



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 4 Week 6  
21 November 2018

Dear St Mark's Whanau,

Last night we welcomed new parents to our school for 2019 at an evening supported by our wonderful Parents' Association. It was an opportunity for us all to share many aspects of our school and welcome current parents, new parents and "old girls and boys" as new parents. Our thanks to those PA members who made this evening so special - we cannot achieve such a warm welcome without you.

## Chickenpox

Just a note to say chickenpox is sweeping through several classes. Further to an earlier communication via this newsletter it is vital that you inform your teacher **as soon as possible** as we have some students in our school with very sensitive immune systems. A reminder that students are still infectious until the final blisters have scabs.

## Staffing 2019

At the time of writing, staffing and class lists for 2019 have not been confirmed. I apologise sincerely for the delays in this, however there are a number of factors contributing to this delay. I am working hard to secure all staffing to support our programs and hope to share that with you next week. I thank you for your patience.

## Year 7 Leadership Camp

Whilst the Year 7 had to abandon their overnight stay at Living Springs, they enjoyed a very fruitful day at the outdoor facility there working together as a team, discussing the various ways of leading, key features of leadership including service and developing an understanding of what that looks like in a christian school. They are so enthusiastic and we look forward to their contributions next year.

## Mana Ake

Mana Ake - Stronger for Tomorrow was established in March 2018 to promote wellbeing and positive mental health for children in school years 1-8 across Canterbury. It was the result of additional funding provided by the government in response to the ongoing effects on children of the Canterbury Earthquakes.

The initiative aims to provide early intervention and support for teachers, families and whānau when children are experiencing ongoing issues that impact their wellbeing. The service can support individual children and groups of children and provide advice, guidance and support for teachers and parents/whānau.

This term our school, along with the other primary schools in our Community of Learning (St Martins, Waltham, Beckenham, Opawa, Diamond Harbour) will be working together to develop systems for accessing this resource. We will have a team of five dedicated 'kaimahi' - workers, who come from a range of NGO backgrounds involved in supporting mental health and wellbeing of children and families.

We are looking forward to being able to have these people able to engage with our children and families. If we think your child might benefit from some support through this resource, we will always discuss this with you first, and you will be able to decide if you feel this is appropriate for your child and family.

## Grandparents Day

What a wonderful time we had welcoming our grandparents and senior family members to our school. The horrible weather did not detract from numbers, warmth and the joy the children experienced sharing their learning. Thank you to all those families who were able to share the day with us and the incredible catering of our Parents' Association.



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

**Principal's Award**

**Lily B** - Creating amazing visual images in her writing.

**Mokihi Tabloid Sports**

This will be held this **Friday 23rd November 11.00am - 3.00pm**. We look forward to welcoming you all to this event. In the event of inclement weather you will be notified via our school email system and a postponement day will be allocated.

**New Family**

This week we welcome **Indigo and Violet J** and their parents **Eve and Toby**. Welcome to the St Mark's family! May you find God's love here and a turangawaewae for your extended family.

**Advent Carol Service**

**Rev'd Ben Truman** along with staff are looking forward to sharing this significant event in the life of the school with every family. The service will commence at **7.00pm at the Transitional Cathedral**. It will be a family celebration with both choirs performing, student participation in readings and prayers, and the significance of the season of Advent and Christmas highlighted throughout the service.

Blessings everyone

Averil

# School Notices

## Upcoming Events

29 Nov	Advent Carol Service - 7pm
11 Dec	Internal Prizegiving - 1.30pm
13 Dec	Prizegiving - 7.00pm
14 Dec	End of Year Service - 11.45am

## St Mark's Athletics

We would like to congratulate all our students who participated with such a positive attitude. Our gratitude to parents/caregivers for your support. We have had such positive feedback about the day.

Our top athletes went to Independent Athletic Zones at St Andrew's College. It was a great day full of participation and perseverance for our year 5-8 students.

Well done to all the students who represented our school, parents and staff who were there to help and support.

A special mention to Bede H, Julia M, Olivia M, Isla J, Elizabeth R, Ana S and Chelsea P who will all be off to Primary Canterbury Athletics on December 5th at Nga Puna Wai where they will continue to make us proud by doing their best and representing St Mark's School/Independent Zone.

## Scholastic Book Club

Order forms for Scholastic Books have been sent home. Orders may be placed direct with Scholastic at [www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz](http://www.mybookclub.scholastic.nz). An easy way to order online yourself and will be delivered direct to school. Orders close on Friday 26 October. 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.

## Sports Results

### 7 November

St Mark's Lions 28 v St Martins's Stars 12

Player of the Day: Dustin S

### 14 November

St Mark's Lions 12 v Our Lady of Assumption 25

Player of the Day: Tommy P

## Student Achievement

Congratulations to Ruby J who passed her BBO Ballet Grade 5 with Distinction.

