

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 2016

A Message from the Head of School

We are well into the 2016-17 school year, and I am happy to report that the students seem to be settling in beautifully. We are excited to welcome our new educators to the Saint Mark ohana this year - **Ms. Vickie Mathieu** (K), **Mrs. Rachel Sitler** (grade 3), **Ms. Tawny DeMello** (middle school) and **Ms. Keaka Rodrigues** (aftercare). Please join me in extending to them all a warm aloha as they join our family.

The complete 2016-2017 Saint Mark faculty and staff are listed as follows:



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



Middle School Science, Math & Bible - **Ms. Pelletier**
Middle School English, Math & Bible - **Mrs. Schroppel**
Middle School Social Studies, English & Bible - **Ms. DeMello**
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-6 Choir, and 7 & 8 Music - **Mr. Bauchle**
Kindergarten Educational Assistant & Before Care Worker - **Mrs. Akaka**
Grade 1 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Ms. Kauai Dias**
Grade 1 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Ms. Courtney Gibo**
Library, Grade 3 & 4 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Mrs. Manu**
After Care - **Mrs. Gibo, Mrs. Manu, Ms. Courtney Gibo** and **Ms. Keaka**
Administrative Assistant/Admissions Coordinator - **Mrs. Lee**
Business Manager - **Mrs. Lawrence**
Pastor - **Rev. Matthew Hilpert** and Head of School - **Dr. David Gaudi**

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 **6th 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 raised nearly **\$2,500.00** in funding, all of which went to improve and enhance the learning environment for the students! Some of the acquisitions and events the PTC funded were the purchase of **two industrial-sized fans** for the gym, **Kona Shave Ice** for the school on Snow Day, and various enrichment games and equipment for the classrooms, including the purchase of a class-set of **microscopes**, a handful of **iPod Touches** for listening centers, and **two Robots** for the elementary school!

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

Dates to Remember

August 30: Mid-Quarter Reports go home

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

September 5: Labor Day No School

September 9: Fall Family Night - Movie Night

September 12-16: Scholastic Book Fair

September 13: PTC / Gala Planning Meeting at 5:30pm

September 14: Kindergarten Grandparents' Day

September 18: Grades 5 & 6 Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 21: Fall Picture Make-up Day

September 30: 1st Quarter Ends -11:30am Dismissal

October 3 - October 14: Fall Intersession

October 3 - October 7: Grades 6-8 Report Cards mailed home

October 17: School Resumes K-5 Report Cards go home with students

**Saint Mark
PTC
Parent Teacher Committee**

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: Wow! Kindergarten could not be having more fun! The kindergarteners have hit the ground running, and are really getting into their groove! During these first few weeks they have been getting used

to a fast-paced school environment, understanding all the rules and procedures, making

new friends, and learning many new things! Among other things, they are reviewing letters and numbers, practicing counting and writing strokes, working in reading groups, and learning about the Bible. Also, the kindergartners have met their amazing 8th grade chapel buddies and cannot wait for all the exciting things to happen with them! The kindergarteners have proved that they are ready for the school year and Ms. Vickie and Mrs. Akaka could not be more proud of what great kids they are! Kindergarten is ready to tackle this whole



Kindergarten students meet their grade 8 chapel buddies

year and all of the amazing educational experiences that they will have!

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, and friendly letter. They experienced their first P.E., choir, Friday Fun Centers, science experiment, Chapel buddy activity, visit from our Star of the Weeks's Nono and Nona

from Italy, Pastor Matt, Dr. Gaudi, Koa, Lili and Daisy. They learned about raz-kids on-line reading program for both home and school. The class received their very own banks to store their "play money" they earn throughout the quarter to be used at



Grade 1 students enjoying their first science experiment

their first Open Market at the end of the quarter. They are anxiously saving their play money and learning how to count it, too! Parents came to our Back-To-School Night Orientation to learn the in's and out's of first grade. It has been a wonderful start to a new school year!

Second Grade: The second graders have been busily working and learning their new expectations for the school year. It has been fun getting to know all the students and seeing how they are adjusting to second grade. We look forward to the year ahead and all the fun things we'll be doing! From all the trips to the projects, second grade will surely be a busy & educational year for the students. We are starting our unit study

on families. Students will learn more about their special family and be able to interview relatives as well as create a family tree. Families are such an important part of our lives, and I am excited to help guide the second graders in learning more about their amazing families!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: Third grade has been very busy so far this school year! We began our year getting to know each other and practicing our classroom routines and procedures as we learn our rules. We have started our daily math and reading centers and students are doing a great job at them. In reading we are working on vocabulary, comprehension, and grammar. In math we are studying place value and in science we are discussing ecosystems. We are looking forward to a fun and educational year!

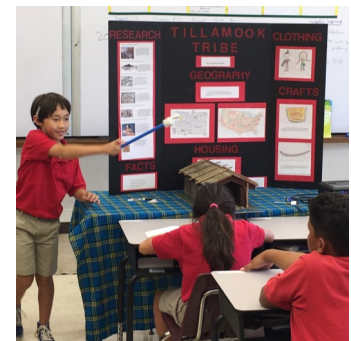
Fourth Grade: The fourth grade students have been doing a wonderful job getting acclimated to the busy life of a fourth grader. The students memorized their first 'oli by the second week of class and sound so beautiful as they chant it every morning. Most of the class is in beginning band and they are all learning to play the ukulele! In math, they are learning about place value and counting numbers in the billions and trillions! They will take their first chapter test in math this

week. The fourth graders also learned all about volcanoes and plate tectonics in earth science and created their own volcano art. Their earth science unit as well as the beginning of their Hawaiian studies was enhanced by their first field trip to the Bishop Museum. It was a fun-filled but very busy day as they learned all about Hawaii and what makes it so special.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: We have hit the ground running in fifth grade. We've already had presentations on different Native American tribes. For the last couple weeks, each student has been working at home and in the classroom to be experts on a specific tribe, which includes a 3D model of their

home. Outside of the classroom, we have visited the Bishop Museum where the students learned about our solar system in the planetarium, visited a shark exhibit, and toured a volcano.



