



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 8  
4 June 2020

**Kia ora St Mark's School - it is a rainy Thursday and the newsletter is a day late! My apologies to avid readers!**

## **Survey - We need your voice!**

This week you will receive a survey from Emily Wells seeking your feedback about online learning and learning remotely. This will enable us to put this information alongside the voice of staff and students to formulate some knowns and ways forward for the future.

I read an article in the latest NZ Principal magazine by Dr Peter O'Connor - a researcher on post disaster response - talkabout how schools and the arts in schools having healing powers. Staff have used art, music and construction to support students back to school in the last 2 weeks. I will put a copy on the office foyer noticeboard next week if you would like to read it.

## **Walk with a Purpose**

Speaking of healing and service, 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**. Further details will follow.

## **Choirs and Orchestra**

In keeping with the arts, our choirs and orchestra are up and running and I am so grateful to **Mr Paul Ellis** and **Mrs Josie Stanford** for leading our school in these areas.

Both choirs are being trained with great discipline and fun and tackling traditional and contemporary music for balance.

A school orchestra in all my years of experience **always** contains students with wide experiences. A tuakana-teina relationship exists, where those with great ability support those with emerging ability, each contributing to the greater whole. Please encourage your child whatever level they are at - they are supporting the growth and development of instrumental music in our school.

## **Move to Level 1**

As you will be aware, the Prime Minister is scheduled to make an announcement re moving to Alert Level 1 on Monday 8th June. Once we are aware of what this means we will communicate any changes in our current operations. Until then we will continue with hand sanitising at the gates, smaller numbers of students in the playground and single waka church services. Thank you for your patience and forbearance in these times.

## **NUTS! NO**

This is a reminder and plea that we are a **NO NUTS** school. There are students in our school with very very severe allergies to nuts, they have epipens and require ambulance treatment. Your child's lunches must NOT contain nuts of any variety so that we can keep these students safe.

## **Uniform shop**

Thanks to Serena and her team for enabling the purchase of additional school uniform post lockdown. On behalf of us all I think we can feel so blessed to have such a dedicated PA team working for us all.

## **New families**

One of the joys as the year progresses, is the arrival of new entrants to our school. Whilst they are listed elsewhere in the newsletter, we say a huge welcome to the students and their extended whānau.

It will be a big service on Friday for a number of these new families as we welcome them formally into our school. Where there are siblings we encourage their attendance at the service so that they may be acknowledged for their loving and caring role they play. May this be a tūrangawaewae for you all - a place to stand and be loved unconditionally.

## **Centenary**

This week I have had cause to wade into the archives. It was not easy for me to stay focused around old books and records of significance. Needless to say we need to spread the word that the school will be 100 years old next year - celebration time!!!!

**Blessings, Averil**



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

## Upcoming Events

25 June Walk with a Purpose

## 2020 Term Dates

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

Pūtakitaki	Nathan H
Kōura	Louis B
Tuaki	Alexandra H
Karoro	Piper E/Stella P
Kāmana	Indie L/Isabella da S
Pingao	Nikhil J
Karengo	Sebastian J/Miriama N
Kahawai	Olivia M/Jasmine G
Toroa	Leo M

## 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](http://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.

## New Families

We welcome the following new families to our school and pray they find a turangawaewae in this place with us:

Zabian O and his parents Amira and Sally  
Khelan L and his parents Kavita and Prashil  
Savannah S and her parent Donna  
Zara T and her parents Serena and James  
Beau W and her parents Melanie and George  
Lily H and her parents Knoychan and Tamura

## Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at [www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz](http://www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz). An easy way to order online yourself and will be delivered direct to school. Orders close on Friday 12 June. The Gift Function has been turned on in LOOP! This allows parents to place a separate order as a surprise gift for their child. Items marked as a gift will be delivered to school and will be set aside at the school office for parents to collect.



Subway can be ordered for lunch every **Tuesday**. To place an online order, visit [www.subway.co.nz/schools](http://www.subway.co.nz/schools) and follow the instructions to place your order by 9am each Subway day.

# P.A. NEWS

## 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

## Entertainment Book

St Mark's School is fundraising with entertainment books again this year but a little differently. Everything has gone digital and the book is now an app on your phone and can be shared across more than one device for your family. There are a lot of great deals in this years so to get yours go to <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/1341r76>