

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**

April 2012

A Message from the Principal

It is a wonderfully busy and altogether exhilarating time of the year for both students and educators. Here we are in the middle of April with the family work day, K-2 cantata, SAT's, May Day, the Big Island trip, the spring choir/band concert, the Mighty Mo overnight stay, our two graduations, and much more all occurring in the days and weeks ahead. You can feel the excitement building in anticipation of the rapidly approaching summer break.

As the 2011-2012 school year builds to its crescendo, we must pause to thank all of the generous donors who have contributed to our matching funds drive. As you have probably heard, the Harold K.L. Castle foundation has graciously offered to match every dollar we raise from alumni and their extended families up to \$25,000. **We are thrilled to report that we have thus far raised nearly \$12,000.** However, we are not stopping there. **Our hope is to raise \$25,000 by the end of June!** And with nearly 60 years' worth of Saint Mark graduates, we are very optimistic that we will meet our goal.

With over \$100,000 in facility renovations and technology upgrades planned in the months ahead, we are hoping to make the most of this generous offer from Castle. Some of the improvements that we have planned are to refurbish the older classrooms, install energy efficient windows and lights, and enhance the overall look and feel of the campus.

Additionally, we are working to purchase iPad's to be used in a pilot program. Our preliminary plan is for the iPad's to be shared amongst the classes as our teachers explore the most prudent and meaningful ways to implement them into their curriculum. It is our belief that through proper training, investigation, and collaboration our teachers will discover new and exciting ways to impact student learning with this versatile tool.

Please help us to continue to spread the word. For this truly is a worthwhile cause! Mahalo Nui Loa for your support!



iPad



May Day Program

Please join us for our biennial May Day program on **Friday, May 4 at 12:45 p.m.** in the Saint Mark gym.

All Saint Mark students will be participating. Invite your friends and family. It promises to be a wonderful show. Students who are accompanied by their parents will be allowed to go home after the program. Please call the school office at 247-5589 if you have any questions.

Dates to Remember

April 21: Family Work Day at 9:00 a.m.

April 22: K-2 Cantata at 5:00 p.m.

April 23-27: SAT Testing

May 3: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

May 4: May Day Program at 12:45 p.m.

May 9-11: Grade 4 Big Island trip

May 10: Grades 5-8 Track Meet

May 15: Grades 3-6 Choir & 4-8 Band Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

May 16: Grades 7 & 8 over night stay on the Mighty Mo

May 25: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 28: Memorial Day - No School

May 31: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

June 1: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal
K-5 Report Cards go home

June 4-8: Grades 6-8 Report Cards Mailed Home

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: We were excited about our musical cantata we are presenting with the first and second graders. And we're ready for Lei Day with songs and our own hulas. Our graduation operetta is coming soon and we're learning our speaking parts, learning lots of songs and solos, and painting scenery. We'll have special Boys' Day and Mother's Day activities, too. We will read to Mrs. Olson and get acquainted with first grade. So many exciting things happening while we continue to write, do math, read, and spell. Oh, and we'll have one more Wheel Week. Exciting times.

First grade: The first graders are busy learning about non-fiction

reading and writing! Each child is a member of a non-fiction book club and is researching a topic that interests them. They are learning to take notes as they read, and will use these notes to help them write a big "All About" non-fiction book. The book will include a table of contents, several chapters, diagrams, and a "How-To" chapter! They are looking forward to sharing their books in order to teach others what they have learned through their research. The children are also excited to dance and share their oli with everyone at our May Day celebration. We have several exciting excursions planned for the last month of the school year and hope that our families will join us!

Second grade: The second grade students had a wonderful time on our field trip to the Nature Center. We went fishing in a stream, hiking up a muddy trail, and went hunting for wiggly worms and other decomposers. It was a great review of all of the cycles in nature that we have been learning about in science. The students have been practicing their hula for May Day. For some of us it's the very first time dancing the hula! In math we have been learning how to make different graphs, diagrams, and charts. We are working to get ready for the SAT testing by learning how to use good listening skills, make good guesses, and doing practice test.

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third grade: Third grade has been busy working on our May Day performances. Mahalo to Mrs. Oliveros and Mr. Keni for working with our class for our presentation. We have been doing lots of review for our SAT testing for next week. We took a field trip to the Kaneohe Library to gather information for our Wax Museum project. We have been spending time getting information from our books so that we can work on our timelines and the report. We have been working with fractions in math and learning about the 13 Original Colonies in social studies. We continue to work hard as our school year begins to wind down. Remember that students need 10 A.R. points this quarter, so make sure they are getting their reading done.

