

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 2015

A Message from the Head of School



This time of the year is always one of mixed emotions for many of us. It's an exciting time as we head into the summer break; however, it is also a time to say good-bye to some of our friends. This year we say aloha to our beloved grade 5 teacher, **Mrs. Victoria Flores** who after 25 years of teaching and nearly 10 years at Saint Mark is retiring and relocating with her husband, Bob, to California.

From her annual trips to Camp Erdman and Starbase Atlantis to her formal High Teas and well-attended family movie nights, Mrs. Flores has worked tirelessly to provide a dynamic and engaging learning environment for her students while fostering a true ohana feeling amongst her school families.

She has proudly proclaimed her strong Christian faith and has worked hard to continually share the good news of God's saving grace with those around her. She has always been open to suggestion and has continually focused on relationship-building and teaching her students to accept responsibility for their own behavior. In addition to being a fantastic teacher to her students, she has been a wonderful mentor to her colleagues. Her wisdom and expertise are greatly appreciated and will be sorely missed.



Mrs. Flores and her students at High Tea 2015

While we say good-bye to Mrs. Flores, we say hello to our new grade 5 teacher, **Mr. Nathan Fosket**. Mr. Fosket is already in contact with Mrs. Flores and is working hard with her and other school officials to assure his transition is as smooth as possible. We are excited to welcome Mr. Fosket to the Saint Mark team!

As is customary, I bid the school year good-bye by saying: "We wish those of you who are moving on from Saint Mark all of God's blessing in the future. Please come back and visit. To those returning, we look forward to seeing you in July. And, to all of you, we wish you a safe, relaxing, and altogether refreshing summer!" May God Bless You All!

Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark



When God sent Jesus to earth, it wasn't as a king who lived in a palace, surrounded by servants and wealth. Jesus grew up in a small town, the son of a common carpenter. At this year's Hometown Nazareth Vacation Bible School, keiki will get to hear Mary share about Jesus, as they discover that God's Son faced many of the same things we do today and understands the hard things we go through.

Saint Mark's VBS will be **June 8-12 from 8:30am to 12:30pm** and is open to **keiki ages 4 - entering 5th grade**. Registration is \$5 per participant which covers the cost of daily snacks and crafts. Youth entering 6th grade and above as well as adults are invited to join us as volunteers as we share the life of Jesus with our keiki.

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

Dates to Remember

May 22: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 25: No School - Memorial Day

May 28: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 29: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTER CARE**

June 1-5: All Report cards mailed home

June 8-12: Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark

June 22-30: Summer Mailing Packets go home

July 29: First Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTERCARE**

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

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

August 7: Fall School Pictures

August 21: No School - Admissions' Day

September 7: No School - Labor Day

September 11: Fall Family Night

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergarteners had a spectacular school year packed with learning, making friends and having fun! These last couple of weeks of school have been filled with special activities and memories such as swimming at the Kokokahi YWCA, performing a patriotic play, publishing a class book about peace, singing for their parents at the K-2 Spring Concert, and watching chicks hatch and grow. They are excited about a learning trip to the VCA Animal Hospital, their kindergarten graduation, end of the year celebration at the beach, and meeting their first grade teacher. These "almost



A grade 1 student had a great opportunity to feed a couple of birds during a recent learning trip to Sea Life Park



first graders" are sad to leave kindergarten but look forward to new learning and adventures.

First Grade: We had a successful garden sale last month with first and second graders selling produce and herbs from their garden. We hope to have one more sale and a luncheon with eggplant parmesan, salad and pesto. YUM! We are having swimming lessons at the YWCA to get ready for our end of the year beach party. We are giving oral presentations about the animals we have researched, and preparations are under way for our Mother's Day Tea on May 22nd. We are also collecting donations for our silent auction on May 27th. The children have worked hard all year to earn "play money" and this will be a

great way to spend it. Our end of the year celebration will be held on May 28th! It will be a great way to come together as families as our year together comes to a close.

