



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 9
22 June 2023

Kia ora St Mark's Whanau,

As we write we are about to complete the latest round of parent / teacher interviews. It has been wonderful to see parents and staff engaging in the important business of boosting student success. Teachers have worked incredibly hard to produce academic reports for students and the interviews offer further opportunities for partnership. Of course you can make time to meet with your child's teacher at any point in the year.

Habits of Mind

You will have noticed a new feature this year in the Habits Of Mind pathways report that captures how students are engaging with our thinking skills programmes. An important part of that process was students from Year 4 upwards self assessing their progress. This feature acknowledges the vital importance of student agency and voice.

Siblings 2024 - urgent reminder!

If your child at school has a sibling turning 4 this year - **turning 5 next year!!** - it is crucial that an application is made **before 31st August 2023**. It is vital for our planning and roll projection - siblings are automatically included in the roll.



Walk With A Purpose

The 2023 edition of Walk With A Purpose was a brilliant event. We have to thank Mrs Tania Sharr for her contribution to an event that has become a key feature of our school special character. That idea of service to the global community that is a feature of the Five Marks Of Mission is definitely outworked through Walk With A Purpose here at St Mark's. It was great to see how many students walked this year... most of the school population!

We are so pleased to see that the amount raised has topped \$5,000. What a great result!

Give A Little Page: [Link](#)



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story



Performance Choir

What a joy it was to have our school choir perform last Sunday alongside several other schools at the Aldersgate Centre. Mr Paul Ellis, our choir master, has our students performing with skill and passion. It is such a blessing to have this brilliant opportunity.



Teacher-Only Day/Staff Curriculum Implementation Day

Due to my sabbatical, I have inadvertently missed the communication about a second Teacher Only Day Scheduled for all kura/schools across the country. These days are to be specifically dedicated to the understanding and implementation of the Refreshed NZ Curriculum, I apologise for this oversight, and offer the following link for your information and the italicised communication in it indicating dates.

[Teacher-only days \(TOD\) – NCEA Education](#)

Following consultation with the Sector Advisory Group supporting teacher-only days, the period within which the second teacher-only day in 2023 will take place has been set for Term 4: Monday 13 November – Friday 24 November 2023.

St Mark's School will have this second Teacher Only Day on Monday 20th November - school will be closed for students on this day. This is now in the calendar.

This will mean the school will be closed:

- **Friday 17th November - Canterbury Anniversary Day**
- **Monday 20th November - Teacher Only Day - Curriculum Implementation Professional Learning Day**

There will be two Teacher Only Days in 2024 for Curriculum Implementation - those dates are yet to be advised.

BOT Policy Review

A reminder that the school has a policy review programme where all parents are invited to review and comment on the policy statements that regulate school operations. It is important to have your say! Go to schooldocs.co.nz and search for St Mark's.

Car Parking

Student safety is an ongoing issue for us all. Please **DO NOT** park in the staff car park or directly across the road from the school gate on Locarno Street at pick up time. That area is both an unofficial crossing point for students and a private driveway. Staff work hard to keep children safe and it is disappointing when this safety is compromised.

Everyone is invited to attend our end of term church service on Friday 30 June at 2:15pm at St Mark's Church.

Blessings to all,
Averil and Adrian

MŌKIHI WHAKATAUKI

Aukaha kia kaha

Strengthen the bindings

Upcoming Events & Important Dates

Term 2

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Thursday 22 June | Kiwi Test - English |
| Friday 23 June | Walk With A Purpose certificates for ambassadors awarded in Church. |
| Tuesday 27th June | Hillview Year 0-4 Cross Country |
| Wednesday 28 June | PA Meeting - 7pm |
| Thursday 29 June | Kiwi Test Maths |
| Friday 30 June | End of Term Service 2.15pm |

Term 3

| | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Monday 17 July | First day of Term 3 |
| Wednesday 19 July | Matariki Celebration |
| Thursday 20 July | Kiwi Test - Science |
| Tuesday 25 July | Open Day 9am - 12pm |
| Sunday 30 July | Mōkihi Church at St Mark's - 10am |
| Wednesday 2 August | PA Meeting - 7pm |
| Friday 11 August | House Fun Day |
| Thursday 31 August | Singing Cup |
| 11-15th September | Senior School production |
| Monday 18 September | Cycle Safety Week (Year 6s) |
| Tuesday 19 September | Cashmere High Testing (Year 8s) |

