



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 6
6 March 2019

Kia ora St Mark's family,
What a wonderful start to Lent with pancake races on Shrove Tuesday and two special services today on Ash Wednesday. This service is a reflective opportunity to think and pray about those things we get wrong in our faith journey.



Charter and Strategic Plan

As promised you can now view the Board of Trustees Charter and Strategic Plan on our website. As promised the Annual Plan will appear later this week which speaks to specific ways the strategy of the Board of Trustees is outworked. I thank the Board of Trustees for their foresight and future thinking regarding our tamariki and whānau in our school now and in the future.

New Families

We welcome the following new families to our school and pray they find a turangawaewae in this place with us:

Liam B and parents Eloise and Christopher
Alexander S and parents Catalina and Mihail

Communication

Last year we trialled **Seesaw** - a program of "in time" sharing where students can send their learning directly to parents during the school day. This enables parents to be engaged at the time and comment on what their child has achieved. The **free app** allowed parents to receive this information on their mobile device.

In 2019 as a trial, we will shift the newsletter and other class and team communication to Seesaw ensuring school information is not buried in your inbox! We will make this shift in **Term 2** giving everyone time to download the app, talk to their class teacher and team leader, and practice using it's features. The newsletter and other communications will be available in print or digital form initially.



Our values story!

*Through **Grace/Huatau**, we act compassion and humility to achieve **Excellence/Hiranga** using the potential of our God given talents and gifts. This gives us the **Courage/Māiatanga** to bring about change as we show **Faithfulness/Piriponotanga** to God and others.*

Measles

You may be aware of the reported cases of measles in Canterbury and New Zealand in recent weeks. Attached to today's newsletter is a message from the Canterbury District Health Board of some urgency. We ask that you read the information and take appropriate actions for your whānau.

Swimming sports

We look forward to joining you on Friday from **12.00pm at Waltham Pool** (Years 4 - 8) for the annual swimming sports. This is a culmination of our swimming program this term.

Blessings
Averil



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

School Notices

Upcoming Events

| | |
|--------|---------------------------------|
| 8 Mar | Year 4-8 School Swimming Sports |
| 6 Mar | Ash Wednesday |
| 15 Mar | SPCA Mufti Day |
| | Zone Swimming Sports |
| 18 Mar | Year 3 trip to Travis Wetlands |

Church Certificates

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| Kererū | Aaish P |
| Ti Kouka | Pippa F-D |
| Toetoe | Thomas O |
| Kāmana | Aria R |
| Kawau | Charlotte P |
| Kūtai | Jasmine O |
| Rimurimu | Torbin C |
| Toroa | Holly M |

Sports Results

Miniball

St Mark's Tigers 13 v Somerfield Pukekos 6
Player of the Day: Loukas S

Player of the Day for the past two weeks:
St Mark's Lions - Phoebe M/Tessa W
St Mark's Pumas - Coco A/Isiah S

School Garden

Does anyone have any spare winter vege plants they could donate to the school vege garden please? The Mokihi gardening group would love to plant them now, so we can harvest them for Matariki at the end of June.



Please contact Emily Wells if you have any to spare.

Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. 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 15 March. The Gift Function has been turned on in LOOP! This allows parents to place a separate order as a surprise gift for their child. Items marked as a gift will be delivered to school and will be set aside at the school office for parents to collect.

Tena Koutou Katoa

We have been advised by the NZEI that there will be a paid union meeting for teachers on the afternoon of Wednesday 20th March.

Due to being unable to provide the required levels of supervision the Board of Trustees has made the decision that

the school will be closed for instruction/classes/teaching/supervision of students from 1:30pm on Wednesday 20th March.

We appreciate that this may cause some disruptions for families which is why the Board wishes to give parents advance notice so that they can make suitable arrangements for the pickup and supervision of their children on this date.

There will not be any ability for students to remain onsite at the school after 1:30pm.

St Mark's School Board of Trustees



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.

