

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**

August 2012

A Message from the Principal

We are just about at the mid-quarter, and I am happy to report that the new school year is off to a great start. We are excited to welcome three new educators to the Saint Mark ohana this year - **Mrs. Julie Venegas** (Grade 1), **Mrs. Kim Gonzalez** (Grade 2), and **Miss Jackie Camit** (Grade 4). Please join me in extending them a warm aloha as they join our family.

The complete 2012-2013 Saint Mark faculty and staff are listed as follows:



Kindergarten - **Mrs. Gundermann**

Grade 1 - **Mrs. Venegas**

Grade 2 - **Mrs. Gonzalez**

Grade 3 - **Mrs. Hinton**

Grade 4 - **Miss Camit**

Grade 5 - **Mrs. Flores**



Jr. High Science, Math & Bible - **Mrs. McGregor**

Jr. High English, Social Studies & Bible - **Miss Maddick**

Jr. High Math, Social Studies & Bible - **Mrs. Hantel**

Jr. High P.E. & Director of Christian Education - **Miss Morris**

Jr. High Art, Grade 2 Educational Assistant & After Care Director - **Mrs. Gibo**

Director of School Programs, Athletic Director, & Computers - **Mrs. Kong**

Band - **Mr. Bauchle**

3-6 Choir - **Mrs. Pescht**

K-2 Choir - **Mrs. Gundermann**

Kindergarten Educational Assistant & Before Care Worker - **Mrs. Akaka**

Grade 1 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Mrs. Heaton**

Library, Grade 3 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Mrs. Manu**

After Care - **Mrs. Gibo, Miss Jen Heaton & Mrs. Manu**

School Secretary/Admissions Coordinator - **Mrs. Lee**

Business Manager - **Mrs. Lawrence**

As is customary at Saint Mark, in addition to the new staff, we also want to welcome all of our new school families and welcome back our returning families. We know that you have many choices when it comes to your children's education, and we thank you for putting your trust in us. You continue to be our most important ambassadors, and we greatly appreciate your commitment!

Fundraiser Off to Great Start

We are half way through our catalogue and cookie dough fall fundraiser! Students were given a packet last week containing a catalogue and two inserts (Nuts About Snacks and Tasty Batters) from *Great American Opportunities*. We are asking our students to sell as many items from the catalogue and inserts as they can by **Wednesday, August 29**. The more products we sell, the more money we raise for the school.

Our goal is to raise \$10,000 by next Wednesday! Monies raised are used to assist school programs including new technology & our financial aid program. In addition to cash prizes and the wonderful assortment incentives from Great America, students selling 10 items will be entered in a drawing to win their choice of an iPod Touch or Kindle Fire (valued at \$200)!

Dates to Remember

August 23: Mid-Quarter Reports go home

August 29: Catalogue Fund-raiser Ends

August 29 - 31: Optional Parent Teacher Conferences (Grades 6-8)

August 31: 11:30 a.m. dismissal due to the conferences

September 3: Labor Day No School

September 7: Fall Family Night - Movie Night

September 10-14: Scholastic Book Fair

September 10: Grandparents' Day in Kindergarten

September 16: Grades 3-6 Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 21: Fall Picture Make-up Day

September 28: 1st Quarter Ends

October 1-12: Fall Intersession

October 1-5: Grades 6-8 Report Cards mailed home

October 15: School Resumes K-5 Report Cards go home with students

October 17: Flu Vaccination Clinic at 8:30 a.m.

October 17 -19: Parent Teacher Conferences (Grades K-5)

October 19: 11:30 a.m. dismissal due to the conferences

October 21: K-2 Concert and Potluck at 5:00 p.m.

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: 24 Kindergartners are quickly making new friends, learning routines, and 'digging in' to exciting kindergarten work. There are lots of reading and math activities, swimming every week, and making "surprises" for Grandparents' Day. We are having a daily alphabet letter, learning how to make the letters correctly, learning a song and hearing a story for each letter. And most fun of all, having a food treat. Seven classmates have August birthdays so that's fun for everyone. And Mrs. Gundermann is busy visiting everyone, seeing their rooms, yards, and pets, and getting acquainted with everyone in the family.