Fourth grade: During the month of April, the fourth graders were exploring electricity and magnetism.

They learned how electromagnets and electric motors work. The students can't wait to build their own electromagnets. They have been busy learning all about ancient Hawaiian war tactics. The students were surprised to learn that the Hawaiians celebrated a four month holiday that prevented them from engaging in any wars or battles. The makahiki started at the end of October. This was a time of peace for the Hawaiian people. The chiefs and koa (warriors) played games and trained for battles during this time. The fourth graders visited Hokule'a this month and learned all about how she was reengineered for her world voyage. The



Grade 4 on the Hokule'a

students had a lot of fun learning with Aunty Momi. She even let the students climb around inside the hulls and help steer Hokule'a with her 300 lb steering blade. Our Big Island trip is just around the corner! The students will be on the Big Island May 11-13. We will be flying in and out of Kona and circumnavigating the island in three days.

We will be visiting the heiau that King Kamehameha built, an ancient fishpond, waterfalls, Pu'uuhonua O Honaunau (city of refuge), Volcano National Park, Petroglyph Park in Puako, the Naha stone that King Kamehameha lifted, and much more.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth grade: Starbase-Atlantis really was a BLAST! Our fifth grade had an awesome week at Starbase participating in many math, engineering, and science activities. Their favorite activities were the flight simulator, Eggbert, building rockets and launching them,

designing on a 3-D computer, and visiting a hanger at the Air Museum. Students discovered the success achieved by working as a member of a team as well as the unique satisfaction that comes from believing in themselves.

Students discovered the success achieved by working as a member of a team...



Grade 5 & 6 Students at Star Base

Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

For the next several weeks students in **seventh grade Bible** will be writing sermons for the keiki of Saint Mark Lutheran Church. On Sunday they will share their special message with the keiki and help out during Sunday School.

Eighth grade American history students will use many primary sources to learn more about history in the 19th and 20th centuries. These documents include the book, *The Jungle*, drafts of President Roosevelt's war speech, and first-hand accounts of the civil rights movements.

Seventh grade geography students will be studying the geography, history and cultures of Asia.

Sixth through eighth grade math classes will be trying out math stations, some of which include yummy food!

On May 16, the **seventh and eighth grade** students will travel to Ford Island to participate in an overnight stay on the U.S.S. Missouri Battleship!

Miss Maddick's News:

Bravo! Our **Jr. High Speech Festival** went well. Thank you to the students for their hard work and to the parents for being so supportive!

In **language arts** we are reading themed books. The **sixth grade** theme is World History and Cul-

tures. The **seventh grade** theme is people with special needs. The **eighth grade** theme is WWII in Europe and the Pacific.

Communications classes will be busy with **seventh grade** demonstration speeches and **eighth grade** poetry readings.

Sixth grade world history is exploring the major explorers of the 15th-18th centuries. We will see how they viewed people in those places and the conflicts that resulted. It is interesting that conflicts today have roots in what we see in our history books.

We continue to learn about how to live our Christian faith, we continue our study of Gary Chapman's *5 Love Languages*. We have examined Words of Affirmation, Gifts, and are starting Acts of Service. We will then delve into Quality Time and Physical Touch (like hugs!). All of these Love Languages help us share God's love with our families, friends, and beyond.

Mrs. McGregor's News:

Sixth grade Bible students studied Proverbs, a collection of wise sayings written by Solomon, to better understand what God says about wisdom. They are now discussing the prophecies in the Old Testament and the fulfillment of prophecy in the New Testament.

Seventh grade science students are studying the human body, the skeletal system and the muscular

system. They learned about the Integumentary System, and can identify the different layers of skin. They will spend time learning about caring for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns and how to avoid skin cancer. The students loved performing a virtual knee surgery and brain surgery at www.edheads.org/activities/knee. Really cool!

Sixth grade science students are studying weather and participating in interactive games to learn about the electromagnetic spectrum. While studying heat transfer, they completed experiments on convection currents, watched videos, and made use of engaging websites. They also made an anemometer to measure wind speed at various locations on campus. They will wrap up the unit by studying cloud types and hearing stories from storm trackers.

Eighth grade science students have been studying forces and Newton's Laws of Motion. They have completed experiments on friction using a spring scale to measure in (N) and shared ideas on how to design an experiment that demonstrates Newton's Third Law.