Church Certificates

| | |
|------------|------------------------|
| Pūtakitaki | Elspeth A/Beau W |
| Kōura | Elsie F/Alex P |
| Kawau | Sadie G/Alaska S |
| Kāmana | Lucy O'D/Imogen B |
| Pīngao | Maia-Rose A/Nicole A |
| Wheke | Aaish P/Joshua W |
| Kahawai | Ariya S/Maybelle H |
| Hāpuka | Ethan S/Ari R/Thomas F |

Uniform Shop

Tuesday 8.30-9.00am and Thursday 2.30-3.30pm

Appointment Only

Booking link and code <https://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz>

event code n682q

Musical successes to be celebrated!

Congratulations go to James P (Music Leader), Thomas F and Joseph M who successfully auditioned for the Representative Groups of the Christchurch Schools Music Festival, to be held at the beginning of Term 4. James will be playing his trombone in the Symphony Orchestra, Thomas his cornet in the Concert Band and Joseph is in the Senior Special Choir.

Every second year, (alternating with the Production), we have classes from school involved in the Massed Choir. Even though it is not happening this year, James, Thomas and Joseph will be incredible ambassadors for our school.



Performance Choir

Last Sunday, our Performance Choir was involved in a wonderful celebration of Church Music held at the new Aldersgate Centre. We took part with the choirs from Christ's College, Medbury School, St Michael's Church School and St Peter's School. It was wonderful to see Casper T, Year 8 Music Leader 2022, playing the guitar and singing in the Christ's College choir.

Aldersgate Centre was an amazing venue and we were treated to some lovely singing. I was particularly proud of our choir - they sounded incredible. Their tone was so balanced and the harmony parts were beautiful. It was also very special to have Samantha P, a past leader of the Performance Choir, play the flute for the Irish Blessing that finished the programme.

Mr Ellis is a truly a taonga, treasure of our school. He is amazing at getting the best out of our singers, both in the Year 4 & 5 choir, and with the Performance choir.

Emily Wells
Lead Teacher, Music.

On Tuesday this week our school was represented at the **Canterbury Interschool Chess Tournament** by eight of our best players. They played well and did the school proud with their focus, camaraderie and sportsmanship.

Congratulations to the team of Ryan M, Cruze S, Thomas F and Theo A-C for their efforts, securing 3rd place in the Year 7-8 division.

Congratulations also to Tyree D-A, James D, Eli M and Alex S who also placed third in their Year 1-6 Division.

It was a tough competition, with a close finish in both divisions in which we competed. Our players should be very proud!

