



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 7
27 May 2020

From inside the School Bubble

Kia ora koutou, talofa lava, mālō e lelei, kia orana everyone in this Pasifika language week.

It remains a difference to have whānau drop off and pick up students at the gate. We are grateful as it ensures hand sanitising for everyone and means the onerous task of recording the timing of the arrival and departure of EVERY visitor to the school is feasible. Contact tracing is a key feature of the Public Health response to Covid-19. When we are able to change the drop off and pick up arrangements we will let you know.

Fundraiser and our Special Character!

During lockdown, following a growing St Mark's tradition of supporting **Shave for a Cure, and encouraged by Mr Tom Gordon's model, Max and Tommy P shaved their heads** and in doing so raised an incredible amount of money with the help of friends and family. This was a stunning selfless act given that some of their contributions came from doing chores and serving others.

This is a wonderful example of students living out our school values and expression of our Special Character. As this effort was connected to someone very close to our school, this compassion is also an example of outstanding compassion. Congratulations to everyone!

Walk with a Purpose

Speaking of fundraisers, this is an annual event and recognises our needs to think of communities beyond our borders who need our support. This year I have shifted the walk from the original date to **Thursday 25th June**. Please consider joining us on this day as we walk from our homes in honour of those children supported by the **Fountain of Peace**.

Church

Reverend Ben is currently running 3 short services on Fridays as we return to some normality. Church certificates are still being presented however we are still asking for no parent attendance at the moment. The only exception is those 5 year olds who have started/are starting so that they do not miss out on this important welcome to our school.

Special Character Review

By now I hope you have all located the Special Character review through the app or on the website.

It is my view that this review reflects the intentional outworking of a vision that is at the heart of the work of the Board of Proprietors and Board of Trustees and entrusted to us all as a gift. This issue of the newsletter is an encouragement of this. Two stories of our community in action - not just hearing the good news but acting on it.

Praise be!

Blessings, Averil



2020 Term Dates

Term 1 - Monday 27 January - Thursday 9 April

Teacher only day - Tuesday 28 April

Term 2 - Wednesday 29 April - Friday 3rd July.

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	Sonya I
Pūtakitaki	Liam O
Kōura	Marnie C
Tuaki	Olivia H/Tyree D
Karoro	Austin S/Lennix C
Kāmana	Tiffany C/Harry S
Pingao	Oliver P/Violet H
Karengo	Daniel S-O
Kahawai	Casper T
Toroa	Torbin C/Heath H

Uniform Shop

The Uniform Shop will be open on Tuesday morning 8.30-9.20am and Thursday 2.30-3.20pm next week.

To make a booking, please use the following link:

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Event code: g4sa9

You will be required to sanitise your hands on entering the office foyer and fill out a Register located outside the Uniform Shop. Your name, cell phone number and the times you are in and out of the Uniform Shop are required by the restrictions under Alert Level 2 for contact tracing purposes.



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.

PA Chocolate Fundraiser

Thank you for your support of the PA this year and with the fundraising efforts on the chocolate sales. The interest has exceeded expectations and we are pleased to inform that 195 boxes were taken home by the School community. A fantastic effort for the upgrade of our school playground.

Our original due date for payments was during the lockdown. With school now being reopened we would like to remind parents of the payment details and that payment is requested ASAP:

\$60 Per Box taken home

Electronic payment is now preferred due to Level 2 restrictions.

- Account Number: 03-1598-0015833-000
- Account Name: St Mark's Parents Association
- Reference: (Student's Room Name)
- Code: 'Chocolates'
- Particulars: (Student's Surname)

Cash payment remains an option but cannot occur until the school office re-opens. Please use the envelopes provided or instead write the same details as above onto the envelope. (Reference, Code, Particulars)

If you have chocolates you are unable to sell please hold onto them until the school office reopens.

Once again thank you for your amazing support with this fundraiser.

Best regards,
Jacinda Thomsen
on behalf of the PA

P.A. NEWS

What peculiar times we are living through at present, so many ideas and plans for the year ahead having to be reimagined and rethought. But I believe that with a bit of thought, and Kiwi ingenuity from adversity can come great things.

So far some of our normal yearly events are having to be shelved due to level 2 restrictions. As it stands at present under the current level 2 restrictions we would not be able to host our annual school fair, and you may have seen many and numerous events held toward the end of the year have already announced their cancellation.

At present The School Fair will be on Saturday 7th November and for now we are still forging ahead with our plans for this, part of our plan though will be the need, depending on restrictions at that time, to have to forego holding a Fair this year – and this is where we need to have a Plan B and other avenues to be able to fundraise. Once the P.A. are able to meet and go over the options open to us that are going to work for everyone then we will make a more formal announcement. For now though we plan to plan and part of the plan is to not carry out the plan....

Thank you to everyone who got in behind the chocolate fundraiser prior to level 4 lock down commencing, please see the instructions from Jacinda regarding the need to now receive outstanding monies or chocolates.

It goes without saying a BIG THANK YOU to our Wonderful Principal and Staff for all of their work and efforts with the on-line learning for our tamariki during lock down, for keeping them connected to the school and then the restart of school and welcoming them back in such peaceful calming ways so the transition was seamless.

Also thank you to Serena and the Uniform Shop Team for making sure everyone has got all their uniform needs with the start back to the winter term.

For now I trust you all have a wonderful long weekend.

Nga mihi nui

Gary Miller

Chairperson

Saint Mark's School PA