



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 1 Week 1
25 January 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

Welcome back to the new school year for 2024. I hope everyone has enjoyed a holiday break full of family, friends and relaxation.

Whānau conferences (29-30 January) are a vital part of teachers getting to know families. The opportunity to share information about students can only be beneficial for their learning journey. Staff are looking forward to connecting with you all.

We have a number of new students across most year levels joining us next week. I know we will all extend the warmest of welcomes to those new students and their families.

It is my pleasure to welcome Mrs Kim Morgan (year 7 teacher) and Mrs Renee Spijkerman (year 6 teacher) to our St Mark's School Family. We are fortunate to be blessed with great people who are eager to serve our school community as classroom teachers.

We are excited to be able to maintain all of the programmes and pilot programmes that supported learning last year. Our specialist teacher model, dedicated maths classes with Mrs Bigelow, MODS programmes led by Miss Yonetani, Mrs Wells and Mr Gordon, targeted learning groups facilitated by Mr Gordon and learning support programmes run by our dedicated team of teacher aides will all continue this term.

Academic Results

Every year teaching staff evaluate data from multiple sources to make overall teacher judgements (OTJs) about the progress students have made and the achievement levels they have reached against the New Zealand Curriculum. These results are reported to the BOT as assurance that school resources are targeting learning for students at St Mark's and that strategic goals are being met.

Term 4 2023 Data

Writing:	80% of students achieving At (63%) or Above (17%) expected level.
Maths:	84% of students achieving at (49%) or above (35%) expected level
Reading:	89% of students achieving At (50%) or Above (39%) expected level.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

2024 Term 1 School Events

29 January	Whānau Conferences
30 January	Whānau Conferences
31 January	First full day of school for students
6 February	Waitangi Day - School Closed
9 February	Community BBQ 5pm-7pm
14 February	Ash Wednesday Service 1pm - all welcome
14 February	Year 8 Camp at Hanmer Springs
15 February	Year 5 Beach Education
16 February	Eucharist Service with Bishop Peter - all welcome
16 February	Year 8 Campers return to school
21 February	Parents Association AGM
23 February	Colour Run PA Fundraising Event 1pm-3pm
26 February	Year 6/7 Camp
6 March	Zone Swimming Event
25 March	Easter Service
26 March	Easter Service
27 March	Easter Service
28 March	Easter Service
29 March	Good Friday - School Closed
1 April	Easter Monday - School Closed
2 April	Easter Tuesday - School Closed
12 April	End Of Term Service 2pm

There are many events scheduled for term 1 of this year. It is my hope that families won't be disappointed or frustrated because they miss a notice or forget to check the school app. Just a reminder that every event throughout the term will have an associated school app message or messages. Events like camps will most likely have other communications as well and may come in the form of a paper copy, seesaw message or email. I would encourage and remind every family to regularly check the alerts on the app to stay up to date. Please do contact classroom teachers for more information if you are unsure.

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.”

Blessings to all,
Adrian