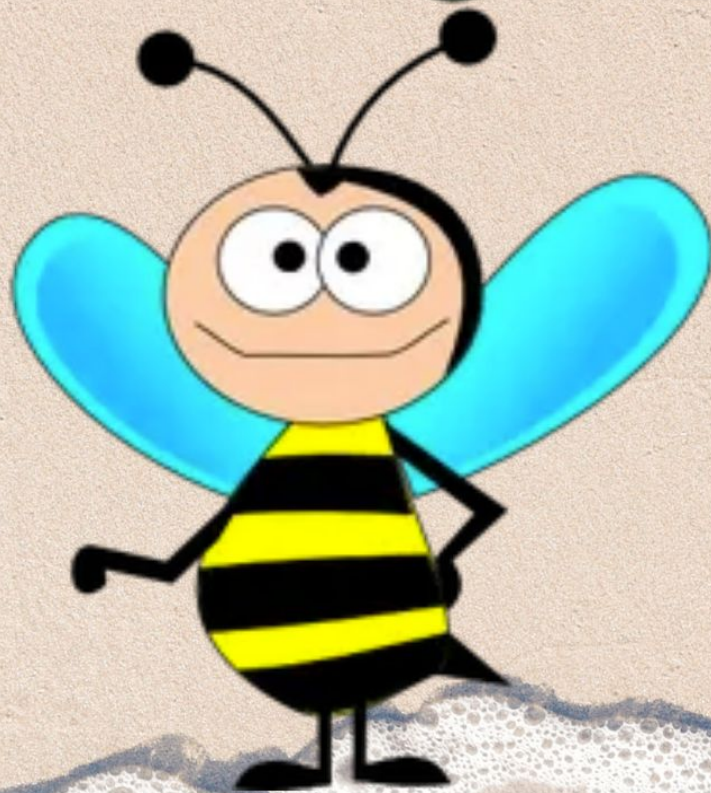


**Painting, building,
sewing and designing!**

Where: Saint Mark's School

When: 9:30am, July Monday 10th

Working Bee



**Let Mr G know how you can help!
t.gordon@saintmarks.school.nz**

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE PROPS?

We are looking to borrow the following items listed below.

1. A locket that opens and can store something.
2. Woven baskets
3. Coconuts (real or fake!)
4. Family kayaks!
5. Chicken wire
6. Fruit tree netting, or any kind of netting!
7. Monster puppets
8. Small table, podium or pedestal
9. Raffia, hessian or sacking material
10. Shell necklaces, anklets or bracelets.
11. Anything you think may be useful!

Email Tom Gordon, if you are able to help!
t.gordon@saintmarks.school.nz

Meitaki Maata!
Tom Gordon

For ages
3–17

Free
Event

Tamariki BOOK Festival

1 July 2023 11 am – 4 pm
Tūranga, TSB Space
Christchurch

Meet local authors and illustrators in a fun festival atmosphere!

Authors will be running book-related activities and selling copies of their books—you could even ask them to autograph your copy!

(Please note that authors may not have eftpos facilities)

Registration is not required. However, if you register, we'll send you a reminder so you don't miss the day.



Family Games Night

Saturday 15th July 4:30-7.30pm

St Mark's Church Hall

cnr Opawa Rd & Vincent Pl

Nibbles and drinks provided

BYO dinner

Lots of fun games for all ages- bring
one or try one of ours!

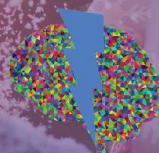
Contact Liz (021 864 376)

for further info



Opawa WINTER HOLIDAYS

3 RD-13 TH JULY



CASPA
CREATIVE PROGRAMMES

WEEK 1



THEME DAY - THINGS THAT FLY
Creating things that we make fly,
papers planes, kites and more.



EXCURSION- DRIVE IN MOV-IE
Kids will decorate their own
box's and then sit in them
to watch a movie at Queen-
spark.



THEME DAY- UNDER THE SEA
A fun day exploring the deep
sea... Crafts, games and more.

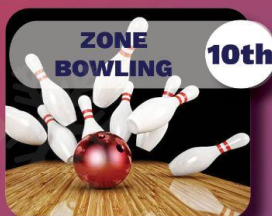


THEME DAY - WARM & FUZZY
Get yourself a hot choccy and
create some fuzzy crafts

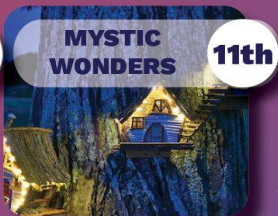


EXCURSION- MOVE X
Children will enjoy a
fun-filled outing to MOVE X.

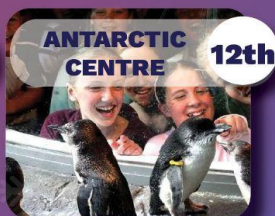
WEEK 2



EXCURSION - ZONE BOWL-ING
A fun day to ZONE BOWL-
ING.



**THEME DAY - MYSTIC WON-
DERS**
A fun day making mystical, cus-
tom creations.



**EXCURSION - ANTARCTIC
CENTRE**
A fun and educational day
to the Antarctic Centre.



THEME DAY - MATARIKI
Ring in the Matariki New
year and immerse yourself
in the Maori culture.



**MATARIKI KI RUNGA
CLOSED TO CELEBRATE
MATARIKI.**