First Grade: The first grade Family has experienced lots of "firsts" this month. They have built their first friendship web, they completed

their first Math Minute, and they enjoyed eating lunch outside on our new picnic benches that were graciously donated by the Boy Scouts and Austin Seibold's Grandpa. The first grade has learned how to be a member of the first grade team, and work together to solve problems in the classroom and on the playground. They each received their first moolah bank to save money for their first "Open Market." They will go on their first field trip to the Kokokahi YMCA with the kindergarten class. The first grade family is learning how special they are as individuals, and how we fit together to form the first grade family.

Second Grade: Second graders have had a spectacular beginning of school! The students were excited to have four new friends and a new teacher join the second grade

ohana. During these first weeks of school, the students learned classroom routines and expectations, and they also spent time getting to know one another while building their classroom community. By putting together a puzzle, they learned that each one of them is a piece to our classroom and that each one is an important part of our ohana. The second graders are looking forward to learning lots of new things together this year.



Grade 2 student having fun working in the Grade 1-2 Garden

Classroom News - Third & Fourth

Third Grade: The third grade has been very busy getting into the routine of school. They have been working on building teams and creating groups so that they can work well together. They started homework packets the week of the 13th of August and will go swimming with the kindergartners on Friday, August 24. They are learning about ecosystems in science and did a science lab involving owl pellets so they could understand the food chain of owls. They are getting the ins and outs of Shurley down and have made great progress at becoming readers and implementing the various parts of a Reading Workshop type of classroom. Many

students have already taken A.R. tests and several others are just about ready. They are working hard at becoming a group of children that can work efficiently together. They are still learning procedures but they are doing a great job! Way to go,



Grade 4 students enjoying themselves

Fourth Grade: A big focus this year for the fourth grade class is Hawaiian Studies. We will be learning about our Hawaiian Islands

and their unique history starting with how they came to be. And did you know that the kalo plant is actually an introduced species?! There are so many plants and animals that make our islands special but are they native or introduced? By the end of the month our students will be able to tell you!

Classroom News - Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade: Our fifth grade had a blast swimming at the YWCA pool with kindergarten. The sun was shining, the water was cool, and everyone had a wonderful time. Thank you to the many parent drivers that made our field trip possible. Mahalo from fifth grade!



Grade 5 students having a blast swimming at the YWCA pool with our kindergarten students

Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

The 2012-2013 has had an exciting start in the **Jr. High**. In **seventh grade**, we are blessed to have 13 new students! They have made a wonderful addition to our Saint Mark ohana. Last week, the **seventh graders** were introduced to their first grade chapel buddies. They were able to enjoy lunch outside while getting to know each other.

In **grades sixth through eighth math**, the students are excited for a year that is filled with interactive notebooks, real-world projects, and even a math fair in the spring! These aren't your ordinary math classes.

This year, while learning about **American History**, the **eighth grade** students are going to become experts in our upcoming presidential election. They will be keeping up to date with current events, researching the different candidates, and even helping to inform the public of the issues.

Seventh graders are preparing themselves for a year's study of **geography**. They are currently learning about the different tools of geography. Later in the year, they will be "traveling" the world to learn about the different and exciting cultures. We are excited to see how the new iPads will help this learning process!

Miss Maddick's News:

The **Jr. High** is starting the year by exploring the mysteries that **Literature, the Bible, and History** have for us. In **Language Arts** we are hard at work with vocabulary, spelling, grammar, writing, AR reading, and class novels. **Sixth grade** is exploring the mysterious world of *Tuck Everlasting*, **seventh grade** is navigating *The Giver*, and eighth grade is discovering the world of *Uglies*. All three explore what could be reality in future societies.

In **eighth grade Bible** class, we are examining our lives as **Dynamic Christians**. In **sixth grade Social Studies**, we are looking at the beginnings of history, when man

moved beyond oral history and began recording events. We are working on our map skills to aid this worldwide journey. **Seventh and eighth grade communications** allow us to search for the best words and ways to use those words to share the mysteries of autobiographical and biographical speeches. As we investigate all these mysteries, we look forward to the clues and possibilities to come.

Mrs. McGregor's News:

The **sixth graders** are studying the New Testament Gospel writers. They have made comparisons with each author's approach to tell the same story about the life of Jesus.

