

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**

May 2013

A Message from the Principal



Grade 2 students on the First Day of School - July 31, 2012

When I pick up the new yearbook every May, it never ceases to amaze me how different the students appear. Without fail, the looks of almost every student has noticeably changed from the beginning of the school year to the end. Some students have more teeth; some have fewer teeth; some are taller; while some simply look more mature. However, the changes do not stop with physical appearances. The students have also grown spiritually, intellectually, socially & emotionally. It is a true joy to watch the students develop and progress in so many meaningful ways.

But this joy is somewhat bittersweet as this is the time of the year when we say good-bye to so many. In addition to all of the students who are moving on, we also bid a fond aloha to some faculty and staff. This year we say good-bye to **Mrs. Hinton, Miss Maddick, Mrs. Hantel, Mrs. McGregor and Mrs. Jen Heaton** as all are relocating to the mainland and will certainly be missed.

While we are saying good-bye to some, we are saying hello to others. We welcome **Ms. Katie Gerling** in grade 3, **Mrs. Kristi Schroppel** in middle school, **Mrs. Sylvia Law** in middle school, and **Mrs. Christy Brooks** (who's already on the job) in middle school. We also welcome back **Ms. Courtney Gibo** as an educational aid and aftercare worker. We are excited to have these well-credentialed and highly-skilled, experienced educators joining the Saint Mark team.



The same Grade 2 students near the Last Day of School - May 21, 2013

Dates to Remember

May 24: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 27: No School - Memorial Day

May 30: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 31: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTER CARE**

May 31: K-5 Report cards go home with students

June 3-7: Grades 6-8 Report cards mailed home

June 3-7: Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark

June 10-21: Summer Mailing Packets go home

July 30: First Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal **NO AFTERCARE**

August 7: K-5 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 8: Grades 6-8 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 9: Fall School Pictures

August 16: No School - Admissions' Day

September 2: No School - Labor Day

September 13: Fall Family Night

Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark



Escape to Athens with Paul! Imagine leaving a life of privilege and power to face angry mobs, imprisonment, and chain-breaking earthquakes - all to spread the life-changing truth of God's love.

Join us, June 3-7 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., as we follow Paul on his missionary journey to spread the news about Jesus. Ages 4 - entering 5th grade are welcome at \$5 per child (financial assistance is available). Each day will include a devotion with your Oikos (family) group, games, a craft, snack, and music.

If interested, please contact Miss Morris at sarah@stmarkhawaii.org or call the church office at 247-4565 or simply register your child today by visiting: <https://www.groupvbspro.com/vbs/hl/saintmark>

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergartners are doing a "count down" with only a few days of kindergarten left. They graduate on Friday, May 24, after presenting their graduation operetta. They've learned songs, dances and speaking parts and will do a great job with the costumes and scenery they made. The following week they'll be referred to as "first graders". The year will culminate with taking a graduation lei to the Hawaii Veterans Cemetery in honor of Memorial Day, celebrating at the beach, signing yearbooks, visiting first grade, and helping to get the room ready for the new kindergartners. First grade, here we come! Everyone is excited except Mrs. Gundermann and Mrs. Akaka. They will miss this exceptional group of keiki.

First Grade: The first graders are currently learning about our oceans by reading non-fiction books. Students chose an ocean animal to report on by designing a poster with facts and pictures about their animal. They will present their posters orally. Our first grade authors have been busy working on their "Autobiography Book Project." With help from their parents they will complete a story web of their lives from birth-present. We will be publishing our books and sharing our stories with the class before we break for summer. The first and second graders are proud of their garden sale that brought in money to help with the expansion of our garden for next year. We look forward to our final "food to the table" meal during the last week of school.

