



# St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 2 Week 5  
29 May 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

## **Mrs Worner**

It was with great sadness that we learned last week of the resignation of Mrs Worner from her position as principal of St Mark's. Averil's continued health challenges have prompted her to make the difficult decision to resign, something she has battled so hard to avoid because of her love for our school family.

Her contribution to our school cannot be understated. Her unfailing faith in, and dedication to this school family and the wellbeing of every person within it has been a hallmark of her tenure. In 2016 at her appointment, Averil was just the right person to bring St Mark's back to a place of excellence, inclusion and authentic Anglican Special Character. She has been instrumental in making St Mark's a sought after school for new families.

We will be forever grateful for her work, her dedication and her spirit in the eight years she has been tumuaki / principal here. We are in the process of planning a fitting farewell for Averil, an event which will honour and celebrate her amazing work at St Mark's.

## **What Next?**

Many parents have asked me what Mrs Worner's resignation means for our school in the immediate future. The answer is that the Board of Trustees now have an obligation to activate an open and transparent appointments process to find a new principal. In the meantime you can be assured that the school will carry on as we have done this year with Mrs Coster as Acting Deputy Principal and myself as Acting Principal.

## **Colour Run**

We were pleased to be able to give out most of the prizes from this event to students who secured sponsorship. There have been supply issues from the company that were no fault of our school based organising people. Mrs Jacinda Thomson and Mr Gordon have done an amazing job facilitating a brilliant event and raising some valuable funds for the PA. Even now there are some items on backorder. Students and families need to understand that they will be delivered in due course when they are available.

## **Disco**

Much fun was had last week at the two school discos! Many thanks to Anna Miller and her dedicated team of helpers from the PA for their great work in facilitating a wonderful event for students.

## **Outdoor Education**

In reviewing our Waka Pūhara Woodend Camp, staff have noticed a much higher than usual level of anxiety among students as they face the prospect of being away from home, especially in the younger students. We always shape the design of programmes to meet the needs of students and it is clear that the camp in its present form did not suit the needs of many students. I would like to signal now that in 2025 it is likely that a modified camp experience will be offered and be enhanced by a number of day trips that include rich learning experiences outside of the classroom for students. This approach will also greatly reduce the financial burden for families



*Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story*

## 2024 Term 2 School Events

Friday 31 May

Monday 3 June

Tuesday 4 June

Wednesday 12 June

Friday 14 June

Sunday 16 June

Transitional

Cathedral

Tuesday 18 June

Monday 24 June

Tuesday 25 June

Wednesday 26 June

Wednesday 26 June

Friday 28 June

Friday 5 July

Teacher Only Day (**School Closed**)

King's Birthday (**School Closed**)

Zone Cross Country

Speech Competition Year 5-8

Walk With A Purpose Event

Performance Choir at Royal School of Church Music 2pm,

Sport/Cultural Photos

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Parent / Teacher Interviews

Matariki Event

Matariki Holiday (**School Closed**)

End of Term Service 2pm School Hall

### Nā tō rourou, nā taku rourouka ora ai te iwi

With your food basket and my food basket the people will thrive. This whakataukī encapsulates the notion that while working in isolation might result in survival, working together can take people beyond survival and onto prosperity.

Blessings to all,  
Adrian

### Canterbury Interschools Chess Competition

Yesterday eight St Mark's students represented the school in the Year 7 and 8 levels. Our first team, consisting of **Zach O**, **Tyree D A**, **James D** and **Harry S** swept the competition, scoring a full 10 points by winning every matchup in the five rounds they played. They took home the trophy as regional champions and have qualified for the National competition at the end of Term 3. Well done to them and to our second team who had a great event also, finishing with 5 out of ten points. You have done the school proud with your competitiveness, sportsmanship and camaraderie through the event. Ben Davis.



