

# 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**

**January 2013**

## A Message from the Principal



American philosopher and educational reformer John Dewey once said, "Experience has shown that when children have a chance at physical activities which bring their natural impulses into play, going to school is a joy, management is less of a burden, and learning is easier."

I share this quotation as Saint Mark Lutheran School has just concluded its first ever snow day. It was an extremely fun dose of physical activity where the students were able to laugh and play as they frolicked in the Hawaiian snow. This special day was a reward for collecting toys for the Salvation Army and for helping promote our school on Facebook.

But snow day was far more than simply a playtime reward; it was an opportunity for inquiry and new discovery. Many of our students had never seen or played in snow before Friday and their curiosity lead them to ask thoughtful and probing questions which, in turn, resulted in many meaningful conversations and new understandings.

From one teacher using the snow day as an opportunity to explain the science of how snow is formed in the clouds to another teacher having the students write Haiku's depicting their snow day memories, it was a unique educational experience that students will long remember. And perhaps best of all, it was a day that helped foster an environment where as Dewey put it, "going to school is a joy" and "learning is easier." I leave you with four beautiful Haiku's from our third grade students:

*I built a snowman  
Rushing through the white, cold snow  
The snow will melt fast*

*It doesn't snow here  
Doesn't snow in Hawaii  
Wow it is snowing*

*Making a snowman  
Sliding down a snow hill fast  
Now wishing for spring*

*The white flower leaves  
Flying in the air from the trees  
Burst into cold snow*

## Get Active & Support SMLS



Saint Mark is happy to again be participating in "Get Active" - a push to get students moving and physically active. The students are being asked to promote physical activity and collect donations in support of Saint Mark athletics. Monies collected will go towards the purchase of new P.E. equipment, recess balls, athletic equipment and travel, etc.

Our "Get Active" hour will be held on **Wednesday, February 20 from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m.** and will be followed by the annual all-school **potluck lunch**. We are asking that each family provide one small food dish that will feed 4-5 students.

Sponsor pledge forms and monies are due by **Friday, February 8.**



### Dates to Remember

**January 31- February 1:**  
Lutheran Teachers' Conference  
No School

**February 5:** Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

**February 5:** PTC Meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**February 9:** PTC Rummage Sale 9:00 a.m.

**February 13:** Ash Wednesday Lent Begins

**February 15:** Spring Family Night at Ice Palace at 6:00 p.m.

**February 17:** K-2 sing at the 9:30 a.m. church service

**February 18:** Presidents' Day - No School

**February 19-22:** Scholastic Book Fair

**February 20:** "Get Active" for Saint Mark Potluck

**February 26:** Re-enrollment contracts due to office

**March 2:** All Lutheran Schools' Music Festival 7:00 p.m.

**March 12:** PTC meeting at 5:30 p.m.

**March 11-15** Spirit Week

**March 15:** End of 3rd Quarter

**March 18 - April 1:** Spring Break - No School

**April 1:** Easter Monday - No School

**April 2:** School Resumes  
K-5 Report Cards go home with students

## Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

**Kindergarten:** The kindergartners were happy to see each other in the new year. They made "fireworks" and New Year's resolutions and are busy making snow pictures and learning about the season of winter. They are culminating a study of Life on the Coral Reef by a docent-guided visit to the aquarium. We celebrated the 100th day of school and also learned about Martin Luther King Jr. and his plea for everyone to be treated with respect. But their favorite activity was Wheel Week - riding all week long in the parking lot. So much fun in just 3 weeks.



*Kindergarten students excitedly enjoying snow day*

**First Grade:** The first grade enjoyed celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> day of school! We made glasses and other fun activities. We also shared our 100<sup>th</sup> day collections with the class and enjoyed a special snack of 100 things. We worked hard to prepare for our All School Chapel where the first graders led in worship, read scripture, and prayed in sign language. The Lord's Prayer. We did an amazing job! Now we are learning about non-living and living things. We are using this as a spring board to begin our unit on animals and their habitats. We will be visiting the Honolulu Zoo next week to get a hands-on experience.

**Second Grade:** The second graders had a spectacular winter break with their families and returned to school

ready to work hard and learn! This month they have been learning about a great American hero, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. They read lots of biographies and learned many interesting facts about this peaceful and fearless leader. Did



*Grade 2 students thrilled to be zooming down the snow hill*

you know that when Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace prize he was only 35? The second graders had fun writing about Dr. King, thinking about their own dreams for our world, and doing fun art activities. The second graders also had an exciting 100<sup>th</sup> day of school!

## Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

**Third Grade:** The third grade is busy working on multiplication facts. We have been studying about the early settlement of Jamestown and how important the constitution was for the colonies to be self-governing. We have been working on oral retellings of stories we have read to check for comprehension and will be moving to written retellings when we are clear on what is ex-



*Grade 3 students collaborating on a recent math assignment*

pected in retelling a story. We have been working on including organization in our writing and have completed two writings at this point in the new quarter. We will be starting on a special "Presidents' Day" project that will require the students to do research and present both a written and oral report on a president that they will choose "out of the hat." I am excited that the stu-

dents in the third grade have been reading biographies and several non-fiction books as their A.R. selections. They are becoming such great readers.

**Fourth Grade:** The fourth graders are learning more about the plants and animals we have here in Hawai'i. We have been busy classifying them as Native Endemic, Native Indigenous, or Introduced species to the islands using the iPads. They will soon start a research project focusing on one of these species.



## Classroom News - Fifth Grade

**Fifth Grade:** Since Christmas is really about the birth of Jesus, our fifth graders wanted to give a gift or do something special to honor Him over the holidays. Their actions included donating clothes to Goodwill, babysitting for free, sharing oranges with a

*"How great it is that these students could spread Jesus's love to others in so many ways!"*

neighbor, cleaning up litter along the highway, volunteering at Saint Mark's Food Bank, praying, helping family members, being patient with others, wrapping presents at the mall, coaching a broth-

er's t-ball team, sharing Christmas dinner with two Marines, and even helping paint the *Falls of Clyde* ship to restore it. How great it is that these students could spread Jesus' love to others in so many ways!

# Classroom News - Junior High

## Mrs. Hantel's News:

It's a Miracle! The **seventh grade bible** students are learning about the many miracles Jesus performed. More importantly, they are learning *why* He performed these miracles.

"When will I ever use this?!?" **Sixth through eighth math** students are doing hands-on learning discovering how math is used in the real world. This will include measuring tall trees, cooking and much more.

In **seventh and eighth grade social studies** it's research time! Students are beginning the process of writing a formal research paper. They will learn how to pick topics, do research, organize their work, and write in a formal way. **Seventh graders** have each chosen a country to research; **eighth graders** a controversial time in American history and if they think the United States took the proper action. This will take two quarters to complete

## Miss Maddick's News:

We are celebrating the new year with new challenges! **Sixth through eighth grade language arts** classes are breaking into themed reading groups. Topics include world history, special needs and disabilities and WWII. They will be preparing for group meetings and leading discussions.

**Sixth grade world history** is enjoying the splendor of the Roman Empire. We will be looking at the be-

ginning of Islam and Muslim conquests. It is important to understand the history of the Middle East to shed light on events today.

The **seventh grade communications** class is working on demonstration speeches, showing us how to do something that interests them. **Eighth grade** will be creating Passion plays that we will be sharing in chapel after Easter.

**Eighth grade Bible** is discussing the power of the Gospel in witnessing. We are also taking a closer look at *The 5 Love Languages for Singles* by Gary Chapman, using it as a topical Bible study to improve our relationships with God and other people in our lives.

## Mrs. Peterson's News:

**Sixth grade Bible** is studying Paul's letters and journeys and the ancient towns he visited and wrote to. This gives students a better understanding of why he worked so hard to build churches and encourage Christianity. We are illustrating Paul's main ideas by creating a graphic novel and working on animations.

**Sixth grade science** is studying soil composition and formation. They will be doing labs studying the local soil here at school, especially in our garden. They will also do engineering labs to design dams and other structures. We will be reading a bit of *Out of the Dust* to help in our studies.

**Seventh grade math and eighth grade pre-algebra** classes are focusing on percentages and rates and learning how these skills apply to their own lives. They will be focusing on test grades, sports scores and stats, and bank accounts.

**Seventh grade science class** just wrapped up a unit on genetics, and is learning how this correlates with genetic traits and disorders. They will be doing labs and research on advanced genetics and will even be extracting their own DNA!

**Eighth grade science** continues their unit on chemistry. They are focusing on conservation of mass and balancing equations, with labs demonstrating the four different types of reactions. Students will also be working on acids and bases and analyzing the soil in the school garden to check for pH and other chemical factors.

## Miss Morris' News:

In **P.E.** we will be starting soccer! Everyone had a great time with basketball, but it is now time to move on and work on our soccer skills.

