

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**

February/March 2017

A Message from the Head of School



This is the time of the year where many families are weighing their admissions options for the following school year. Public, private and home school students and their parents are considering which schools best fit their needs and are asking all sorts of questions: Is it time to make a change? Should we make a move now or wait a little longer? Can we afford private school? Is this school too big? Is that school too small? What kind of a sports program does School A offer? What kind of financial aid program does School B provide? If we don't move now, will there be room in grade 9? and so on. These are all great questions that can occasionally overwhelm families.

You can just flip on the tv and you can see from all the commercials that the private school market is an increasingly competitive one. Schools offer an array of programs to try and meet the needs of their current families while attracting new ones. And in many ways Saint Mark is no different. We strive to offer a well-rounded, mission driven program that shares the good news of Jesus' saving Love. It is a program that is not only rigorous and relevant in this 21st century global world, but one that also teaches the students the value of service.

In just the past few weeks, our students have participated in a wide variety of educational opportunities in and out of the classroom: kindergarten walking trip to the dentist office; grades 1 & 2 harvesting of vermicompost; grade 3 learning trip to Kawainui marsh; grade 4 beach cleanup in Waimanalo; grades 4 & 5 service learning project at He`eia State Park; grade 6 water quality testing at Kualoa Ranch; grades 4 - 8 Lutheran school's band and choir concert; grades 6 - 8 service learning visits to three retirement homes; all school buddy reading to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday; all school Get Active Day, all school Family night at the Ice Palace; and two basketball championship games.

We are small school with a BIG program and while we are happy to offer a variety of learning experiences to our students, we are in no way complacent. Rather, we are continuously looking for new and exciting ways to engage our students in hands-on learning that fosters their curiosity and creativity while teaching the importance of serving the Lord and others.

We thank you for your continued support and invite you to stop by the office should you have any questions during this busy admissions season.



Easter Services

Sunday, April 16

You are invited to join us for Easter Service on Sunday, April 16.

Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. at HPU Windward Campus

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt - 8:15 a.m. at Saint Mark Church

Easter Service - 10:00 a.m. at Saint Mark Church

Dates to Remember

March 6-10: Saint Mark Spirit Week

March 10: 3rd Quarter Ends
11:30am Dismissal

March 13-24: Spring Break

March 15-17: Grades 6-8
Report Cards mailed home

March 27: School Resumes
Grades K-5 Report Cards go home with students

April 2: Grades 5 & 6 sing in church 9:30am

April 4: All School Speech Festival (Day 1) at 6:00pm

April 6: Spring Pictures

April 6: All School Speech Festival (Day 2) at 6:00pm

April 13: Grades 5-8 Track & Field Day

April 13: Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00pm at SMLC

April 14: Good Friday - No School

April 14: Good Friday Service at 7:00pm at SMLC

April 16: Easter Sunday Service at 7:00am at HPU Service at 10:00am at SMLC

April 17: Easter Monday - No School

April 25: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

May 1-5: SAT Testing

May 11: Athletic Banquet at 5:30 p.m.

Please call the church office at 247-4565 if you have any questions.

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: Kindergarten has been busy, busy, busy! We are learning more and more words, reading every single day, and practicing our writing skills! We are continuing in our knowledge about clocks, shapes, and much, much more! We celebrated Valentine's Day, and gave our mothers and chapel buddies flowers! We had fun ice skating at Spring Family night where we could just "chill" out! We went on a field trip to a dentist's office for February's National Children's Dental Health Month! We had a photo shoot where we were Superheroes; we can't wait to see the finished project! We celebrated Dr. Seuss with Read Across America Day and performed our choir selections in church. We are also getting ready for our Speech Festival by preparing a piece of scripture, a dictated song, or other speech! That's happening at the beginning of April - we are working hard to make sure we know it by heart!



Kindergartners spend some time working on their reading centers

First Grade: The first graders have been busy learning about keeping their hearts healthy in science. They celebrated healthy heart month at our annual "Get Active" event and potluck with the whole school. We will participate in dental awareness month as well this coming week. The students also enjoyed a special Valentine Workshop that involved art, science, math and a healthy snack. We also harvested over 5 gallons of vermicomposting from our worm bin with our 2nd grade friends. In March, we celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss by Reading Across American throughout the week. The students collaborate with third and fourth graders in stations and partner reading. We also enjoyed a wacky Wednesday snack and tried green eggs, spam and rice. We end this

quarter enjoying Spirit Week, All School Game Day, and our third Open Market. We have worked hard this quarter and look forward to this upcoming Spring Break!