Second Grade: The second graders have had a fantastic school year and have built upon their learning and friendships. During these last few weeks of school, some special activities the second graders are proud to have done were having a garden sale, performing in a spring cantata, completing a class book of poems, and displaying their beautiful artwork at the Fine Arts display. In the last few weeks of school, they are looking forward to their end of the year celebration at Kailua Beach Park, spending their class money during a silent auction, and enjoying their garden harvest at their garden party! The second graders have worked very hard all year and are sad to leave second grade but are looking forward to new learning and adventures as they move on to third grade!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: The third graders held the 3rd Annual Wax Museum, Thursday, May 16 in the school gym. Students from Saint Mark came to the "museum" to hear about historical figures that the third graders wanted to research. Parents visited during the dress rehearsal on Wednesday and during the event on Thursday. It was great. It is difficult to stand in front of people and speak, but the students did a great job memorizing and sharing orally the information they learned. The



Grade 3 Wax Museum

display boards and costumes were terrific. Although the students went home exhausted, they all talked about how much fun they had.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders had an exciting and educational trip to the Big Island of Ha-

waii! We got to see it all; from black sand beaches to steaming sulfur vents. We learned more about our Hawaiian culture and how the land and the sea were very important to

life back then. It was an experience that the students and chaperones should not soon forget.



Grade 4 students and Ms. Camit at Akaka Falls during their recent trip to the Big Island of Hawai'i

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: California, Massachusetts, Idaho... For our fifth grade study about the United States, our students have each selected one state to learn about and present to the rest of the class. They will be utilizing their skills in research,

technology, organization, and oral language as well as visual design to complete their state project. We will end our study by learning all the fifty states and abbreviations. Hopefully, one day they'll get to visit all of them!



Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

This has been such a wonderful year in **Jr. High**. I am so proud of how far the students have grown and matured. Even though they have learned so much in their various classes, I hope that the greatest lessons they will carry with them next year is the love and care of their Savior Jesus Christ. He has done so much for them and will continue to bless them in the years to come.

To **eighth graders**, I am so blessed to have been your teacher these past few years. It is amazing to see how far each of you have come. Remember, Christ has such amazing plans set out for you. He has blessed each of you with amazing gifts and talents. Use those gifts as you leave Saint Mark to help spread Christ's love and grace! Remember, keep in touch so I can continue to see how God uses those gifts as you grow in His love.

Miss Maddick's News:

Alas, all good things must come to an end. The **sixth-eighth grade language arts** class novels took students on adventures that gave them new perspectives.

Sixth graders are becoming world explorers in **history**. They are following Amerigo Vespucci, Christopher Columbus, and all the others who wanted to see what there was to see on the globe.

Poets are intriguing and they use words in amazing ways. **Seventh and eighth grade communications** students are using the words of great poets to be bold speakers.

Our **eighth grade** graduates have accomplished much in **Bible** this year. They strive to live dynamic Christian lives through spiritual disciplines that daily remind us who we live our lives for. I pray that God will bless each of them in the paths they face. I know that where Christ leads, they will follow because He has such awesome plans for each of these awesome kids!

As this is my last year at Saint Mark, I would like to thank all the parents and students who have made these four years memorable. Blessings and Aloha to you all!

Mrs. Brooks' News:

Sixth grade Bible students have finished their skits on their favorite part of the Bible that was covered this year. The students are finishing up their study on Jude and will continue on with Revelations in the coming days.

In **sixth grade science**, students are making travel brochures for different planets in our Solar System. If you would like to travel to another planet, please ask them about the interesting attractions!

Seventh grade science students have finished their presentations on the systems of the body. We got to make pasta skeletons and measure out the length of the small and large intestines.

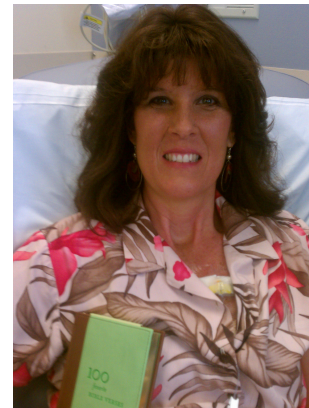
Eighth grade science students are learning about Newton's Laws and have watched the younger students at play to observe various forces and how they act on objects and people.