**Junior high** should save the date! 30 Hour Famine Lock-In is happening on February 22-23. Get ready to have fun, serve the community, and raise awareness about hunger and poverty in Africa. More information coming soon.

# Junior High Awards

## Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)

Joshua Hilpert  
Kathryn Koopman  
Sage Iona  
Kala Kahapea-Aquino  
Rhys Kalama  
Melia Manu  
John Rice  
Tristan Scharfenstein-Montgomery  
Justin Taniguchi  
Koby Tengan  
Auahi Aiu  
Kiana Lo  
Martine Marantz  
Risa McGregor  
David Murray  
Samantha Navarrete  
Zachary Ostrander

## Honor Roll

(GAP 3.0—3.75)

Fenua Aiu  
Kuulei Aona  
Noah Graham  
Miriam Ha  
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton  
Alexis Keliikipi  
Amy Warrington  
Alexis Chang-Takayama  
Seth Denis  
Christian Fee  
Joshua Gonzalez  
Kathryn Johnson  
Kaitlyn Kaimikaua  
Kainoa Kawainui  
Keeli Manguso  
Manaia Moe  
Beau Munoz  
Kanoë Ratledge

Kaiana Rosa-Grace

Makoa Sanchez  
Mikayla Aki  
Kainani Bradley  
Amiee Clark  
Isaiah Graham  
Allison Munoz  
Lauryn Ohai  
Jackson Wadsworth  
Johannah Wilford  
Mareko Wolcott  
Kaimi Won

## Principal's Award

(Improved GPA by 0.3)

Bronson Buck  
Kathryn Johnson  
Kaitlyn Kaimikaua  
Keeli Manguso  
Manaia Moe

Kanoë Ratledge

Kaiana Rosa-Grace  
Auahi Aiu  
Jackson Wadsworth

## Citizenship

Fenua Aiu  
Kuulei Aona  
Miriam Ha  
Joshua Hilpert  
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton  
Alexis Keliikipi  
Katy Koopman  
Amy Warrington  
Alexis Chang-Takayama  
Sage Iona  
Kala Kahapea-Aquino  
Kainoa Kawainui  
Melia Manu  
Manaia Moe

## Awards (cont.)

John Rice  
Kaiana Rosa-Grace  
Makoa Sanchez  
Justin Taniguchi  
Koby Tengan  
Mikayla Aki  
Risa McGregor  
Martine Marantz  
Allison Munoz  
Samanatha Navarrete  
Lauryn Ohai  
Johannah Wilford  
Kaimi Won

**Keep up the  
Great Work!!**



## Athletics



Varsity basketball for boys and girls has started. They have been practicing hard and are now ready to put all they learned under Coach Lau to the test as they start their season. Come out and cheer them on as we look forward to exciting games. Their schedule can be found on the school website.

## Reminder - No School

Please remember that there will be **no school** on **Thursday, January 31 and Friday, January 1**. The faculty will be busy attending the annual Lutheran Educators' Conference.

## Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC encourages everyone to save their items for the Rummage Sale!

Please join us at the next PTC Rummage Sale Planning meeting on

**Tuesday, February 5 at 5:30 p.m.**



## This & That

The Saint Mark Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) is sponsoring their **Spring Rummage Sale** on **Saturday, February 9** beginning at 9:00 a.m. Please make plans to support the sale with both donations and purchases.



Friday, February 15 is **Family Night at the Ice Palace!** Everyone is welcome to join us for skating, fellowship, and fun. A special discount rate of \$8.50 will be given to all skaters. Come and join the Saint Mark ohana beginning at 6:00 p.m. A special reservation form will be sent home.

With your help we received money from **Box Tops for Education!** A big mahalo goes to **Mrs. Gonzalez** and **Mrs. Cameline** for their continued work organizing this fundraiser and to all of you who have

collected and continue to collect those small little box tops. We continue to collect them all year-round. Thank you!



December **chapel offerings** went towards making Christmas merrier through the Salvation Army and Family Promise programs. We raised \$380 in cash and lots of wonderful Christmas packages.

The response to our February chapel offerings has been wonderful! We've already collected over \$300 for **Pennies for Patients!**

Remember to check our school website, Facebook Page, and teacher websites. The student photos are changed frequently and we'd hate for you to miss seeing your cute kids!



*The Jr high students who earned spots on the 2nd quarter principal's list*



Facebook



Twitter

**Please be sure to check out Saint Mark on Facebook and Twitter**