



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 9  
15 September 2023

Kia ora St Mark's whānau,

It is scarcely believable that we are nearly at the end of another term. And what an amazing one it has been. Our production **Moana Jr** is clearly the highlight but the deeper highlight is that our whole community has been able to come together to celebrate those God given talents that we give flight to. Everyone is "fearfully and wonderfully made" and has those God given talents, Every ākonga/student, every kaiako and kaimahi/teachers and staff, and every whānau member. The production is ultimately a reminder of these gifts, and that we can use them for the glory of God.

## Moana

Much has been said on each night of each performance but in this space, it is important to acknowledge the set designers and creators and painters, the costume design and creation, the God given talents of Mr Tom Gordon (too many to name!), the working bee teams, the waka builder, the staff who have risen above and beyond expectations of their "job", the makeup artists, the alumni who have willingly returned to help and volunteer, the design and creation of Tamatoa's costume, the community audience who have so wonderfully supported our performances, the office staff who have had additional work added to their weeks and the Board of Trustees, Proprietors and Parents' Association who indirectly endorse the programs that encourage our vibrant special character to lift.

## Koru Games

We are pleased to be sending a team of basketball players to the Koru Games next week. Mrs Bigelow will be supervising our team of year 7 and 8 students as they take on the challenge of a 3 v 3 tournament against other Christchurch and Selwyn schools. Many thanks to Nariah Devereux, a past student of St Mark's, who will accompany the team as referee. It's great to have alumni coming back to support our St Mark's School Family!

## End Of Term Service and Pets Blessing

The End of Term church service will be held on Friday 22 September at 2pm in the school hall. Whānau are welcome to attend. This is a special service because Reverend Ben will be blessing any and all pets who come to school for the afternoon. Parents are encouraged to bring pets to the hall from 1:30pm in preparation for the service at 2pm. Of course, we would expect pets to be well caged, collared and safe!

## Tournament Of Minds

Congratulations to our Tournament of Minds Language Literature winners of the regional final, who will be flying to Wellington **this Saturday** to compete at the Tournament of Minds National Final with Miss Yonetani and Mr Gordon. **Charlotte P, Macky S, Lucy H, Finn B, Cowan M, Harry S, and Zach O** worked incredibly hard over six weeks to prepare for the Tournament of Minds, showcasing their teamwork and creativity in their presentation: **Percy Jackson in New York**. We wish them every success and acknowledge the hiranga/excellence that have given them the privilege to make the National event. It is outstanding that our school and talented ākonga will be representing the South Island!!!



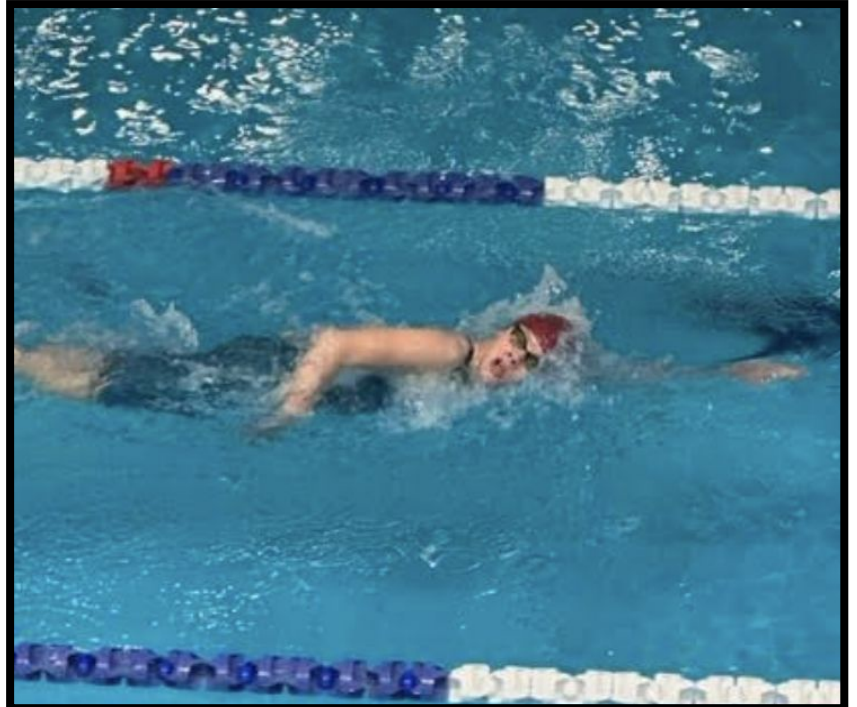
*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

### **Year 6 Cycle Safe Programme**

Every year a dedicated team of tutors from the Christchurch City Council deliver the Cycle Safe Programme to our year 6 class. This year the programme runs in the first week of term 4 11-12 October. Wheke students are excited to take part... time to check out our bikes and do some repairs!

### **Aims Games**

Felicity W represented St Mark's at the Aimes Games competition in Tauranga this week. She competed in the pool improving her national seedings in her preferred events and setting three personal bests. Congratulations, Felicity!