Coffee Cart

"School Grounds" is a volunteer run coffee cart, operating out of the school foyer.

Open Mon/Wed/Fri mornings 8.30-9.10am

Our coffees are great value, our fluffies are a hit and all profits feed back into the school under the PA umbrella.

We offer cash and eftpos facilities.



ST MARKS SWIMMING SPORTS - YEAR 4 - 8

Races commence at 12:00 noon

Freestyle – 1 length

Year 4
Year 5
Year 6

Freestyle - 2 lengths

Year 7
Year 8

Open Butterfly

Breaststroke - 1 length

Year 4
Year 5
Year 6

Breaststroke - 2 lengths

Year 7
Year 8 (straight final)

Backstroke - 1 length

Year 4
Year 5
Year 6

Backstroke - 2 lengths

Year 7
Year 8

RACE FINALS

- Some of the heats will be a straight final

Fun 1 /2 lengths

Freestyle
Backstroke
Noodle races

ANNAND CUP EVENT

Parent/Staff vs Year 8

Bede H, Jeremy H, Minnie E, Sophia W vs Mr Rennie, Mrs Learman, Mrs Bridget Sullivan, Mr Gavin Hawke

House Relay

| Julius | Cholmondeley | Williams |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Minnie E Vivek L Torbin C Olivia Y Amelia H Jasmine G Matthew C Lily B Felicity W Phoebe M | Sophia W Jeremy H Liam S Sophie W Max P Harriet P Meg W Tommy P Iva F Jessie S | Max Y Solomon S Leo-Sebastian M Emily D Ioli K Olivia M Monty S Miriam N Piper E Ben A |

5th March 2019

To all Primary School Principals

Information regarding Measles Outbreak March 2019

There is currently a measles outbreak in Christchurch affecting unimmunised or partially immunised infants, children and adults.

Measles is a highly infectious disease and is more serious than many people realise. Symptoms include fever, cough, red eyes and a runny nose, and then a rash which develops after about 3 days. About one in ten people with measles need to be hospitalised and 30% will develop complications.

The best measles prevention is two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine which is free for all New Zealand children.

Prevent measles at your school

1. Inform staff, parents and caregivers that there is measles in the community.
2. Check and update your Immunisation Register. Registers allow unimmunised children who have been in contact with someone with measles to be quickly identified to help reduce the risk of further spread.
3. Ask parents and caregivers to make sure that their children's immunisations are up-to-date. Staff born during or after 1969 should also make sure that they are fully vaccinated for measles.

Measles at your school

1. If a child becomes unwell with possible measles while at your service, keep them separate from other children while waiting for them to be taken home. This helps reduce the risk of measles spreading. *Please ask parents to phone their GP's for advice and information before going to the surgery.*
2. GPs and health professionals are required to notify the local Medical Officer of Health of any suspected cases of measles. Once a notification is confirmed, your service will be contacted by public health staff who will provide information and advice.
3. A child or teacher with measles should stay away from Primary School services for five days from the appearance of their rash or until recovered, depending on the advice of the Medical Officer of Health. Unimmunised children who have been in contact with a measles case during the infectious stages should be excluded from the Primary School. Time of isolations starts 7 days after your first contact with measles, isolation finishes 14 days after your last contact.

If you have questions about the Ministry of Education requirements please contact your local Ministry of Education office. You can find contact details at <http://www.minedu.govt.nz/AboutThisSite/ContactUs.aspx>

More Information

For further health information on measles please go to the Ministry of Health website <http://www.moh.govt.nz> or the Immunisation Advisory Centre website <http://www.immune.org.nz>

You can also call the Immunisation Advisory Centre toll-free line 0800 IMMUNE (0800 466 863) for advice.

Please find attached information for parents/caregivers for your use as required.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Ramon Pink
Medical Officer of Health
Community and Public Health
A Division of the Canterbury District Health Board

St Mark's School Board of Trustees Communication

Tena Koutou Katoa

Warm greetings as we commence a new school year in the life of St Mark's School. There's already a wonderful hum of productivity around the school with camps, trips out and about already commencing. We hope that if you are a new family to the school this year that you have felt warmly welcomed and we look forward to working alongside you as the years progress.