Second Grade: The second graders have had a wonderful month. They went to the Lucoral Museum in Wai-kiki where they learned about various gemstones and rocks. At the end of the field trip, they even had the opportunity to make their own bracelet filled with the gemstones they learned about that day! The second graders are now learning their multiplication table and learning how to add and subtract three-digit numbers. They are also learning about the miracles of Jesus and just wrapped up their American History unit. They have progressed so much this school year and are looking forward to going into the third grade!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: Third grade has been busy this month in math learning fractions, mixed numbers and measuring. We have enjoyed drawing our own fractions & mixed numbers and using rulers to measure items in our classroom. In grammar, we have been learning about helping verbs, compound verbs & direct objects. We have been using our grammar skills to make complete sentences which are full of details by using our knowledge of adjectives and adverbs. In religion, we've been discussing our God-given talents and ways we can share our talents to help others.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders had a BLAST on the Big Island! On our first day we explored Hawaii Volcano National Park. We got up close and personal with sulfur and steam vents, looked into Halemaumau crater, and walked through an old lava tube. On the second day we stopped at Hawaii Botanical Gardens, Akaka Falls, Pu'ukohola Heiau, and Puako



Grade 4 students enjoyed an chilly visit to Kilauea crater at Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island

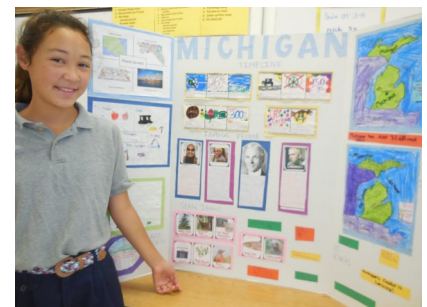
Petroglyph Park. At each stop we learned more and more about our special island chain. On the last day we visited Pu'uho'ona o Honaunau to learn more about how this heiau was an important place of refuge. We also stopped at Kaloko Fishpond to see how the fishpond works and helped feed the people. The trip was a fun and educational experience for the students and something they won't soon forget.

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 their abbreviations. Hopefully, one day, they'll get to visit all of them!



Grade 5 State Project on Michigan

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

In **sixth grade Bible**, we are finishing our unit on how the Christian Church grew after Jesus' ascension and the individuals involved in this growth.

Seventh grade math students are finding areas and volumes of different objects and **eighth grade algebra** students are solving systems of linear equations using different methods.

Sixth grade science students just finished debating which energy resource is best for Hawaii. We will be studying our solar system next. **Seventh grade science** students are studying a complex chapter about our body's nervous system and **eighth graders** just finished a chapter about energy. We will be studying the characteristics of waves next.



Two middle school students racing during the recent LSSL Track Meet

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade finished SAT testing with perfect attendance! Way to go! In **Bible**, **seventh grade** is in our final unit: *Witnessing-Faith for Life*. It is wonderful to know we have eternal life through Jesus, and even better to share that good news with others!

In **eighth grade English**, students spent SAT week giving motivational speeches to the rest of the class. Now, they are finishing the historical fiction theme by creating

presentations for the novels they chose to read.

In **seventh grade English**, the major country research reports are being finalized, and students are preparing presentations to give to the class.

Students in **sixth grade math**, and **seventh and eighth pre-algebra** are doing final lessons from the book and putting finishing touches on projects. Sixth graders are making up original strategy games, and the seventh and eighth graders have been enjoying the beauty of tessellations. And we are ALL looking forward to the beauty of summer vacation!

Mrs. Souki's News:

Eighth grade Bible class finished up the year with charity. The students presented reports on different charity organizations and highlighted the good things that each charity does for the community.

After some debate the class chose to sponsor **Waves for Water** and **Hawaii Meals on Wheels**. Last Saturday the class worked very hard washing cars for hours to support these charities. They raised almost \$400 and they cannot wait to donate their money and help people all over the world and right here in Hawai'i.

Our last section of **sixth grade world history** includes a study of exciting change. Topics include the Renaissance, Reformation, Enlightenment, and Revolutions. We did a quick art study and the students got to understand and take a perspective in a famous Renaissance painting.

In **sixth grade English** our final class novel *The Crossover* unit is wrapping up. The students were introduced to a poetry format novel about a young basketball player who faces tough challenges as he grows up. We also took our final Shurley test and are wrapping up Wordly Wise 20 this week.

