

Warrior News

Saint Mark Lutheran School extends the love and care of Jesus Christ to all people, while nurturing families and preparing students to integrate faith with life, through quality Christ-centered education.

**Saint Mark Lutheran School
Kaneohe, Hawaii**

August 2015

A Message from the Head of School

We are four weeks into the new school year, and I am happy to report that the students seem to be settling in nicely. We are excited to welcome two new educators to the Saint Mark ohana this year - **Mr. Nathan Fosket** (grade 5) and **Ms. Brooke-Lee Kaululauu** (aftercare). Please join me in extending to both of them a warm aloha as they join our family.

The complete 2015-2016 Saint Mark faculty and staff are listed as follows:



Kindergarten - **Mrs. Gonzalez**
Grade 1 - **Mrs. Venegas**
Grade 2 - **Mrs. McMillian**
Grade 3 - **Ms. Gerling**
Grade 4 - **Ms. Camit**
Grade 5 - **Mr. Fostket**



Middle School Science, Math & Bible - **Ms. Pelletier**
Middle School English, Math & Bible - **Mrs. Schroppel**
Middle School Social Studies, English & Bible - **Mrs. Souki**
Middle School P.E., K-5 Bible & Director of Christian Education - **Ms. Morris**
Middle School Art, Grade 2 Educational Assistant & After Care Dir. - **Mrs. Gibo**
Assistant Head of School, Director of School Programs & Athletics - **Mrs. Kong**
Band, 4 & 5 Ukulele, K-2 Choir, 5 & 6 Choir, and 7 & 8 music - **Mr. Bauchle**
3 & 4 Choir and K-2 Choir accompanist - **Mrs. Pescht**
Kindergarten Educational Assistant & Before Care Worker - **Mrs. Akaka**
Grade 1 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Ms. Courtney Gibo**
Library, Grade 1, 3 & 4 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Mrs. Manu**
After Care - **Mrs. Gibo, Mrs. Manu & Ms. Courtney Gibo & Ms. Brooke**
Administrative Assistant/Admissions Coordinator - **Mrs. Lee**
Business Manager - **Mrs. Lawrence** and Pastor - **Rev. Matthew Hilpert**

As is customary at Saint Mark, in addition to the new staff, we also want to welcome all of our new school families and welcome back our returning families. We know that you have many choices when it comes to your children's education, and we thank you for putting your trust in us. You continue to be our most important ambassadors, and we greatly appreciate your commitment!

PTC - Funding Teacher Programs

As we plunge into the new academic year, the Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) would like to take some time to highlight just a few of the wonderful things last year's PTC accomplished with your generosity and support.

The PTC played a large role in assisting the school with its **5th Annual Gala**, which brought in **over \$20,000** to support the school's growing financial aid program as well as technology developments in the classrooms. The PTC also created a new process whereby faculty members may request PTC funds to purchase classroom supplies and to help fund enrichment opportunities for the students. Since then, the PTC has voted to award over **\$1,400** in funding to help purchase equipment for the **Warrior News Team**, equipment for **classroom literacy centers**, equipment for the **school vegetable and butterfly garden**, etc.! The PTC also held its annual **Rummage Sale Fundraiser** to help support the PTC in carrying out its mission, and also hosted its annual **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** to thank the faculty and staff for all they do for our students.

This year, the PTC has a lot of fun and exciting activities planned, and with your continued support, we are looking forward to another great school year!

Dates to Remember

September 1: Mid-Quarter Reports go home

September 6: Grades 5 & 6 Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 7: Labor Day No School

September 11: Fall Family Night - Movie Night

September 16: Kindergarten Grandparents' Day

September 14-18: Scholastic Book Fair

September 14: PTC / Gala Planning Meeting at 5:30pm

September 20: Grades 3 & 4 Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 23: Fall Picture Make-up Day

September 25: 1st Quarter Ends

September 28 - October 9: Fall Intersession

September 28 - October 2: Grades 6-8 Report Cards mailed home

October 12: School Resumes K-5 Report Cards go home with students

Saint Mark
PTC
Parent Teacher Committee

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: On your mark, get set, go! Kindergarten is off to a fantastic start! The kindergarteners were excited to start kindergarten at Saint Mark Lutheran School. During these first weeks the students



Grade 8 students reading to their kindergarten chapel buddies

have been busy getting to know each other and making new friends, reviewing numbers and letters, and learning about Jesus. They also got a chance to meet and spend time with their new eighth grade chapel buddies. This month the kindergarteners can't wait to cool off from the summer heat and go swimming at the Kokokahi

YWCA. They are excited and looking forward to learning lots of new things and having a great school year.

