



St Mark's School Newsletter

Term 3 Week 1
23 July 2024

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

Welcome back to Term 3! It is lovely to see students come back to school excited to reconnect with their friends and teachers.

Mrs Worner's Farewell

The school community is invited to a church service to farewell Mrs Worner on Friday 26 July at 1:45pm in the school hall.

Senior Sport

We are challenged at the moment with a lack of adults to supervise our sport teams as they travel to play other schools on Thursday afternoons. Student safety and adequate adult supervision are priorities as students go offsite to many venues. The winter sport programme runs for the first five weeks of this term.

It is likely we will have to default some teams and keep them at school if we do not source additional parent support in the next few weeks.

If you can help please email t.hastings@saintmarks.school.nz.

St Mark's Special Character

In developing content for our new website, it has been an interesting challenge to actually write down descriptions of the many unique features of our school. I have included some pages in this newsletter from our new website that describe our Anglican Special Character with reference to our school culture. It is timely, as our Board of Proprietors is reviewing our Special Character this term. What a great reminder for us all of the things that matter here, the values upon which we base everything we do.

Library Revitalise

Mrs Spijkerman is making some great changes in our Ōmoho space like the amazing lego table pictured. She would like to ask if anyone is willing to donate some potted plants. Please email her at r.spijkerman.school.nz with offers.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story



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Whānau Day at Te Kura o Hato Māka, St Mark's School



Dear Parents / Caregivers,

Date: Thursday 15 August
Time: 9:00 - 10:00am in classes
10:00 - 10:30 picnic morning tea
10:30am event concludes

What to bring: A picnic morning tea for you and your children

This is a special morning where students invite extended family to come to school, to share and celebrate their learning. Students are always excited to have grandparents, aunts and uncles spending time with them in classrooms.

We have revised the programme for 2024.

9:00am Whānau join students in their classrooms and engage with the activities organised by teachers.

You may need to spend time in more than one classroom if you are connected to more than one student. You can move anytime within the hour or so dedicated to class time.

10:15am Whānau picnic morning tea. Please bring along some kai for a morning tea with your child(ren). This is not a shared morning tea and could be affected by weather.
If it is wet, we will move the picnic inside various buildings where families can sit together.

The PA will open the coffee cart especially for this event with coffees and hot chocolates available to purchase.

Many thanks in advance for your support of this wonderful event!

Adrian Rennie
Principal



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Anglican Special Character at Te Kura o Hato Māka St Mark's School



St Mark's is the only Anglican integrated primary school in the South Island. We celebrate God's love in an inclusive and caring environment.

Hiranga Excellence

to achieve excellence, using the potential of our God given talents and gifts.

Māiatanga Courage

This gives us the courage to act to bring about change,

Diriponotanga Faithfulness

as we show faithfulness to God and others.

Māiatanga Courage

This gives us the courage to act to bring about change,

An evolving Special Character



The true nature of special Anglican character at St Mark's School has grown and developed over the last 8 years.

There is an overwhelming sense of authenticity around Anglicanism within the school. Teachers are encouraged to regularly talk about God with students. Prayer is a regular and often spontaneous activity within the school.

The school is perceived in the community as a safe place for learning and a place where God's love is realised and shared. The number of applications for enrolment and subsequent waiting lists are indicators of this. St Mark's is viewed as "a great school" and a place where all are included and cared for.

The other key aspect to our special Christian character is the way we have collectively achieved high levels of relevance for young students both in our RE programmes and in church services. It is worth noting that a large proportion of this can be attributed to the personalities of staff members delivering these programmes. The special character in 2024 is integrated into every aspect of school operation. It is authentic.

We are fortunate to have the services of Chaplain Teresa to run Friday church and RE in the interim between vicars.

Evidence of the special character can be found in:

- School Culture
- The language regularly used by staff and students
- The regular use of Te Reo in classes and church
- Special events (whānau day, arts celebration etc)
- Catering for diverse learning needs in MODS and dyslexia groups
- Awards Structure
- Church Services
- Kapa Haka
- Choirs
- Religious Education
- Relationship with St Mark's Church
- Service to the local and global community
- Devotional Prayers
- Staff Prayer Group
- A kind and caring playground

What happens at school?



