



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1
24 January 2020

Kia ora St Mark's whānau,

Welcome to 2020, and a special welcome to those who are new to our school family. We are so thrilled to be joining you all in partnership.

Attached !

Attached to this newsletter is some **vital** information to start the year particularly around communication.

We have responded to your feedback about the limitations of Seesaw as a method of communication and I am thrilled and thankful to Miss Cristy Yonetani for her work to create a St Mark's School App specifically to communicate with our community. You can **download (and use) the app now** where various functions are enabled. This will be our source of communication from **TERM 2**.

Interviews!

There is still time to book your interview with your 2020 classroom teacher - details in this newsletter below. These conferences are vital connections with your child's new teacher to begin open dialogue about what is important to your whānau, ways we can connect with you for the benefit of your tamariki and any areas of importance to share.

New staff!

I am thrilled to announce the full time appointment of Mrs Megan Campbell to Waka Hourua for 2020. Megan comes to us from The Graduate School of NZ, has a PhD in animal behaviour, is a past badminton representative of NZ and is thrilled to be joining us. In 2020 Waka Hourua will have four full time staff - a significant benefit to students - and staff thank the Board of Trustees for their insight and provision.

Staff Retreat

For two days this week, staff spent time in Hanmer Springs planning for the year, meeting in teams and focussing of areas of professional learning. This year the overarching theme across our learning is Kaitiakitanga. More than just governance or stewardship we are committed to ways we can reflect our Five Marks of Mission as servants and disciples of Christ. Formative assessment will be an area of significant exploration as we seek to grow our skills documenting the moment by moment changes in our students.

Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourouka ora ai te iwi

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive.

Blessings Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Have you booked your interview?

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

Our School Code is:
kzogs



To make a booking, please enter the event code:

Your school provides the event code, usually in a link in a newsletter or on their website. If you've already booked, the confirmation email we sent you also contains a link.

Starting BYMC?



Please bring your **clearly named** Chromebook (with charger) to your interview, so that we can set it up and have it ready to go when school starts.

Customise your Chromebook with stickers. Your name needs to be clear on your Chromebook and its case.



What's new?

We are truly blessed to have such an engaged and supportive community. Thank you for your feedback in 2019. We hear you loud and clear! While we love Seesaw as a tool for sharing learning, it didn't turn out to be the best fit as a communication platform for our St Mark's School Family. There is *so much going on* in our St Mark's School Family, the information overload was simply impractical (especially for families with siblings at school). Subsequently, we are keeping Seesaw as a learning journal and launching our own School App for communication.



If you are already on Seesaw, you don't need to do anything. You will continue to receive updates from your child and their teacher, celebrating learning. Please remember that Seesaw is a learning journal and not a publishing portfolio. Mistakes are a part of learning. You will gain insight into your child's learning journey and have the opportunity to encourage them, every step of the way.

Each child's learning journey is unique. **Seesaw comments will be private within families.** Every day, we are showcasing learning, sharing in class, and utilising peer feedback to deepen learning. We know that home-school partnerships are key to quality learning, so Seesaw will be a special link between you and your child.



With our St Mark's School App, communication is simple and clear. Please feel free to download SchoolAppsNZ from the App Store or Google Play. For term one, communication will be via email, in addition to our St Mark's School App. This will ensure that key information is available for everyone. From term two onwards, our St Mark's School App will be the primary communication platform for our school.

Once again, thank you for your support and engagement. Please feel free to share your questions or feedback:

Cristy Yonetani

E-Learning Lead Teacher

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BYMC 2020

Did you know?
97%
of year 7-8 students in
2020 already bring
their own managed
Chromebook to
school!

Waka Hourua (year 6-8) students are strongly encouraged to bring their own Chromebook to school.

We have responded to your feedback and switched to PB Tech for our online shopping portal. This year's options are our best *and* cheapest yet!

Please feel free to contact us with any questions or concerns:

Cristy Yonetani
E-learning Lead Teacher
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Our School Code is:
stmarks



<https://www.pbtech.co.nz/education/byod>

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Feedback

Enter BYOD coupon code to get special discounts on selected products: School Code GO



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BYMC Bundles

St Marks strongly recommend parents to purchase the bundle pack of Chromebook includes a warranty, insurance and bag.

ASUS C202SA-GJ0065 Rugged Education Chromebook bundle with Bag, Insurance and 3yr warranty - BYOD

Robust, reinforced rubber wrapped protective guard

NEW ARRIVAL



\$385⁰¹
+GST

ASUS C204EE Chromebook bundle with PB Insurance, 3yr warranty, bag.

NEW ARRIVAL



\$434⁸⁰
+GST

Acer R11 C738T Touch N3150 4G 16G Chromebook + PB Insurance + 3yr warranty + Bag

NEW ARRIVAL



\$550⁰¹
+GST