## Join Creative Junk in the 2018 Santa Parade's

Creative Junk would like to invite children/families to come join us in being part of one or more of the Santa Parades!

- Kaiapoi, Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> December at 1.30pm
- Christchurch (Town) Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December at 2pm
- New Brighton, Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 10am
- You can make a Christmas themed costume, OR borrow one of ours, decorate a scooter and join in with us to spread the Christmas cheer.
- If you would like to be part of the fun contact Christine by phone 03 3794040 or 0211597299, email ([info@creativejunk.org.nz](mailto:info@creativejunk.org.nz)) or pop in to see us in our open hours, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11am-5pm or Saturday 11am-1pm.

# YEAR 7 LEADERSHIP CAMP





# LUNCH AT YEAR 4-5 CAMP



# GRANDPARENTS' DAY





# Athletics Report

Last Wednesday we held our annual St Mark's School Athletics day. It was great to see that everyone participated and had a go even though if they weren't the best at things.

**Rafi Wright-stow** said that it was “A fun opportunity to push yourself to get better”.

**Ioli Kuwasaki** said it was a good opportunity to try your best and show what you have and it was good to hang around with friends

**Olivia Meyer** Had fun like seeing her friends having a go and she enjoyed the sprints

The Monday after our school Athletics we had the Christchurch Independent School Zones for Athletics which was held at St Andrews College. It was a hard competition and everyone who represented St Mark's School did a good job.







## Thinking BYOC for 2019?



We encourage students who will be in years 6-8 in 2009 to bring their own Chromebook to school. We recommend purchasing through our [BYOC Portal](#).

**XX%** of our Waka Hourua students already have Chromebooks for 2019!

## This Week's Featured Chromebook



chrome  
device management



Crown  
Insurance



The rugged Acer Chromebook 11 N7 (C731) has passed US MIL-STD 810G military testing. This Chromebook can withstand drops from up to 1.2 meters and can handle 60 kg of downward force on its lid! The spill-resistant keyboard helps make this the toughest, most durable Chromebook in our lineup.

For \$531.00, this Chromebook comes with a case, education licence, 3-year warranty, and 3-year material damage insurance (\$0 Excess).



## BYOD Made Easy

OUTCOMES THROUGH TECHNOLOGY

Visit [www.cyclone.co.nz/byod](http://www.cyclone.co.nz/byod). Select your school name and you will be redirected to your schools specific portal login page. Enter the login name and password given to you from the school.

### Why purchase through Cyclone?

- **Solutions to fit your school:** Avoid potential confusion on which device to buy -- your school's portal only features devices with specifications that fit the minimum recommendations of the school.
- **Education pricing:** Take advantage of Cyclone's special education pricing thanks to their high-level partnerships with vendors.
- **Quality warranty & insurance options:** Cyclone lists devices with a three-year warranty as part of their device bundles, plus excellent insurance options with super-low excess.
- **Easy Checkout:** Cyclone's checkout process makes it simple to add the items you want to your cart and then complete your order. A variety of payment options are available, including credit card and direct deposit. Shop online, anytime!

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0800 686 686



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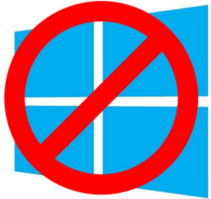
## Which Chromebook?

Any Chromebook (device with the official Chrome logo) will meet our minimum system requirements. Beware of old Chromebooks that may look similar, but don't perform as well as the newer ones. Google demands high standards for hardware manufacturers to earn the Chrome logo, and these standards have increased over the years. A newer Chromebook is likely to be better. Touchscreen and tablet mode are lovely optional features, which are definitely worth considering.



### Why not Apple or Microsoft?

Only Chromebooks can support a Chrome Education Licence, which offers the best safety, security, and learning environment for our students. Through a two-year trial and community consultation process, we have chosen Chromebooks as the best fit for our school.



We love our iPads in Mōkihi! Apple and Microsoft offer some great products, but we are a BYOC, not BYOD school.

## Why do I need a Chrome Education Licence?



### Learning

Chromebooks are for learning. A Chrome Education Licence provides the best online learning environment for our senior students. It means that the apps and sites work at home, exactly the way they work at school. We are able to customise the learning environment to meet students' needs.

### Security

The Chrome Education Licence restricts sign in to users with an @saintmarks.school.nz account. Siblings may sign in with their school accounts to share the Chromebook at home. If a Chromebook is stolen, we can remotely disable it.

### Safety

The Chrome Education Licence disables the ability to powerwash (return to factory settings). This prevents students from bypassing our safety and security measures. Students are unable to delete their browsing history and are responsible and accountable for how they use their Chromebooks.

*Please be aware that while we do our best to keep our students safe online,  
no device is 100% safe.*

*We strongly encourage families to be actively involved in our students' e-learning.*