Grade 5 students gave presentations on the Native Americans

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss DeMello's News:

Eighth grade Bible students are reading the Psalms and choosing "encouragement verses" These will be helpful to take to heart as high school is quickly approaching. We are also very excited to be spending time with our chapel buddies!

Sixth Grade English students are building their vocabulary and grammar skills with Wordly Wise and Shurley workbooks. They also write about a variety of topics in their daily journal. These skills will aid all of them, especially those testing for bigger schools in the fall.

Seventh grade English students are enthralled by their class novel, *The Outsiders*. They have written chapter summaries, and have found almost 200 unfamiliar or interesting words in their reading! They are learning the basics of citations which will help add credibility to their future writing assessments.

Sixth grade social studies students jumped into World History. They learned two styles of note-taking, and elected to use Cornell Notes as they found it most helpful. They are learning about early hunter-gatherer societies, and the importance of fire to early man. They completed their first social studies quiz and managed to leave their instructor quite impressed.

Seventh grade world geography can be tedious, but the students did well on their first quiz. They are learning about the early people of the United States, and are outlining the information from textbooks and

lectures. They can tell you what crops grow in the different regions of the U.S. and the locations of its two major mountain ranges (Seriously! Ask them!).

In **Eighth Grade U.S History** class a variety of current events have been presented ranging from the Hepatitis A outbreak to the new Broncos quarterback to everyone's favorite game - Pokémon Go. We spent time using KWL charts and Cornell notes. Now we are studying Native American societies and European explorers.

Miss Pelletier's News:

In sixth grade bible, our unit is focusing on Jesus's birth and life, connecting to the church season of Epiphany.

Sixth Grade Science started the year with a fun and somewhat messy apple lab. Now we're studying landforms and how they are represented on maps.

In **seventh grade math**, we are adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing decimals and integers. We are using the order of operations and finding the mean, median, mode and range of sets of number.

In **seventh grade science**, we are studying the characteristics and classifications of organisms and looking at cells & their organelles.

In **eighth grade algebra**, we are reviewing a chapter on functions and patterns. We looked at scatter plots and other ways to display data. Now we are working with operations of rational numbers.

In **eighth grade science** we are studying matter, more specifically, the characteristics and states of matter.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade students really stepped up to the responsibility of being chapel buddies with the first grade, and they enjoyed a collaborative art project. Look around campus for the portraits.

In **Bible** we are learning about God and His Word, focusing on Micah 6:8, "He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?"

In **sixth grade math** we reviewed place value, exponents, and estimation and are beginning number sense.

Seventh and eighth pre-algebra students are learning the language of algebra as they study algebraic expressions and integers. The first test is coming up!

The **eighth grade english** class is getting reacquainted with Shurley while jumping into journal writing, vocabulary (Wordly Wise), and literature. We are reading the young adult book *Uglies* about a utopian society where everyone gets to become "pretty" on their 16th birthday. It should be interesting!

Miss Morris' News:

Middle school PE has begun and we have run our first mile! Everyone did great and a couple of students already beat their best ever mile time! Congratulations and keep up the good work!



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



Varsity volleyball practice has started and the season be began with our first game at Hongwanji on Thursday, August 18! **Kuulei McGee** is coaching both our boys and girls teams again. We have seven boys and nine girls looking forward to an exciting season of volleyball. Please check the school website for schedule (dates, times and locations) of all games.

JV volleyball for boys and girls will be played during the second quarter, varsity basketball during the third quarter, and JV basketball during the fourth quarter. Cross country for 5th-8th grade boys and girls is being scheduled for either November 17 or 18. More information will be forthcoming.



2016-2017 Faculty and Staff at the Installation and Rededication Church Service on August 7



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 **7th Annual Benefit Gala...**

The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12 at The Pacific Club** and will include an evening of wonderful food, live entertainment by H2O - *Hard to Oppose* and an exciting auction for our community and friends. The evening will be honoring **Dr. Louise Wolcott** and celebrating the *Fabulous 50's, Swinging 60's and Sensational 70's*. The proceeds from this event will be used to support our very important financial aid/scholarship program and to our on-going technology expenses.



This & That



Middle school students enjoyed themselves after some intensive middle school readiness training

On Wednesday, September 14th, 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 9. It will be a fun-filled movie night with the fourth graders selling food as a fundraiser for their Big Island trip.

September 12-16 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.



Hawaii News | 12 hrs ago

Oahu school clears way for younger crowd

Saint Mark's Building Project was featured in the August 8th Honolulu Star-Advertiser

The August Chapel offerings will go to **Lutheran Bible Translator**. September offerings are going to the **Aloha United Way**. Mahalo for your support!



The grade 1 students enjoyed a story read to them by Dr. Gaudi

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.

Check out SMLS on ...