First Grade: The first graders have experienced a lot of "firsts" in the first month of school. They have completed their first math minute, spelling test, art project, gumball math and friendly letter. They also learned about raz-kids on-line reading center. Last week, they enjoyed lunch with their seventh grade chapel buddies. They had a successful first two weeks of swimming lessons at YWCA. The children are looking forward to their first Open Market at the end of the quarter. They have been anxiously saving their play money! Thank you to those who came to Back-To-School Night Orientation. It has been a wonderful start to a new year!



Grade 1 students "Hanging Out" with their grade 7 chapel buddy

Second Grade: The super second graders started off the school year learning valuable rules and procedures in class. Then the fun began! They learned how to use "green screen" technology to make pictures of them flying above cities and galaxies. They also completed two STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) projects. This week, they are finishing chapter one of their math book, learning about communities and studying for their very first spelling and vocabulary quizzes. They are also learning about all of God's creation through their *One in Christ* books and activities they are doing with Ms. Morris. Overall, the second graders are off to a great start!

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: Hello from the third graders! We are busy learning about place values in math. We take a daily speed drill in addition and are getting faster by the day! Our class has started learning how to control our pencils and chalk to get ready for cursive writing. All the students have



Grade 3 students helping one another with a collaborative reading activity

met with the teacher one-on-one to read aloud. We have been busy getting to know each other and learning how to work together to make the SMLS third grade class the best it can be!

Fourth Grade: Fourth graders are really taking off! The students are adjusting to the new work and

activities in fourth grade and are discovering how our amazing Hawaiian islands were created. Lots of volcano exploring is being done and interesting facts uncovered. A special guest visited us to do a presentation on our island geology.



Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: Fifth grade successfully got to work right out of the gate this year. The big project we are working is our Native American Study. The class is split into 4 groups, each representing a Native American region. The groups have been working over the last couple of weeks to masters their region by making posters, 3D

models and other different ways to display what they know about the group. They will then teach the rest of the class about their Native American group. Students are learning to work together, find information through books and the internet, as well as creatively present what they have learned.



Grade 5 students get into the spirit for their presentations on the South-west Native Americans

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

Sixth grade Bible is studying the unit focusing on Jesus's birth and life, connecting to the church season of Epiphany.

Middle school science classes started the year with a fun and interesting gummy bear lab. **Sixth grade** is now studying different types of landforms and how they are represented on maps. **Seventh graders** are studying organisms and how they are classified and **eighth graders** are studying matter, more specifically, the characteristics and states of matter.

Seventh grade math students are adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing decimals and integers, using the order of operations and finding mean, median, mode and range of sets of numbers.

Eighth grade Algebra class is finishing up a review chapter on functions and patterns, and also looked at scatter plots and other graphs and ways to display data.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade students are really stepping up to the responsibility of being chapel buddies with the 1st graders, and enjoyed eating lunch and having recess with them.

In **Bible** we are learning about God and His Word. Our focus this year is 1 Thessalonians 5:11 "Therefore ENCOURAGE one another and build one another up, just as you are doing."

Sixth grade math has reviewed place value, exponents and estimation. **Seventh and eighth grade pre-algebra** students are learning

the language of Algebra and studying algebraic expressions and Integers. The first test is coming up!

The **eighth grade english class** is reviewing *Shurley*, classifying sentences, working on essay writing, vocabulary (*Wordly Wise*) and literature. They are also reading *Uglies*, a young adult book about a utopian society where everyone gets to become "pretty" on their 16th birthday.