Seventh grade world geography: ended with studying important geographical areas in the modern world. Our focus this month was Israel, Iraq, Iran, and Afghanistan. The students gained an understanding of the history of those places and how they have played a role in our own history.

In **eighth grade U.S. history** students finished the year with a look at the Civil Rights Movement and the Vietnam War. These were turbulent times in American History and encompass so much more than just surface issues. It's a time of fundamental change in American culture and the students have had time to reflect on how those changes have directly affected the opportunities available to them.

Miss Morris' News:

What a great quarter it has been in PE! Our fifth - eighth grade students participated in the All Lutheran Schools' Track and Field Meet and we took home quite a few ribbons. We have also been competing with the 4th and 5th grade in dodgeball games during some of our PE classes. The middle school students have worked hard all year long. Parents, keep your eyes open for your child's final Fitnessgram Testing Report which will be going home very soon. It is a great way to see how your child has progressed throughout the year.

Building for the Future - Early Education Facility !



Saint Mark continues its multi-year endeavor to raise money for the construction of a new early education building on the footprint of the current administrative offices, kindergarten room, and computer room. The architect has developed a beautiful building which includes three pre-school classrooms, library, technology center, meeting rooms and administrative offices.

We continue to need everyone's help to bring our plans to fruition. Please call the school office to set up a meeting with Dr. Gaudi to learn more about how you can support this very important project. Mahalo Nui Loa!



Preliminary Rendering of the Future Early Education Facility

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, purchasing numerous supplies for the classrooms and treating the entire faculty and staff to a wonderful teacher appreciation lunch complete with goodie bags and gift cards. Mahalo to the PTC for their consistent and generous support of Saint Mark! It is truly appreciated!



Athletics



Congratulations to the JV boys and girls basketball teams. They had a great season with many very exciting games. Mahalo to **Coach Kuulei, Coach Curtis, and Coach Mac.**

Thank you, **Denise Warrington**, for organizing a great Athletic Banquet where we celebrated our athletes and coaches. A special congratulations to our Male and Female Scholar Athletes of the Year, **Fenua Aiu and Kara Iwamoto-Skelton.**

We are in the midst of enjoying our intramural kickball games for K-3 students. Excitement is in the air every Tuesday and Thursday after school as the teams prepare to go down to the field to play. Thank you to our coaches, **Mrs. Flores, Mrs. McMillian, Mrs. Schroppel, and Mrs. Kong** and to our pitcher/umpires, **Pastor Matt and Ms. Pelletier.**

Check out SMLS ...



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC thanks everyone for another wonderful school year and is looking forward to working with **Cissy Shaner** to plan and execute the **6th Annual Benefit Gala on Saturday, November 7, 2015.** The next PTC meeting will be in late June or early July to discuss the plans for the gala fundraiser. Please be on the lookout for an email announcing the date and time of the meeting.



PTC Officers for the 2015-2016 school year have been elected and are as follows:

- President - **Elena Bryant**
- Vice President - **Robin Kaha`ulelio**
- Treasurer - **Mele Manu**
- Secretary - **Rachel Hilpert**

This & That

Please remember that our uniform store, Campus Creations is very busy during the summer. So do not wait until the last minute to purchase next year's school uniforms. Call **Campus Creation** at 484-9191 to inquire or place an order.



All students, faculty & staff gathered for this wonderful picture taken by Eric Anderson

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers, for all the sorting and counting of box tops. Because of their help, we received \$2300 from **Box Tops for Education.** The money is being used for continuing improvements to our campus & programs.

Our **last day of school** is **Friday, May 29th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no after-care.**

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

The **first day of school** for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year is **Wednesday, July 29th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no aftercare.**

We bid farewell to our **graduating eighth graders** as they begin their

journey to high school. Some of the schools these students will be attending are: Damien, Hawaii Baptist Academy, `Iolani, Le Jardin, Maryknoll, Mid-Pacific, Trinity Christian, Castle and Kalaheo. Congratulations Graduates!!!



Please stay safe and enjoy your Summer Break!!

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

Saint Mark is still accepting new student applications for the 2015-16 school year