



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 3  
15 May 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

We are so busy at school! It's hard to believe we are only in the third week of term.

## Lennox Willett

We were saddened to learn that Lennox passed away last Thursday night. He was a faithful servant of St Mark's School as Headmaster for many years in the 80s and 90s. I am attending his funeral today with a small group of students whose whānau have special connections with the Willett family or with Lennox during his time as Headmaster. The school has made a donation to St John Ambulance in lieu of flowers. The St Mark's School family will keep Lennox, Thelma, Catherine, Andrew, Sophie and Hamish in their thoughts and prayers at this sad time.

## Open Day

Last Thursday we held our annual open day. We welcomed 32 different families onsite. They were well looked after by our class of Year 8 leaders. Each group had a personal tour by two students. We have received overwhelmingly positive feedback firstly on the fantastic way our students hosted each group and generally on the culture of St Mark's and quality of experience. My thanks go to Amanda and Katelyn from the PA for spending all morning at school chatting with potential new families.

## Kidney Society Mufti Day

Well done to Louisa T in Year 7 for facilitating a non uniform day gold coin fundraiser in support of the Kidney Foundation. A grand total of \$330.70 was raised for a worthy cause!

## Precious Things

I would ask families to think twice before allowing students to bring precious toys or items to school. Staff are always fearful that expensive items such as watches or electronics will get damaged out in the playground. They are much safer at home!

## On a lighter note...

**we have a new (second hand) couch in the staffroom!**  
Miss B thinks it's fabulous.



## Start Of The Day

I just want to remind families that the school day officially starts at 8:55am when classes commence. Before that learning spaces are open and staff are available to supervise students from 8:30am. **There are no adults available to supervise students before 8:30am.** We are noticing a rise in the number of students being dropped off at school before this time, even before 8am.



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*



## HABIT OF MIND OF THE WEEK

Learn about a new Habit of Mind every week in our newsletter

At St Mark's we have chosen to use Art Costa's 16 Habits of Mind as a way for students to access the Key Competencies in the NZ Curriculum. Read more about the Habits of Mind at <https://www.habitsofmindinstitute.org/what-are-habits-of-mind/>

**WE ARE LEARNING TO...**



**BUT WHAT WE ARE  
REALLY LEARNING  
IS...**

*"Habits of Mind are dispositions or thinking behaviors that are desirable attributes for learning and living productively in a complex world. People often use these habits when confronted with problems and situations to which the answers are not immediately apparent."*

In lessons we always identify learning outcomes with students. "We are learning to" is recorded on a board with the skills or ideas attached. At St Mark's we add an extra layer by saying, "but what we are really learning is..." at which point we identify the associated HOM. Students used to sometimes ask about the relevance of particular lessons or skills. They now understand that the knowledge or skills they are studying are a way to access deeper thinking skills that they can apply to a multitude of real life problems.



## 2024 Term 2 School Events

Wednesday 15 May		Year 4/5 Camp
Thursday 16 May		Year 4/5 Camp
Friday 17 May		Year 4/5 Camp
Sunday 19 May		Waka Hourua Church at St Mark's 10am
Thursday 23 May		School Cross Country
Friday 24 May		School Disco
Friday 31 May		Teacher Only Day (School Closed)
Monday 3 June		King's Birthday (School Closed)
Tuesday 4 June		Zone Cross Country
Wednesday 12 June	Speech Competition Year 5-8	
Friday 14 June		Walk With A Purpose Event
Sunday 16 June		Performance Choir at Royal School of Church Music 2pm,
Transitional		
	Cathedral	
Monday 17 June		Parent / Teacher Interviews
Tuesday 18 June		Parent / Teacher Interviews
Wednesday 19 June	Parent / Teacher Interviews	
Wednesday 26 June	Matariki Event	
Friday 28 June		Matariki Holiday (School Closed)
Friday 5 July		End of Term Service 2pm School Hall

*Aroha ki te tangata, ahakoa ko wai te tangata*  
*Love the person, whoever they may be*