For us as a Board of Trustees, as you will be aware from Averils newsletter last week, we commenced with revisiting our strategic goals for the school, which then sets the operational plan developed by the leadership team.

We hope to be able to distribute this to you in early March. In developing these goals, we have incorporated some goals around a number of key themes that emerged from the community consultation last year.

It is important for all members of the school community to feel that you are represented by your board members in our decision making, and as such we have a continued commitment to consultation and engagement. Every term we welcome your feedback on policies that are up for review – as these influence the way school operations are conducted.

2019 – Board of Trustee Elections

This year marks the opportunity for a Board election. We would encourage members of our school community who have knowledge and passion for governance, for financial management, for bi-cultural governance considerations and strategic planning and monitoring to consider running for election this year.

If you would like to chat with a current board member to find out what's involved, or to attend a meeting – please don't hesitate to contact us. As an initial contact please contact Lauren Ball at laurenloz@xtra.co.nz.

HAVE YOUR SAY IN PROPOSED SCHOOL CHANGES

This term, we would like to encourage our school community to become informed about the proposed changes to the way schools will be governed and run. One of the proposals includes that school principals may be rotated every few years, and that school Boards of Trustees might be replaced by Boards that oversee many schools. As an integrated school, with a special character there may be implications – so we would encourage you to read the documentation and have your say in the proposed changes. Will will be making a submission as a Board.

The following is the proposed changes to the education model and structure which as a Board we feel could significantly impact on the way St Marks School would be governed and operate in the future.

<https://conversation.education.govt.nz/assets/TSR/Tomorrows-Schools-Review-Report-13Dec2018.PDF>

Ways to have your voice heard are as follows:

- Nationwide public consultation meetings, including one in Timaru on Wednesday, 20 February and two in Christchurch on Thursday, 21 February. The full schedule is now available on our website (venues will be added for meetings as they are confirmed) <https://conversation.education.govt.nz/conversations/tomorrows-schools-review/have-your-say-today/>

Christchurch, Thursday 21 Feb, 4-6pm – venue yet to be confirmed soon

Christchurch, Thursday 21 Feb, 7-9pm – venue yet to be confirmed soon

- An online survey which canvasses opinion on each of the 32 recommendations is now available here <https://consultation.education.govt.nz/tsr/survey2019/>

and will remain open until 31 March 2019.

- Formal written submissions about the report can be sent to: tomorrows.schools@education.govt.nz

As parents and caregivers and as a school community, we encourage you to be informed and have a voice in the shape of what education will look like for our students and young people in the future.

St Marks Board of Trustees



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee

WE NEED YOUR INPUT PLEASE



2019 Term 1 - Policy Reviews:

This term we are reviewing the following policies and invite your feedback as part of our three-year review cycle.

- **Alcohol/Drugs and Other Harmful Substances**

It is from these policies that the procedures are developed in relation to the way the school approaches these things operationally. For this reason, we want to encourage parents to become familiar with these policies and recommend any changes that might be required.

Feedback can be given anonymously if you choose

The cut off for feedback is the last day of Term 1 – **Friday 12th April 2019.**

If you would like to view and give feedback on the policy its as easy as 1,2,3!

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz and click on search for your school. Pick St Mark's School.
2. Enter the following user name and password

Username: stmarks

Password: saint

3. Find the policy that's up for review, read it, click on the red bubble in the top right hand corner of the policy and enter your feedback. (if there is no red option, pick the green speech bubble instead).

2019 Term 1 - 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

| Employer responsibility | Finance and Property Management | Health, Safety and Welfare | Legislation and administration |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- EEO Policy- Police Vetting for Non - Teachers | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 10 Year Property Plan (10YPP) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Medicines, Minor/Moderate Injury or Illness- Risk Management | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Length of School Year |