**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.ennie@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

## 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

## 2024 Cross Country Results

### Year 4 Girls

### Year 4 Boys

1st	Sophie M
1st	Leo D
2nd	Rosario M
2nd	Zabian O
3rd	Minnie B
3rd	Jesse Macp

### Year 5 Girls

### Year 5 Boys

1st	Alice A
1st	Eli A-S
2nd	Trinni F
2nd	Archie S
3rd	Naomi R
3rd	Henry B

### Year 6 Girls

### Year 6 Boys

1st	Cleo F
1st	Henry D
2nd	Maia-Rose A
2nd	Louis B
3rd	Indigo J
3rd	Zaia O



1st	Zachary O
2nd	Sofia D
2nd	Harry S
3rd	Hannah T



**Church Certificates**

Īnaka	River F/Ben H
Pūtakitaki	Remy L/Billy E
Harakeke	Daniel P
Kawau	Elsbeth A/Wynn F
Kāmana	Sienna F
Pīngao	Iwin J
Wheke	Maia-Rose A/Ariki E
Mako	Dean C/Cleo F
Toroa	Aroha S/Judah C
Hāpuka	Isabella S/Alby P/Joseph M





## DEAR PARENTS/CAREGIVERS

We would like to extend a warm invitation to the St Mark's School community to join the 6th annual St Mark's School - Fountain of Peace NZ - Walk with a Purpose fundraising event on Friday the 14th of June, where students and family members are invited to walk from their home to school. The significance of walking to school is that many children in Uganda where Fountain of Peace works, have no option other than to walk to and from school every day, often very long distances and often on an empty tummy.

The St Mark's School students are passionate about making a difference and this year have decided to raise funds towards the care of the babies at Fountain of Peace Bethel Babies Home, towards the care of our older children living in family based homes and towards purchasing 'mama packs' for vulnerable pregnant mothers. We are incredibly grateful that last year funds raised from the St Mark's School 2023 Walk with a Purpose went towards caring for the babies in the care of Fountain of Peace and towards the completion of Canterbury House, a family home for eight babies and children and their new mum. Thank you so very much to all who contributed towards making a difference in these areas last year. We are truly grateful for your support. (Pictured above is one of the baby boys living at Bethel Babies Home).

This fundraiser is driven by kids, for kids and it is the St Mark's School students who have chosen the details for this fundraising event such as where the funds will go and what their fundraising goal will be. For students and family members wanting to take part in this uplifting event they can either walk from their home taking their own route, or join one of the four official walking routes starting from Westmarland, Barrington, Central City (these three routes will link together) or East City. Walking route maps will be sent out in the next couple of weeks. All walkers should aim to arrive at school around 8.30am. A huge thank you to the St Mark's School Parents Association who will be providing a hot drink and snack for walkers when they arrive at school.

If your child would like to join this year's Fountain of Peace NZ - Walk with a Purpose event please click on this link to complete the registration form, <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf5G7JzG0h8IQtgF0MMj-QRgcNQ35Apy8P04jv79N89gdQ/viewform>. We require adequate numbers of adults to join and sign up details for adults can also be found on this form. To gain sponsorship for your child's Walk with a Purpose, please share the following givealittle link <https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/st-marks-school-2024-fountain-of-peace-nz-walk>. You could also go to the givealittle website and search St Mark's School.

- Students walking can wear multi, and may remain in this for the rest of the day. Please ensure they wear appropriate clothing including comfortable walking shoes. Thermals, jacket, hat and gloves may be required.
- Students may wish to carry a light bag for the walk if an adult is able to drop their school bag to school for when they arrive.
- It is recommended that walkers take a drink bottle, snacks and any personal medication (i.e. asthma inhaler), head torch and rain jacket on the walk.
- Walk will go ahead in light rain, however, if extreme weather is forecasted, St Mark's School will communicate postponement details.
- Pack extra food in your child's lunch box, as they might be very hungry.
- A safety briefing will be given by event coordinators before the walk begins.
- One parent per five children needed. Adults will be allocated to students for supervision on the walk until arriving at school grounds. Adults required at front and back of walking groups and to ensure safety at all road crossings. High visibility clothing recommended if available.
- Arrive at school by 8.30 am and celebrate with a hot drink provided by the Parents Association.
- An official group photo will be taken before starting the school day.
- Smile, knowing you are making a huge and lasting difference in the lives of children and vulnerable women in need. (Pictured below is a photo taken following St Mark's School 2024 - Fountain of Peace NZ - Walk with a Purpose event)

For questions, please contact -

Tania Sharr  
Canterbury Coordinator  
Phone - 021 380 859, Email - [tania@fountainofpeace.org.nz](mailto:tania@fountainofpeace.org.nz)  
Website - <https://www.fountainofpeace.org.nz>



# 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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