

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 2016

A Message from the Head of School



*The May Day Queen
dancing to "The Prayer"*

With our May Day celebration, Big Island trip, and spring concerts behind us, it's nearly time to bring the 2015-2016 school year to a close. It has been another busy year full of countless learning activities, excursions, and other educational opportunities for our students. In addition to the numerous learning opportunities afforded to our students, Saint Mark's faculty, staff and administration also participated in an immensely important educational experience this year.

As you are hopefully aware, Saint Mark School recently and successfully completed the re-accreditation self-study process. It was a comprehensive process of self-examination and reflection that began in the fall of 2014 and culminated this past February with a multi-day visit from a four member accreditation team. By all accounts it was a validating and meaningful visit, and we are happy to share that we recently

received word that Saint Mark Lutheran School was granted a **maximum accreditation term of seven years!** Mahalo to all who supported this invaluable process.

Besides reflecting on the year gone by, this is also a time to say good-bye. This year we bid a warm aloha to **Ms. Gerling** as she relocates to the mainland. We profoundly thank her for her years of service to the church and school and wish her all of God's blessings in her future endeavors.

As is often the case, as we say good-bye, we also say hello. We welcome our new grade 3 teacher, **Mrs. Rachel Sitler**. She comes to Saint Mark with a master's degree and several years of teaching experience, and we are excited to have her joining our team.

We are also excited to announce that we have two current teachers switching their teaching assignments next year. **Mrs. McMillian** will be taking over **grade 4** and **Ms. Camit** will be moving to **grade 2**.

Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark



Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark is right around the corner!

Join us **June 6-10 from 8:30am to 12:30pm**, as we catch the wave of God's amazing love at Surf Shack VBS. Registration is \$5 per participant which covers the cost of daily snacks and crafts.

To register your child age four to entering fifth grade, please visit: cokesburyvbs.com/saintmarkhawaii. Youth entering sixth grade and above as well as adults are invited to join us as volunteers as we share God's love with our keiki.

Dates to Remember

May 20: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 25: "Snow Day" from 8:00am to 10:30am

May 26: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 27: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTERCARE**

June 1-15: All Report cards mailed home

June 6-10: Vacation Bible School at Saint Mark

June 19-23: Summer Mailing Packets go home

July 27: First Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal with **NO AFTERCARE**

August 3: K-5 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 4: Grades 6-8 Back-to-School Orientation at 6:30 p.m.

August 5: Fall School Pictures

August 19: No School - Admissions' Day

September 5: No School - Labor Day



If interested, please contact Miss Morris at sarah@stmarkhawaii.org or 247-4565.

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergartners have had a spectacular school year packed with learning, making friends and having fun! The last couple weeks of school have been filled with special activities and memories such as Wheel Week, a May Day performance, swimming at the Kokokahi YWCA with the fifth graders, visiting Sea Life Park, and singing for their parents at the K-2 Spring Concert. The kindergartners are excited about their graduation and visiting their first grade teacher. These "almost first graders" are sad to leave kindergarten but are looking forward to new learning and adventures!

First Grade: We are proud of the hard work that went into our May Day dance directed by Saint Mark's **Aunty Channy**. The first graders invited their moms or grandmas to a Mother's Day Tea to honor them and share in a special memory of conversation, a slideshow and a song. In May we also started weekly swim class to sharpen our skills for

the summer and our end-of-the-year beach party. That end-of-the-year celebration will be held on May 26th! It will be a great way to come together as families with our year coming to a close. We are also looking forward to some oral presentations from our students on their endangered animal poster projects. And finally, the first graders are collecting donations for our silent auction which will take place on May 23rd. The children worked hard all year to earn "play money" and this will be a great way to spend it! It has been an outstanding year of growth, rich learning, and memories!

Second Grade: Second graders are having an exciting last quarter. They learned about pop art as they studied Andy Warhol and were ex-

cited to begin building their Meccano robots that were given to them by the PTC. In math, they are learning the concepts of multiplication and division to help them get ready for third grade. The students also studied the importance of the Bible and made a music video about it. In addition, they worked hard on an eight-page report about a famous person they chose to study. They came to school dressed up as their person and gave a presentation in front of the class. It was fun yet informative for everyone. The students also took a field trip to the Lucoral Museum and learned all about different types of rocks and minerals and toured a "cave" that featured real dinosaur fossils and eggs. Lastly, they made bracelets using real gemstones and presented it to their mothers for Mother's Day.