Second Grade: So far, this quarter has been very busy in second grade! We've been learning more about our amazing universe. The stars, moon, and sun have been the focus of our study. We created an art project to show how the moon rotates around earth and how they both rotate around the sun. The students were amazed at learning that our sun is a star! They have also been busy writing and illustrating their own stories. In our Authoring time students put their creative writing heads on and learn how important edit and revising is to the writing process. We ended our 3rd quarter by buddy reading with the 5th graders! Students paired together sharing their snack and enjoying books. It was a great way to celebrate Read Across America Week!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: Third grade has been busy. We are working on comprehension strategies and focusing on our thinking as we read. For Read Across America Week we did activities incorporating Dr. Seuss books, and were role models as we collaborated with kindergarten and first grade. We are studying time and data. Students surveyed friends and family members, represented their data on the graphs we have learned about, and provided thoughtful summaries. In social studies we learned about businesses and making smart financial choices. The students have jobs and when they receive their pay, they decide how to use their (pretend) money. In Bible,

we wrapped up our unit on God's gifts and had wonderful discussions on how we can show our gratitude to God for the gifts we have been given.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders are learning a lot about taking care of our aina. They completed two community service projects benefiting Windward Oahu. The first was helping to clean Sherwood Beach in Waimanalo. The second project was with the fifth graders as they removed over 1,500 pounds of mangrove seedlings at the ancient He'eia fishpond. In language arts,



the students brought their writing to life by filming a short public service announcement on the service of their choice. In math, the students are using their knowledge of geometry to design a small 3D house, complete with furniture and appliances that would equate to 400 sq feet in real life. In science, they learned about the rock cycle by using starburst candy and building their own simple machines. In Hawaiian studies they learned two new oli's. They have had a busy third quarter and are looking forward to the upcoming spring break!

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: We have been doing a lot of activities with the other grades throughout the school. A huge area of focus for us has been starting the transition into middle school. The eighth grade teacher, Ms. Demello, has been coming in once a week to work with the students. We have also been able to

utilize the Chromebooks by learning how middle school uses them, as well as researching and writing a large science novel. In celebration of



Read Across America, we joined second grade to read books together, and we joined fourth grade on a field trip to the He'eia fishpond where we pulled mangroves. Our goal was to pull 350 pounds of mangroves, but we ended up pulling over 1,500 pounds!

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss DeMello News:

Eighth grade performed their last chapel. This chapel was led by **Casey Barreca** and **Kaila Flores**. Their message was chosen by their class.

Sixth grade English students have been hard at work on their persuasive essays for English. Since their class novel was a book about a student-athlete, many of their essays are sports-themed, and range from the dangers of youth sports to the greatest athletes in history.

Seventh grade English is also working on persuasive essays related to their class novels. Some of our interesting essay topics include, "Should student athletes maintain a certain grade point average to be eligible to play?" and "Persuade the Nazis to end food rationing in Denmark".

In **sixth grade social studies** we are ending third quarter with our unit on Ancient China and its empires. They will be working on a group project about a specific Chinese invention which include fireworks, paper, silk, and the compass.

In **seventh grade social studies** we've completed our European country projects, which were quite impressive! We learned so much more about Europe from listening to the class presentations. For example, did you know Germany has the largest economy in Europe, and Spain is the 14th largest in the world? We also tried some 'ono food from many of these countries. Mahalo to the families of **Ian Anderson, La'akea Kaonohi, Keanu Duarte, Emily Reynolds, Kelvin Straight, Quintin Barrett, Cole**

Pruett, and Sara Cruz for your delicious contributions!

Our **eighth grade social studies** completed their last quizzes for the quarter on the Civil War. Next up, we will be creating presentations on Google Slides about an important figure, invention, or battle of the Civil War that had a great effect on the outcome of the war.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade Bible students have been considering what it means to live as disciples of our Savior, with an emphasis on prayer. Jesus taught His disciples and us how to pray with the Lord's prayer, and in these words we can talk to God as children talking to our loving Father.

Sixth grade math students are wrapping up a chapter on percents using proportions learned in our last chapter. As the quarter draws to a close, we are just beginning a study of algebra: integers and rational numbers. Fun!

Pre-algebra students are being challenged with linear equations: understanding them, using them, and graphing them! In the next few weeks there will be exciting ideas learned.

