



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 3 Week
16 September 2021

Kia ora Te Kura o Hato Māka whānau,
Just a short newsletter in what is week 8!

Alert Level 2

Such a great privilege to be back at school with your tamariki. Thank you for your support of all our processes.

From my own perspective teaching Science to year 6 and 7 - testing for acids and bases using red cabbage juice as an indicator - was a joy for this self confessed Science nerd.

Centennial

By now you will be aware of the decision of the Centennial Committee to postpone the celebrations until 2022.

The committee has willingly and intentionally left the date and format of future celebrations to a later decision. The group of past and present alumni did not make the decision lightly, and is enormously grateful for the outpouring of support from many in recent days.

For example we have heard from Geoff Le Cren and Keith Moorfield - both ex Deputy Principals - with Geoff sending a powerpoint presentation of Springfield and Arthurs Pass camps in 1974!!

So much to look forward to!

Mary Poppins

What a thrill for our community that we have found a great spot in Term 4 for our school production. This is a significant calendar item we are committed to honouring.

Te Wiki o Te Māori - Māori language week
13th - 19th September

Kia kaha te reo Māori - let's make the Māori language strong.

This year I want to highlight the whakatauki for each of our waka - our learning areas in the school. Each represents a different type of waka and reflects the age and stage of learners in them. Remembering that as part of the cultural narrative - gifted by Ngāi Tahu in collaboration with the school, it is our responsibility to embed this narrative across the years.

Mōkihi - Aukaha kia kaha - *strengthening the bindings.*

Waka Pūhara - Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka - *Let's paddle in unison.*

Waka Hourua - He moana pukepuke ka ekengia e te waka - *A choppy sea can be navigated.*

School Holidays

I have been asked about whether the school holidays are shifting from their current position in the calendar. Whilst there has been much discussion about it in the media there is **NO** official communication from the Ministry of Education. Please work off our calendar until such time as there is a change which I will communicate to you immediately.

Kia kaha Te Kura o Hato Māka whānau.
Arohanui
Averil



Term Dates 2022

Term One

Monday 31st January - Thursday 14th April

- **Monday 31st January and Tuesday 1 February** - Whānau/student/teacher conferences

School closed on the following days:

- **Monday 7th February** - Waitangi Day observed
- **Friday 15th April** - Good Friday.

Term Two

Monday 2nd May - Friday 8th July

School closed on the following days:

- **Monday 2nd May** - Teacher Only Day
- **Monday 6th June** - Queen's Birthday
- **Friday 24th June** - Matariki observed

Term Three

Monday 25th July - Friday 30th September

School closed on the following day:

- **Monday 25th July** - Teacher Only Day

Term Four

Monday 17th October - Friday 16th December

School closed on the following days:

- **Monday 24th October** - Labour Day
- **Tuesday 25th October** - Teacher Only Day
- **Friday 11th November** - Canterbury Anniversary Day



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



FOR INFORMATION

2021 Term 3 – Policy Reviews:

As part of St Marks' Policy three-year review cycle, there are two Policies requiring feedback from school parents, Staff and Board Members this term:

- Concerns and Complaints
- Behaviour Management

2021 Term 3 - Assurance:

In addition to reviewing policy, it's 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

<u>Employer Responsibility</u>	<u>Health, Safety, and Welfare</u>	<u>Legislation and administration</u>
Appraisal of the Principal	- Physical Restraint - Risk Management - Safety Management System - Surrender & Retention of Property and Searches	- International Students