Grade 1 and their Mothers enjoyed a wonderful Mother's Day Tea!

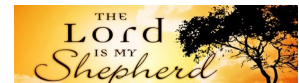
Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: Third graders have been busy preparing to challenge the fifth graders to a Multiplication Challenge. It was a close race with both classes taking the lead at different times. Now we are learning fractions and learning how to divide objects into equal pieces. In Language Arts, we are writing short stories and creating exciting titles, and we are illustrating those stories in art. The end of the fourth quarter is always a fun time in third grade as we prepare for our classroom talent show.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders had an AMAZING and EDUCATIONAL trip to the Big Island! At the Ha-

waii National Volcanoes Park we explored lava tubes and walked through the stinky smelling sulfur banks. The fourth graders swam in a warm pond that is naturally heated by volcanic energy at Ahalanui Hot Pond. At Kawaihae and Kiholo Bay we participated in mul-

iple activities learning more about our ocean and the sea life that lives there. We ended our trip by visiting the famous Pu'uhonua O Hōnaunau National Historical Park. Students learned more about the stories and historical value surrounding this refuge. It was a great way to end our year!!



Grade 4 students enjoyed a beautiful visit to Waipi'o Valley on the Big Island

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: This has been a fantastic year in fifth grade. I could not be more happy with how well these fifth graders have done over the course of the year. For our final quarter we have had a few major focuses both within and outside of our normal curriculum. Students have had a lot of fun on the litera-

ture side of things, as we have been doing poetry slams, reader's theater performances, and creating our own fairy tales. We are working on state reports where each student becomes a master on one state within the United States and presents it to the class. Outside of the classroom, we went to the Aviation Museum

where everyone went through a simulation course on how to land a plane. We also went to the Hanauma Bay where we got to swim and experience the wonders in the ocean together. All in all, this has been an incredible year filled with a whole lot of learning, and having a fun time doing it.



Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

In **sixth grade Bible**, we are studying how Jesus' story and the good news of forgiveness and salvation spread throughout the world. We are also learning about "Heroes of Faith" like Cornelius, Tabitha, and Paul, and how they helped grow the Early Christian Church.

Sixth grade science students had an awesome debate about which renewable energy resource is best for Hawaii and are now studying the solar system. **Seventh graders** finished studying the nervous system and will complete the year learning about ecosystems and biomes. **Eighth grade** students looked briefly at the characteristics of waves and are now studying sound and light.

Seventh grade math is studying measurement and how to find perimeter, area, circumference, and volume, and learning how to use the Pythagorean Theorem. **Eighth grade algebra** finished studying polynomials and factoring and now is learning about quadratic equations and functions and how to graph them.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade Bible is in the final unit, *Witnessing: Faith for Life*. It is wonderful to know we have eternal life through Jesus, and to be able to share that good news with others!

Eighth grade English students spent SAT week giving motivational speeches to the rest of the class. They are now finishing their histori-

cal fiction theme by creating presentations for the novels they chose to read.

Sixth grade math and seventh and eighth pre-algebra students are doing final lessons from their book and finishing up projects. The **sixth graders** are making up original strategy games, and **seventh and eighth graders** have been enjoying the beauty of tessellations. We are ALL looking forward the beauty of summer vacation!

Mrs. Souki's News:

The **eighth grade Bible class** was busy planning for chapel with our kindergarten buddies on April 20th. Since it was so close to Earth Day the students shared the story of creation and tips on how we can be stewards of the gift God created for us. Next is our service project for the year, a clean-up day at He'eia fishpond. Finally, we are looking forward to sharing our faith through song during the eighth grade graduation.

Sixth and seventh grade English students are testing a new version of the Shurley Method workbook. The **sixth grade** achieved an A average on the first exam of the quarter! They are finishing up the Wordly Wise book and just began student lead discussion groups for our new literature circles.

Sixth grade world history students started their study of Europe. They will be learning about the ride of Charlemagne, the Crusades, the Renaissance, and the Reformation.

They recently acted out various historical skits they developed about the Medieval times, it even involved some black death confetti!

Seventh grade geography began studying Southeast Asian regions including Arabia, Iraq, Israel, Iran and Turkey. They also studied the the environmental cost of food production. We took a field trip to Whole Foods where the friendly staff helped to explain the various factors involved when making food choices. Each student created an environmentally conscious recipe.