Eighth grade English students had a choice of novels to read this quarter and are presenting some projects that went with them; we have learned from Family Trees that our relatives have come from ALL OVER! We are also putting time and

effort into learning speeches (or poems) and practicing for the All School Speech Festival in April.

Mrs. Pelletier's News:

Sixth Grade Bible finished the unit on the Spread of the Gospel and our next unit will focus on the Early Christian Church growing. We will study some "Heroes of Faith" and significant events in their lives.

In **sixth grade science** we finished our chapter on Fresh Water, visited Kualoa Ranch to test the quality of stream water, and built homemade water filters. It was a very hands-on chapter! We are now studying the Geologic Time Scale and will compare it to what the Bible says about God's creation.

In **seventh grade math** we have started our exciting chapter on geometry. We're going to learn about lines, angles, triangles, quadrilaterals, polygons, congruency, circles, circle graphs, and constructions with compasses.

In **seventh grade science** we are finishing up our chapter on the cardiovascular system. We have studied the heart, blood vessels, and circulation. Our next chapter focuses on the nervous system.

In **eighth grade algebra** we are finishing up our chapter on linear function and their graphs. Our next chapter will focus on systems of equations and inequalities.

In **eighth grade science** we are finishing our chapter on forces & have used our awesome math skills a lot in this chapter! Our next chapter will be about work and machines.



A few middle school students at the Ice Palace Spring Family Night

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!

Check out the SMLS 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!

Lenten Services



Lent is a time of solemn remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. The `ohana of Saint Mark Lutheran Church invites you to join us for these Lenten services.

Each Wednesday **Lenten service** will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a Soup Supper followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

For more information please contact the church office at 247-4565.

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Athletics



Congratulations to Coach Curtis and the **boys and girls varsity basketball teams**. Both teams ended the regular season in 2nd place and both made it to the championship game this past Saturday. The boys lost by one point in very exciting game that was decided in the last second of play. The girls won their championship game and brought home the perpetual trophy! CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations also to our all-stars and MVP's: **Mariah Basques (MVP), Camille McMillian, Kanalu Catrett, Noah Gaudi (MVP), and Peyton Rapoza**. A BIG MAHALO to Coach Curtis Lau and volunteer parent assistant coaches, **Miki Henriques and Mac McMillian**.

JV basketball season for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls will start when we come back from Spring Break. The LSSL (Lutheran Schools Sports League) **Track and Field Meet** for 5th-8th grade boys and girls will be held on Thursday, April 13 at Leilehua High School. If you are interested in helping, please contact **Mrs. Kong**.

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



On February 25, the PTC held its Annual Rummage Sale, which generated approximately **\$1,000** in funds that will be used to support the PTC's mission of improving and enhancing the learning environment for the students of Saint Mark! Thank you to everyone who donated their items, time, and assistance to help make this event a great success! A special MAHALO goes out to our Rummage Sale Chair, **Denise Warrington**, for planning and organizing this event.



This & That

Our **Scholastic Book Fair** was a success! We **sold over \$3,000** worth of books and supplies. Profits go toward books for the library and teachers, and *Scholastic Magazine* subscriptions for the students. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped.

Chapel offerings for February and March will be going to the American Heart Association. We have raised **over \$270** thus far. We appreciate your generosity!

Our **"Get Active"** campaign raised approximately **\$4,000** which will go towards new P.E. and playground equipment. Congratulations to everyone!

We are completing **re-enrollment** for the 2017-2018 school year. Please be sure your paperwork has been turned in to the school office. We have applicants for all grades and need to know what space is available. Paperwork was due on February 23rd.



Dr. Gaudi, Mrs. Venegas, Mrs. Gibo, Ms. Courtney, Mrs. Manu, Mrs. Sitler & Mr. Fosket get into the spirit of Dr. Seuss' birthday with Cat in the Hat costumes

On Tuesday, February 7, **Ha'eha'e Kahana (6) and Keaupono McGee Lee (8)** represented Saint Mark in the District Spelling at Lanikai Elementary and did a good job, finishing 5th and 3rd over all. Congratulations!

Check out SMLS on....



Congratulations to our male and female Most Valuable Players for the 2016-2017 Varsity Basketball Season

Saint Mark Lutheran School
NOW ENROLLING
 247-5589
www.smls-hawaii.org

Saint Mark is still accepting new student applications for the 2017-18 school year