Blessings to all,  
Adrian

**In case you are not sure who you want to contact at school:**

Year Level	Class Name	Teacher	Email Contact
New Entrant	Īnaka	Mrs Delwyn Wright	d.wright@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 1/2	Pūtakitaki	Mrs Emily Wells	e.wells@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 1/2	Harakeke	Mrs Sarah Quinlan	s.quinlan@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 3	Kawau	Mrs Tracey Hastings	t.hastings@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 4	Kāmana	Ms May Bryant	m.bryant@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 5	Pīngao	Mrs Liz Coster	l.coster@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 6	Wheke	Mr Ben Davis	b.davis@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 6	Mako	Mrs Renée Spijkerman	r.spijkerman@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 7	Toroa	Mrs Kim Morgan	k.morgan@saintmarks.school.nz
Year 8	Hapuka	Mrs Sarah Learman	s.learman@saintmarks.school.nz
Acting Principal		Mr Adrian Rennie	a.rennie@saintmarks.school.nz
Office Contact		Mrs Louise Elliott	office@saintmarks.school.nz
Specialist Maths Teacher		Mrs Maree Bigelow	m.bigelow@saintmarks.school.nz
Special Programmes		Mr Tom Gordon	t.gordon@saintmarks.school.nz
Pūmanawa Gifted Ed / MODS		Miss Cristy Yonetani	c.yonetani@saintmarks.school.nz

Īnaka	Ella W/Edward T
Pūtakitaki	Cairo T/Poppy M
Harakeke	Theo H/Maysie B
Kawau	Kamrin W/Nina G
Kāmana	Savannah S/Sienna E
Pīngao	Madison A/Quinn R
Wheke	Cristian D-N/Miller J
Mako	Ella B/Amelia N
Toroa	Lilybelle T/Matai D
Hāpuka	Thomas O

**Before/After School Care**

Powerzone Mobile: 021 0651917 285 Cashel  
St, Chch Email: [powerzonechch@gmail.com](mailto:powerzonechch@gmail.com)



[matthew@kidsbase.co.nz](mailto:matthew@kidsbase.co.nz)  
027 239 7690

Opawa School, 30 Ford Road



Friday the 24th of May

Come and join us for  
our

# Under the Sea DISCO

\$2 per  
child entry

Junior Disco  
year 0-4  
6-7.15pm

Senior Disco year 5-8  
7.30-9pm

Dress up encouraged. Come  
dressed as your favourite  
sea creature, mermaid or  
pirate.

## Coral cafe drinks

Juniors and Seniors

Water free

Coral cordial free

Seniors only

Cans of fizzy \$2

Disco Menu

## Coral cafe

Seniors and Juniors

Hot chips \$3

Crisps 50c

Lolly bag \$2

Chocolate bar \$2



**Prayer Meeting**

Every Wednesday morning a group of teachers hold a prayer meeting for our school and school family. If you have any prayer requests please feel free to place these in the pink wooden prayer box that is located in the office foyer. Alternatively, please ask a staff member to pass on a prayer request to the prayer group. Matthew 18:20 "For where two or three come together in my name, there am I with them."

**Student Successes**

Zach played in the open A boys' Year 7/8 basketball grade for Horomaka in the South Island Primary Tournament in Rangiora last during the school holidays. They had games from Friday - Monday. They made it all the way to the final and they lost by 1 free throw point in extra time! Incredibly nail biting right to the end. They did so well to get second and receive Silver medals.



Bram C-B and Bastien C-B from the Southern Cross Irish Dance competed at Capital City Feis at Te Papa recently. Congratulations to them both! Bram was awarded two 4ths and a 5th in Primary 8-10 age group and Bastien was awarded three 1sts, a 2nd and a 3rd as well as the medal for Most Promising Novice dancer.



Church Certificates



Welcome Certificates  
Medals



Performance Choir



Principal's Award





# 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.

**Sonia Cameron** | 027 220 5665  
sonia.cameron@bayleys.co.nz

**Sophie Everson** | 021 025 46007  
sophie.everson@bayleys.co.nz



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