



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 3
4 August 2023

Kia ora St Mark's whānau,

Reverend Mike

It is with some sadness that we bid farewell to Reverend Mike Hawke who has ably filled in for Reverend Ben during his sabbatical. Mike quickly established great relationships with staff and students here at school as he led our church services and RE in Waka Hourua. We have all appreciated and are so grateful for his amazing energy and super enthusiastic guitar playing! It is heartening that the school and parish can call upon the services of someone like Mike when we are in need. Thank you, Reverend Mike!



School App

We need to remind families that the **School App** is a primary source of school based information for the adults in our community. As such, the information shared on this app e.g. staffing, community announcements, are intended for families/whānau adults only. Recently we have become aware that some students have the **School App** loaded on their phones. The potential that students may have access to information that is sensitive before their parents is of concern to us. It is our hope that parents will take steps to remove the app from student phones, and to attend to sharing appropriate information with students in good time, and the best family way in the future. We rely on this discretion to ensure the pathways of information are reaching those intended members of our community. Seesaw is the appropriate source of shared student learning, class news, school events pertinent to class/hapori or team/waka, and is very student focussed.

Zone Winter Tournament

We are excited to be sending four sports teams across two sports to represent St Mark's at the upcoming Independent Schools Zone Winter Tournament today. Tournament information was sent home with students on Tuesday. All whānau are warmly invited to attend this event at St Andrew's College.

Mōkihi Church

It was wonderful to have a morning of combined worship with the parish and Junior School families last Sunday with it also being the first day back for Reverend Ben from his sabbatical. Our youngest students shared a beautiful song with the parish, and then proceeded to charge down the aisle after Ben for the morning tea! If only we could share a video, what a lovely and hilarious moment!

Open Day

Last week we had the privilege of hosting between 40 and 50 people at the school open day. It is heartening that so many families are considering St Mark's as an option for the education of their children. Our Year 8 leaders were fantastic tour guides and did a great job sharing with visitors the great things about our school from the perspective of a senior student.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

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.

Teacher-Only Day/Staff Curriculum Implementation Day

St Mark's School will have a 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**

Calendar 2024

In order to offer some surety about dates for 2024, the term dates for 2024. The full calendar of school events will be published after further confirmations.

We are yet to have confirmation from the Ministry of Education as to the placement of two Teacher Only Days in 2024, which are to be dedicated to implementing the new National Curriculum. As soon as these are confirmed our school community will be informed.

St Mark's school is closed on **ALL** Public Holidays.

Blessings to all
Averil and Adrian

WAKA PUHARA WHAKATAUKI

Kia kotahi te hoe o te waka

Let's paddle in unison.

Coming Events

Term 3

4 August	Zone Winter Tournament
8 August	Digi Fest Year 7/8
9 August	Digi Fest Year 5/6
11 August	House Fun Day
15 August	Digi Fest Year 3/4
29 August	Individual Student Chess Competition
31 August	Singing Cup
6 September	PA Meeting
11-15 September	Production Week
14 September	Cashmere High School Testing
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)
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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.

Church Certificates

Raupō	Remy L
Īnaka	George McC/Josephine A
Pūtakitaki	Bastien C-B/Ava R
Kōura	Daniel P/Henry W
Kawau	Mila L/Anthony B
Kāmana	Jackson E/Emily T
Pīngao	Eli N/Faith L
Wheke	Judah C/Landon H
Kahawai	Millie H/Isabella D-S
Hāpuka	Theo A-C/Cowan M

Church Service - 21 and 28 July 2023



School Uniform

Further to recent communication advising that the school uniform will soon be available for purchase from Mainland Uniforms, we would like to confirm that this change will be effective from Monday 7th August 2023.

From this date, all new uniform items will be available either in-store at 189 Peterborough Street or online at www.mainlanduniforms.nz

The second-hand uniform shop will continue to operate at school and further updates regarding this will be communicated soon.

Many thanks again for your support as we transition through this process!

Thank you,

Ange Booth
Parents' Association Chairperson



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.



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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