Seventh grade math students are learning about area and perimeter of regular and irregular shapes, and the **eighth grade pre-algebra** students are working on coordinate planes, linear functions and graphing.

Miss Morris' News:

Great job to all of our **fifth - eighth** students who participated in the Track and Field meet on May 9th! We sure did get a lot of ribbons to take home! Have a great summer and don't forget to stay active!

Please keep Mrs. McGregor and her family in your Prayers



As **Mrs. McGregor** continues to bravely battle cancer, she and her family (husband, **Ken** and children, **Kea** and **Risa**) have decided to move to the mainland. We thank Mrs. McGregor for her positive outlook on life, her beautiful smile, and her unyielding dedication to the students of Saint Mark. We will dearly miss the entire McGregor ohana and will continue to keep them in our prayers. Mahalo!

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!



Please take some time to visit the SMSL website. It continues to be updated!

Saint Mark Website
www.smls-hawaii.org

You are encouraged to visit our website and **opt-in** to begin receiving **automatic email alerts** for Saint Mark school.



PTC Generosity

A **BIG Mahalo** goes to the SMLS PTC (Parent Teacher Committee) for all of their hard work and generosity throughout the school year. Some of the highlights of their service to Saint Mark include: working in support of the gala fundraiser, totally organizing the rummage sale, helping purchase the new school benches, helping sponsor the Athletic Banquet, and treating the entire faculty and staff to a wonderful teacher appreciation lunch complete with goodie bags including custom made spirit shirts and gifts cards. Mahalo to the PTC for their consistent and generous support of Saint Mark! It is truly appreciated!



Athletics



Kickball is in full swing with the K-3rd grade students having lots of fun. If you have not yet seen them in action, stop by this Thursday after school and enjoy the action! Our last game is on Tuesday, May, 28th. Many thanks to the wonderful coaches, **Mrs. Venegas** and **Mrs. Gonzalez** and to our great pitchers/umpires, **Mrs. Hinton**, **Mr. Hinton**, and **Pastor Matt**.

Our Athletic Banquet recognizing our athletes who played on our JV and varsity volleyball and basketball teams was great! Mahalo nui loa to **Mrs. Denise Warrington** (Amy, 6th and **Hank**, 4th) who planned, organized, and coordinated the event.



Grade 1 & 2 students getting some wonderful exercise doing Zumba

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC Officers for the 2013-2014 school year have been elected and are as follows:

President - **Cheryl Chang**
Vice President - **Miki Henriques**
Treasurer - **Mele Manu**
Secretary - **Rachel Hilpert**



Please join us at the next PTC meeting on **Tuesday, August 13 at 5:30 p.m.** to discuss the new school year and the gala fundraiser. We are hoping for a good turn out!

This & That

Chapel offerings for April totaling \$395 went to the *Make a Wish Foundation*. As always, we greatly appreciate your generosity!



Grade 1 and 2 students had an extremely successful Garden Sale

Our heartfelt thanks goes to **Mrs. Cameline**. As a result of her hard work, Saint Mark Lutheran School received \$2,331 from Box Tops for Education.

Office hours during the **summer break** will be Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Our **last day of school** is next **Friday, May 31st** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no aftercare**.

The **first day of school** for the upcoming 2013-2014 school year is **Tuesday, July 30th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no aftercare**.

We bid a fond farewell to our **graduating eighth graders** as they begin their journey to high school. Some of the schools these students will be attending are: Hawaii Baptist Academy, Kamehameha, Le Jardin, Lutheran High, Saint Francis, Maryknoll, and Punahou. Congratulations!!!



Grade 4 students enjoying the Thurston Lava Tube on their recent Big Island Trip



Have a safe and enjoyable summer break!!