



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 7
31 August 2023

Kia ora St Mark's whānau,

Disney Moana Jnr.

Rehearsals for our production of Disney Moana Jnr. are in full swing! Mr Gordon and students are working so hard to produce a show we can all be proud of.

Don't miss out on tickets to the show(s) you want to see. Tickets are on sale in the school office.

Cantamaths

Last week we were pleased to once again enter a Year 7 and Year 8 team of mathematicians into the annual cantamaths problem solving competition. Mrs Learman accompanied the teams along with parent supporters. It is such a joy to be able to offer different opportunities in which God given talents and gifts have a chance to be recognised and to shine! What an amazing performance. Our Year 8 team set a personal best, surpassing the mark they achieved last year as the year 7 team.

The Year 7 team almost achieved the golden ticket, all 20 correct answers within the 30 minute time frame. They correctly answered 19 out of 20 questions, an amazing achievement!

Ōpāwaho Source to The Sea Bus Trip

Last week, Kōura and Pūtakitaki walked down to see the culturally important mahinga kai (food gathering site) just at the start of Richardson Tce.

To help give the children an appreciation of the length of Ōpāwaho, the Heathcote River, we embarked on a bus trip from the source to the sea.

We started in the Sparks Rd wetland - a flood protection initiative. Seeing all the wetland and native plants gave them an idea of what the land of Christchurch was like before it was built upon.

At Nga Puna Wai, we located one of the springs that begin the river. Our bus driver then wound us around Ashgrove Tce, Waimea Tce, stopping to see more springs at Beckenham Park.

Driving along Garlands Rd gave us a glimpse into the factories that are built close to the river.

Finally, we ended up at Settlers Crescent, looking at the ferry crossing site used by immigrants from the first 4 ships.

What an incredible awa we have!

Emily Wells and Lorraine Brereton

Winter Sport

Our Thursday winter sport programmes have come to an end. It has been wonderful to see every student in Years 5-8 competing and enjoying contributing to a team. The focus for our sport teams in this competition has always been about the Habit of Mind, Have A Go. The levels of commitment and sportsmanship from our students have been high and very pleasing to observe. We have to thank Paul Daly, Frances Ormandy, Erica Salazar and Julia Daly for giving up their time to supervise and support our teams. Winter sport would not be possible without generous parental support. We want to congratulate and thank Mr Dan Clarkson for his work in coordinating draws and transport for all of our St Mark's teams.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Tournament Of Minds

Congratulations to our Tournament of Minds Language Literature winners of the regional final, who will be flying to Wellington to compete at the Tournament of Minds National Final in three weeks' time. **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**.

Tournament of Minds requires teams to work together for six weeks without assistance from teachers, parents, or peers. Students are responsible for developing and presenting their solution to a creative challenge, which they must perform within 10-minutes in a 3x3m performance space. For our Language Literature challenge, we also had to create a 30-second promotional video and integrate it into our performance. Students worked together to write the script and create all of the props and costumes. The other part of Tournament of Minds is a spontaneous challenge, which is only revealed on the day. For the spontaneous challenge, students have to think quickly and collaborate to generate a creative solution to a problem in only a few minutes.

Congratulations must also go to Ms Cristy Yonetani for making these amazing opportunities available to students.

Singing Cup

We really look forward to this wonderful event in the life of our school. Thank you to Mrs Wells for leading us in this and the tough decisions around audition time. Please make a note in your diary of **Friday 1st September:**

Years 4 - 8, 9.30am - 10.30am

Years 0 - 3, 11.00am - 11.45am

A huge congratulations go to the 55 singers who auditioned for this year's Singing Cup.

The finals will be held next **Friday, 1 September**, in the school hall. **Parents / whānau are very welcome to attend.**

The following students will be competing in the finals

Years 4- 8. 9:30 - 10:30

Girl's Solo

Tiffany C, Caeli McL, Louisa T, Angel S, Cleo F, Isabelle C

Boy's Solo

Eli N, Joseph M, Theo T, James D, Henry B, James P

Duet cup

Tiffany C & Angel S, Louisa T & Theo T, Emily T, Imogen B and Trinni F, Willa H & Cleo Fand Jackson O'D, Thomas F & Stella P.

Years 0-3 11:00 - 11:45

Girl's Solo

Audrey G, Zara T, Sarah F, Emi S, Alaska S, Sadie G

Boy's Solo

Henry W, Wolf P, John H, Cody M

Duet Cup

Audrey G & Claire G, Monty P & Zara T, Kiara L & Veronica R

Emily Wells

Lead Teacher, Music

N.B - Our Friday Church Service will be at 2.pm on this day and will be a Eucharist Service - all whānau welcome to join us.

