Church
Cathedral Reinstatement Trust**



Choirs:
Threshold Choirs A Capellago
Women In Harmony

**Music & contemplative prayer to
nourish the soul and soothe the spirit**

Butterflies, Flowers & Hope

Saturday 7.30pm - 9.00pm
22 Feb, 29 Feb, 7 Mar, 14 Mar
at the Transitional Cathedral

**Art exhibition by Gaylene Barnes, Lucy Dolan Kang,
Lucy Mhoma, Robyn Webster, and Jane Zusters**
22 February to 22 March.