Miss Morris' News:

Do you like getting awards? I'm sure you do! Keep working on your Presidential Fitness goals and you may be one who receives a National or Presidential Award! All of junior high will be competing in the Track and Field meet on May 10th.

Junior High Awards

Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)

Alexis Chang-Takayama
Sage Iona
Kala Kahapea-Aquino
Rhys Kalama
Melia Manu
Tristan Scharfenstein-
Montgomery
Kahiau Souza
Adrienne Bonham
Isaiah Graham
Kiana Lo
Martine Marantz
Risa McGregor
Lannin Nakai

Kaimi Won

Jayson Wong
Madison Lee
Kailani Linton
Jaron Pagaduan
Haley Pilien

Honor Roll

(GPA 3.0—3.74)

Kaimana Cameron
Kathryn Johnson
Makoa Sanchez
Justin Taniguchi
Auahi Aiu
Mikayla Aki
Kainanimaile Bradley

Aimee Clark

David Murray
Lauryn Ohai
Jackson Wadsworth
Christian Eaton
Skye Hinazumi
Megan Howland
Alexandrea Lauro
Desmond Mello
Nicole Pang
Keaka Rodrigues
Daesha Wilson

Principal's Award

Kaimana Cameron
Alexis Chang-Takayama

Isaiah Graham

David Murray
Lannin Nakai
Lauryn Ohai
Christian Eaton
Skye Hinazumi

Citizenship Award

Alexis Chang-Takayama
Sage Iona
Kala Kahapea-Aquino
Melia Manu
Kahiau Souza
Justin Taniguchi

(cont. on page 4)

Awards (cont.)

Adrienne Bonham
Aimee Clark
Risa McGregor
Martine Marantz
Lauryn Ohai
Kaimi Won
Jayson Wong
Skye Hinazumi
Alex Lauro
Madison Lee
Kailani Linton
Nicole Pang
Haley Piliin

GREAT WORK!!

Athletics

Our JV basketball season is well on its way with both the boys and girls doing very well and improving with every game. Our next event is the LSSL Golf Tournament for fifth - eighth graders. It will be held on Saturday, April 28 at Bay View Golf Course. Please see Mrs. Kong if you would like more information.



Our Athletic Banquet is rapidly approaching. Plans are underway to honor our athletes. More information will be sent home later.

Students from Kindergarten to third grade can sign up to play Kickball. If your child is interested a form will be going home that must be returned by April 26. Games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays and will last for approximately 45 minutes with games starting at 3:05. See Mrs. Kong if you need more information.



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



Please join us at the next PTC meeting **on Tuesday, May 22 at 5:30 p.m.**

We are working hard planning for **teacher appreciation week** and preliminarily planning for the **3rd Annual Gala** next fall - Saturday, November 5, 2012.

This & That

Chapel offerings for February and March went to the American Heart Association. We collected \$363!

Our **May Day** program is on Friday, May at 12:45 p.m. Everyone is invited! The entire school is involved. There could be a problem with parking space so arrive early and carpool if possible.

The **grades three to six Choir** and **grades four to eight Band** will hold their Spring Concert at Saint Mark on Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 p.m.

All students in grades first through eighth will be participating in **SAT testing** the week of April 23-27. Please make sure your child comes to school well rested.

Kindergarten graduation is on Friday evening, May 25 at 7:00 p.m. Graduates will have their cap and gown ceremony and will present their operetta for their friends and families. They

DO have school the last week of May when **Mrs. Gundermann** will refer to them as "first graders".

Kate Chaffin, a senior at Castle High School and a nine year Saint Mark student, is volunteering every afternoon in second grade. She recently won the state championship in a contest regarding 'first responders' and a weeklong all expense paid trip to Orlando, including a visit to Disneyworld. Congratulations Kate!



Grade 3 students on a trip to the Makapu'u light house

On May 16 we are privileged to have the **Royal Hawaiian Band** come and perform for the students of Saint Mark. They've even asked us to sing a song while they accompany us. The song is "We Belong." We look

forward to this experience and are very grateful for their coming to Saint Mark. Family members are invited, but there may be standing room only. The performance is at 11:00 a.m.

If you are in the downtown area during the month of May, be sure to go to the **State Capitol** where **art work from Saint Mark students** in Grades 1 - 8 will be on display. We're proud of the thirty pieces of art work that will be shown for all visitors to see.

Next year's **kindergartners** will be invited to visit the classroom and get acquainted with Saint Mark. This will take place on May 17th and 18th. This years Kindergartners are sending them special invitations.