### **End of Term**

As this is likely the last newsletter for the term we do ask that all whānau check the lost property for all items "lost" during the term. There are a number of items of uniform particularly we would like to be reunited with their family. Staff will ensure everything from lockers go home and however the large number of unnamed items make the reuniting process a challenge. Staff have asked me to offer a gentle reminder that all belongings and uniform items are named.

Blessings to all,  
Averil and Adrian

### ***WAKA PUHARA WHAKATAUKI***

***Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka***

***Let's paddle in unison.***

## UpComing Events

### **Term 3**

19 September Cashmere High School Testing catch up day  
21 September Chess Cup

### **Term 4**

10-11 October Year 6 Cycle Safety (note the change of date)  
19 October School Photographs  
Class/Individual/Family  
23 October Labour Day  
28 October School Fair  
2 November Athletics Day Years 4-8  
9 November Postponement Athletics Day Years 4-8  
10 November Whānau Day  
14 November Zone Athletics Day  
15 November Itinerant Music Evening  
16 November House Fun Day  
17 November Canterbury Anniversary Day  
20 November Teacher Only Day - **SCHOOL CLOSED**  
23-24 November Year 7 Leadership Camp  
24 November Junior Athletics Day Year 0-3  
28 November Science Roadshow  
29 November/ Years 4-5 Woodend Beach Christian Camp  
1 December  
30 November Year 3 'Big Day Out'  
30 November Year 8 Independent Schools Dance  
5 December Year 8 Leavers Dinner  
12 December New Parent Evening  
13 December Internal Prize giving  
18 December School Prize giving

## **School Term Dates 2024**

### Term One

**Number of weeks:** 11

**Term start and end dates:** Wednesday 31st January - Friday 12th April

**Public Holidays:** Waitangi Day - 6th February,

Easter: Good Friday-29th March, Easter Monday- 1st April, Easter Tuesday-2nd April

**School Holidays:** Saturday 13th April - Sunday 28th April (ANZAC day is on 25th April)

**Parent/Whānau Teacher/Kaiako Students/Ākonga conference days:** Monday 29th and Tuesday 30th January

### Term Two

**Number of weeks:** 10

**Term start and end dates:** Monday 29th April - Friday 5th July

**Public Holidays:** King's Birthday - Monday 3rd June, Matariki - Friday 28th June

**School Holidays:** Saturday 6th July - Sunday 21st July

### Term Three

**Number of weeks:** 10

**Term start and end dates:** Monday 22nd July - Friday 27th September

**Public Holidays:** None

**School Holidays:** Saturday 28th September - Sunday 13th October

### Term Four

**Number of weeks:** 10

**Term start and end dates:** Monday 14th October - Tuesday 17th December

**Public Holidays:** Labour Day - Monday 28th October, Canterbury Anniversary - Friday 15th November

**School Holidays:** Start Tuesday 17th December - Date to be advised for 2025.





## Prize giving Cups

Children, who were awarded Cups and Trophies at the 2022 Prize Giving ceremony, are asked to return these to the school office by **as soon as possible**. It would be greatly appreciated if these can be polished before returning.

## School Photographs

These are scheduled for Thursday 19 October. Class, individual, and family photographs will be taken. Further details will be sent out next week.

## School Uniform

**Second-hand uniforms continue to be for sale at school.**

The opening hours are changing.

### Term 3

Thursday 14 September 2.30-3.30pm

Thursday 21 September 2.30-3.30pm

### School Holidays

Wednesday 4 October 9am-11am

Friday 6 October 2pm-4pm

### Term 4

Every second Friday from 13 October 2.30-3.30pm

Bookings by appointment via  
[www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code)  
 Code f3xkd

Email [uniformshop@stmarks.school.nz](mailto:uniformshop@stmarks.school.nz)

Please continue to deliver good quality used uniforms to sell on your behalf or donate. Items must be delivered with a completed seller's form (located outside the uniform shop). Item can be delivered to the second-hand uniform shop during opening hours or to the office any other time

## Church Services - 1 and 8 May





### An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



## 2023 Term 3 – Policy Reviews:

As part of St Marks' Policy three-year review cycle, the below policy requires feedback from school parents this term.

- Gifted Learners

Feedback received can be anonymous.



1. Go to [www.schooldocs.co.nz](http://www.schooldocs.co.nz)
2. "St Marks School".
3. Enter the following username and password
  - a. Username: saintmarks
  - b. Password: saint

**Reviews**

4. Click on the blue "Reviews" button.
5. To start reviewing, click on a topic name, then click the blue "Start your Review" button.

**Start your review**



# SUPPORTING ST MARK'S SCHOOL



## Part of the St Mark's School Family

For every home referred and sold or listed and sold with us within the school family, we will donate \$1000 to St. Marks School.\*

With Sonia being a past parent, now grandparent, and Sophie a current parent at St Mark's, we are proudly involved with the school community and look forward to giving back.

**Supporting St Mark's school,  
now and for its future**

\* Terms and conditions apply.

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