Eighth grade U.S. history completed their study of the World Wars and will examine the complex times of the Cold War and the Civil Rights Movement. The students will consider the major changes that occurred during this time in history. We put a man on the moon, came back from the brink of nuclear war, lost a president to assassination, began desegregation in the South, and fought in Vietnam. This was a turbulent time in America.

Miss Morris' News:

Fourth quarter in P.E. started out with getting ready for our All Lutheran Schools Track and Field meet. Our grade 5 to 8 students worked hard and were able to take home quite a few ribbons! As we wrap up the year, many of our students will be receiving the Presidential Fitness Award. Congratulations to the recipients for working hard all year!



Middle School - 3rd Quarter Awards

Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)

Ian Anderson
Kalia Bourgeois
Kaiana Lindsey
Randi Wong
Casey Barreca
Mariah Basques
Jersey Botelho
Tyler Buckingham
Noah Gaudi
Sophie Hepton
Abigail Hilpert
Reef Lee

Sirena Linton

Lani Warren

Honor Roll

(GPA 3.0—3.75)

Erin Camp
Sara Cruz
Keanu Duarte
Ryli Kalahiki
La`akea Kaonohi
Ethan Shek
Matthew Tanji
James Tsukamoto
Kaya Tsuji

Megan Westphal

Rylie Wong

David Yamashiro
Nathanael Aiu
Marc Gonzalez
Keapono McGee-Lee
Camille McMillian
Dane Sumimoto
Brynn Denis
Hunter-Bailey
Kaimikaua
Emma Lindsey
Sophia Sagarese
Eli Warren

Principal's Award

(Improved GPA by 0.3)

Francisco Apilando
Matthew Tanji
Danae Cullen
Marc Gonzalez
Sophie Hepton
Keapono McGee-Lee
Hank Warrington

Citizenship

Ian Anderson

(cont. on page 4)

Awards (cont.)

Kalia Bourgeois
Keanu Duarte
La`akea Kaonohi
Kaiana Lindsey
James Tsukamoto
Megan Westphal
David Yamashiro
Casey Barreca
Jersey Botelho
Sophie Hepton
Abi Hilpert
Camille McMillian
Brynn Denis
Reef Lee

**HARD WORK
PAYS OFF**

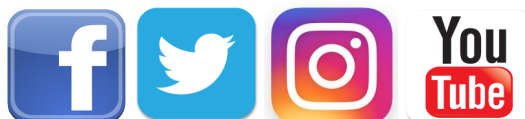


What an enthusiastic, energy-filled, exciting JV basketball season we had! Both the boys and girls were eager to get started, asking in December when their practices and games would start. The answer was always the same..."in the fourth quarter", but they kept on asking. Finally, their practices and games started. Their games were exciting and fun to watch. Mahalo nui loa to **Coach Curtis** (and to **Coach Bruce** for filling in when needed).

We had a wonderful time of celebrating our athletes at the Athletic Banquet. JV and varsity volleyball and basketball boys and girls were recognized, as were their coaches.

A big mahalo goes to **Denise Warrington** for once again coordinating such a wonderful event. Have a great summer!

Check out SMLS on ...



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



A **BIG Mahalo** goes to the PTC 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!

We are looking forward to working with **Cissy Shaner** to plan and execute the **7th Annual Benefit Gala** on **Saturday, November 12, 2016**. The next PTC meeting will be on **June 18** to discuss the plans for the gala fundraiser. Please be on the lookout for an email announcing the exact time and location of the meeting.

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.



Saint Mark received **\$1,367** from **Box Tops for Education**. This money is being used to sponsor next week's exciting all-school "Snow Day". Thank you to the volunteers who helped with sorting and counting the box tops.



Dr. Gaudi & the entire school celebrated Dane's return to school after his open heart surgery

The **first day of school** for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year is **Wednesday, July 27th**.

We wish our **graduating eighth graders** warm farewell and good luck as they begin their journey to high school. Some of the high schools these students will be attending are as follows: Hanalani, `Iolani, Kamehameha, Sacred Hearts, St. Louis, and Kalaheo.. Congratulations Grads!!!

Our last day of school is **Friday, May 27th** with an early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. and **no** aftercare.

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



Grade 1 students visit the exciting Butterfly Conservatory Exhibit

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

Saint Mark is still accepting new student applications for the 2016-17 school year

Please stay safe & enjoy your Summer Break!!