Every Monday, our senior students lead a service where:

- Certificates are awarded for a range of successes.
- Students learn their waka whakatauki.
- Everyone sings together our praise and worship songs.
- We have a bible reading and reflect on it.
- Students pray the school prayer.
- We sing the national anthem.
- We learn our school values.

Every Friday, we go to church at St Mark's church. In that service:

- Students pair up with their church buddies and walk together.
- We have a reflective sermon.
- Special certificates are awarded for success in our school values.
- Special Principal's Awards are awarded for stand out success.
- When new students start the whole school prays for them.
- Whānau are invited to worship with us.
- We sing together our praise and worship songs.
- A class shares prayers written by the students, even our smallest 5 year olds.
- Our junior and senior choirs perform.
- We celebrate God's love.

Each class has regular Religious Education classes.

Students are taught to show **love and care** for every person.

Students are taught to include others.

Everyone views our school as a ***St Mark's School Family***.

2024 Term 3 School Events

26 July	Mrs Worner's End of Year service - 1.45pm
02 August	Zones Winter Tournament
15 August	Grandparents/Whānau Day
16 August	Walk with a Purpose
05 September	Canterbury Primary Winter Tournament
19 September	Singing Cup
23-26 September	Year 6 Cycle Safety
27 September	End of Term Service - 2pm

2025 Term Dates

Term 1	
11 weeks.	
Monday 27 January - Friday 11 April.	
Includes:	Learning Conferences 27 - 28 January Regular classes start on Wednesday 29 January
	Waitangi Day Thursday 6 February
Term 2	
9 weeks.	
Monday 28 April - Friday 27 June.	
Includes:	Kahui Ako Teacher Only Day Friday 30 May King's Birthday Monday 2 June Matariki Friday 20 June
Term 3	
10 weeks.	
Monday 14 July - Friday 19 September	
Term 4	
10 weeks.	
Monday 6 October - Friday 12 December	
Includes:	Labour Day 27 October Canterbury Anniversary 14 November

During the holidays James, George, Zach, Harry, Finn (not pictured) and Mr Davis competed in the South Island Rapid Chess Championship - it was a tough day of intense competition but thoroughly enjoyed by all. Well done to Zach who finished with the best final score out of the St Mark's contingent, edging out Mr Davis by half a point.





ST MARK'S SCHOOL - FOUNTAIN OF PEACE NZ WALK WITH A PURPOSE 2024 NEW DATE - FRIDAY 16TH AUGUST

An opportunity to walk together as a compassionate and caring school community raising funds to save lives and make a lasting impact in the lives of children in need.

Link to details and for registration - <https://forms.gle/kmG5KGjQTsJyg5n57>

Please share the following givealittle link to gain sponsorship -
<https://givealittle.co.nz/fundraiser/st-marks-school-2024-fountain-of-peace-nz-walk>

- Join one of the four official walking routes, or make your own way to school. (Maps to follow).
- Students walking can wear mufti 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 wonderful 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.

For questions, please contact

Tania Sharr
Canterbury Coordinator
Phone - 021 380 559.
Email - tania@fountainofpeace.org.nz
Website - <https://www.fountainofpeace.org.nz>

Photo following last years St Mark's School Fountain of Peace NZ Walk with a Purpose event



TERRY FOX RUN

10am Sunday, 15 September 2024



Hagley Park, Christchurch
(Armagh St Bridge entrance)

&



Barry Curtis Park, Auckland
(Stancombe Rd entrance)



It's a family-friendly 5km charity fun run/walk.

Participation is FREE!

100% of fundraising goes towards
cancer research in NZ!



CANCER RESEARCH TRUST
NEW ZEALAND

Titikaha Rangahau i ngā Mate Pukupuku

Terry Fox was an inspirational young man who set out to run across Canada after losing a leg to cancer.

Every year since 1981, people around the world have been taking part in Terry Fox Runs, the world's largest one-day fundraiser for cancer research.



THE TERRY FOX
FOUNDATION

Register at:

<https://terry-fox-run-nz.raisely.com>

www.instagram.com/TerryFoxRunNZ

www.facebook.com/TerryFoxRunNZ

TerryFoxrunNZ@gmail.com



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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