In **earth science** the **sixth graders** have been learning about the scientific method and have been using their creative minds as they work in their interactive notebooks.

The **seventh grade science students** reviewed the scientific method, inferences, observations, technology, and lab safety. The students were extremely excited to prep the school garden. We will be planting a variety of vegetables and herbs in the upcoming weeks.

Last week, **eighth graders** had an overview of the concepts in **physical science**. Students will begin a series of experiments which enhances their inquiry skills.

ALL JR. HIGH STUDENTS need to start brainstorming ideas for your **Science Fair** project. More information will be sent home soon.

Pre-Algebra and **Math 7** are enjoying their new interactive notebooks and the engaging approach to teaching math concepts. Fun!

Miss Morris' News:

Junior High P.E. is up and running! Hopefully everyone had a great summer. This quarter we are working on volleyball and basketball. Don't forget to practice your Presidential Fitness challenges at home.

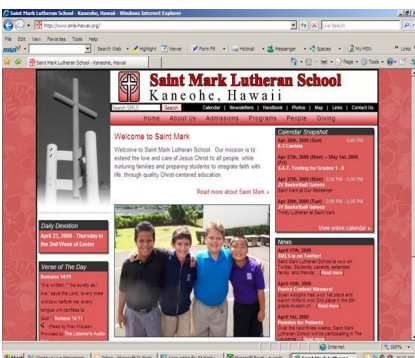
Youth Quest has started back up! This year we have almost 40 5th-8th graders who will be joining us as we learn about the Bible. Be sure to look for your weekly activity at youthquestconvo.blogspot.com

Our next **Junior High Lock-In** will be September 14th-15th. Save the date and be on the look out for more information coming soon



Grade 7 enjoying a wonderful outdoor lunch with their grade 1 chapel buddies

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!



Please take some time to visit the SMLS 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.



Athletics



The practices have started, the uniforms have been passed out, the schedule has been finalized...let the games begin! The varsity boys and girls volleyball season started with our first game last Thursday against Windward Nazarene. We are once again excited to have **Coach Kim** back working hard and working the athletes hard.

The Lutheran Schools Sports League which we belong to also offers JV volleyball (grade 5 & 6 boys and girls), varsity and JV basketball for both boys and girls, a cross country meet for grade 5-8 boys and girls, and a golf tournament. All scheduled games are listed on the school calendar on our website. If you have any questions, please call or email **Mrs. Kong**.



2012-2013 Faculty and Staff at the Installation and Rededication Church Service on August 5

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is busy at work planning the **3rd Annual Benefit Gala...**



The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 3 at The Pacific Club** and will include an evening of wonderful food, live entertainment and an exciting silent auction for our community and friends. The money raised in this event will be used to continue to enhance our computer technology and support our financial aid program. Thank you to the parents who have offered to serve on the PTC. Everyone is invited to attend our PTC meetings; it takes all of us working together to make Saint Mark the best it can be.

This & That

Kindergarteners are making their weekly trips to the Kōkokahi pool. Each class will join them for one trip. It's a wonderful way to cool off and have some fun during these hot days. Thanks to all the volunteer drivers from all grades.

Kindergarteners are also excited about the upcoming Grandparent's Day on Monday, September 10. We expect an overflowing crowd and the students will be so proud to show off with songs and activities.

All students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m. on August 31 for the **Optional Parent-Teacher Conferences** for Grades 6-8. The conferences for grades K-5 are scheduled for October 17-19.

Make plans to attend the **Fall Family Night** on Friday, September 7. It will be a fun filled movie night!



Grade 1 students starting their day with some fun singing and dancing

The **catalogue fundraiser** will run through Wednesday, August 29. Thank you for helping your keiki with this venture.

August **Chapel Offerings** are going to Lutheran Church World Relief. September offerings are going to Family Promise. Mahalo for your support!

We need everyone's support to help make the **3rd Annual Benefit Gala** scheduled for Saturday, November 3rd a huge success!

Saint Mark will once again be participating in Foodland's Annual **Give Aloha** program! During the month of September customers are invited to make donations of up to \$249 (per person, per organization) at check-out to Saint Mark Lutheran



give aloha

Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

School. Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each donation up to a total of \$350,000 for all organizations combined. More details will be sent home in the near future.