Chess Cup

With 88 ākonga in our school chess club, Mr Davis has had to rethink our chess cup! We have decided to run the cup over a whole day - a celebration of all things chess!! Please add **Thursday 21st September** to your diary for this event - we will leave the details for Mr Davis to share at a later date. Ka pai, Mr Davis!!

Playground

With just a couple of small items to tick off the remediation list, we are eagerly awaiting the sign-off/compliance certificate to allow us to open the playground for use. Staff are working on how this launch and opening will happen with details to follow. The extra time has allowed the plantings to establish and some of the new grass to germinate. We are grateful to the team of volunteer planters, F3 Design and our amazing contractors for bringing our playground to life. It will be significant when, with the highest endorsement of safety rating, our ākonga will be able to explore the playground, invent their own games and engage in activities that support physical, and social and emotional development in an environment created around our cultural narrative.

Blessings to all,
Averil and Adrian

WAKA PUHARA WHAKATAUKI

Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka

Let's paddle in unison.

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.

UpComing Events

Term 3

1 September	Singing Cup	
6 September	PA Meeting	
11 September	Production Week	
14 September	Cashmere High Testing	
19 September	Cashmere High Testing	
	catch up day	
21 September	Chess	Cup
11-15th September	Senior School production	

Term 4

10-11 October	Year 6 Cycle Safety (note the change of date)
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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 Uniform

New uniforms are now available for purchase at Mainland Uniforms in-store at 189 Peterborough St, Christchurch City or online at mainlanduniforms.nz.

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

The opening hours are changing.

Term 3

Thursday 17 August 2.30-3.30pm

Thursday 7 September 2.30-3.30pm

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

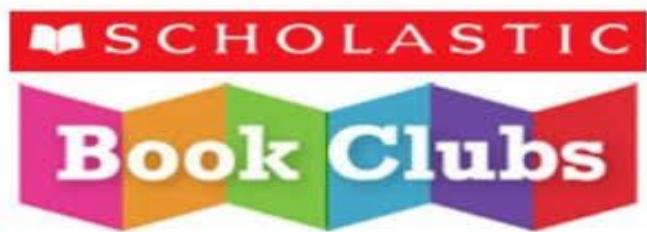
Bookings by appointment via

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz/code

Code f3xkd

Email 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



Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz. An easy way to order online yourself and will be delivered direct to school. Orders close on **Friday 1 September**.



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. Alternatively, envelopes are in the office and you can either pay with the correct cash or credit card.



KŌURA AND PŪTAKITAKI - Ōpāwaho Source to The Sea Bus Trip



Congratulations to our Tournament of Minds Language Literature winners



CHESS NEWS

On Tuesday St Mark's was represented at the Canterbury Individual School Pupil Chess Championships by 12 players. It was a great day of competition, where each student competed against other players at their year level. Well done to Zabian O, Lemarle D-A, Henry B, Theo T, Dean C, Tyree D-A, Harry S, Cruze S, Ryan M, Thomas F, Phoebe M and Islah S for taking part. You were all fantastic!

After five rounds of action we had two players who received a top three placing. Congratulations to Henry B and Zabian O, who both finished second in the Year 4 and Year 3 age brackets respectively.

Chess is booming at St Mark's at the moment with games being played regularly across the waka and chess badges going out each week. There are now 86 students who have earned the first level badge or higher.

At present I am preparing for the upcoming Chess Cup Competition being held in Week 10 on Thursday the 21st of September. At present 84 students have decided to sign up to compete in two divisions, Year 1-5 and Years 6-8. More details around the specifics of the day will be announced soon, including how and when whānau can be in attendance.



Come lounge with us in our tropical Motunui paradise
as our Saint Mark's School students present:



\$15 per ticket!

Week 9, September, 6:30pm.

See more information below!

Saint Mark's School
33 Cholmondeley Avenue
Opawa, Christchurch

Things to know

1. The **four** shows are **Monday 11th, Tuesday 12th, Wednesday 13th** and **Thursday 14th September**.
2. **Alpha** cast performs Monday and Tuesday.
Omega cast performs Wednesday and Thursday.
(Cast lists are on the hall noticeboard).
3. Each show starts at **6:30pm**.
4. Tickets are **\$15 per seat**. They are not numbered.
5. A **maximum** amount of **four** tickets per family will be available in Week 6. More will be available in weeks 7-9.
6. Children under two years old are free.
7. **Purchase tickets at the school office.**



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
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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