Mrs. Souki's News:

Bible class had fun getting to know their chapel buddies. **Eighth graders** read them a few books on prayer and helped with a craft. They brought in templates of cell phones and a picture of Jesus so the kindergarteners could "call" on Jesus whenever they need anything.

Sixth grade English students took their first *Wordly Wise* and *Shurley* tests and are singing jingles and learning about grammar. A figurative language poetry unit and working with personification and onomatopoeia poetry are next. They will start a class novel soon.

Seventh grade English has completed the first *Wordly Wise* and *Shurley* tests. Students continue to sing jingles and learn about sentence structures and grammar. The first class novel is *The Giver* and there will be a poetry unit in a few weeks.

In **world history sixth graders** are enjoying new textbooks and learning basic concepts of history like historical sources, maps, themes of geography, etc..

Seventh grade World Geography

students are studying the physical structures of the Earth, then moving on to economic, political, and cultural systems for a basic understanding of how humans interact with the world.



Eighth grade U.S. history is studying Native American tribes and nations. They will also study the European explorers and the motivation behind their journeys. Then students will visit the Mission House Museum as we study the colonization of North America and the American Revolution.

Miss Morris' News:

Saint Mark Lutheran Church invites all school families to come and check out our exciting ministries. We offer Sunday School, Youth Quest, High School Bible Study, Women's Bible Study, and Men in the Word. Our Keiki and Youth Ministries also have fun events. For more information please email Ms. Morris at sarah@stmarkhawaii.org. We hope you and your student grow academically and also in your faith in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

The students in **middle school P.E.** began their first Fitnessgram Testing, giving us a baseline to see how we develop in our athleticism this year. We are starting volleyball to get ready for a great Volleyball season for our varsity and junior varsity teams. For more information on Fitnessgram Testing please see Ms. Morris' teacher webpage.

Saint Mark Lutheran School is On-line!



Check out the School Website as it continues to be updated!

Saint Mark Website
www.smls-hawaii.org

If you haven't done so already, please sign up to receive **automatic e-mail alerts** when new items are posted to the school website. It's a great way to stay connected!



Athletics

The varsity volleyball season has begun! Coach Kuulei is once again coaching both the boys and girls. We are looking forward to a fun and exciting season with not only 7th and 8th graders but also a few 5th and 6th grade boys! Look for our game schedule on the school website and come out and cheer on our teams.



2015-2016 Faculty and Staff at the Installation and Rededication Church Service on August 2



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is a voluntary parent teacher organization with the goal of helping to improve and enhance the learning environment for the students of Saint Mark.

The PTC is busy at work planning the **6th Annual Benefit Gala...**



The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 7 at The Pacific Club** and will include an evening of wonderful food, live entertainment and an exciting silent auction for our community and friends. The money raised in this event will be used to support our very important financial aid program and to continue our enhancement of the school's technology (new computers, iPads, etc.).



Thank you to the parents who have offered to serve and assist with the PTC!

This & That

On Wednesday, September 16th, the kindergartners will celebrate **Grandparents' Day**. They will proudly show off all they are learning and introduce papa and tutu to their classmates and classroom.

Make plans to attend the **Fall Family Night** on Friday, September 11. It will be a fun-filled movie night with the fourth graders selling food as a fundraiser for their Big Island trip.

September 14-18 is our **Fall Scholastic Book Fair**, it will be open on the Fall Family Night. If you are interested in helping with the book fair please call **Mrs. Lee** in the school office.

The August Chapel Offerings will go to **Lutheran Bible Translator**.

September offerings are going to the **Aloha United Way**. Mahalo for your support!



The middle school students enjoyed some fun in the sun after two days of intensive middle school readiness training

Please put your child's name on jackets, lunch boxes, etc. If something hasn't made it's way home please come and check the **lost and found** in the school office.

Saint Mark will once again be participating in Foodland's annual **Give Aloha program!** Throughout

September customers are invited to make donations at check out (up to \$249 per person, per organization) to Saint Mark Lutheran



give aloha

Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

School. Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each donation up to a total of \$300,000 for all organizations combined. More details will be sent home in the near future.

Remember, once again we are depending on everyone's support to help make the **6th Annual Benefit Gala** scheduled for Saturday, **November 7th, 2015** a huge success!

