

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 2010

A Message from the Principal

We are very excited to announce that Saint Mark Lutheran School has been awarded a six year accreditation!

We have received accreditation from Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC), Hawaii Association of Independent Schools (HAIS), and National Lutheran Schools Accreditation (NLSA). The six year term is the maximum accreditation term given, and comes after a thorough, year long, self-study process followed by a comprehensive four day visit from the accreditation team.

We are very pleased with our six year term and were validated with the positive feedback we received during the process. However, we recognize that now is not a time to rest but rather a time to focus on school improvement.

Two areas that we plan to work hard to improve are technology and fundraising. With the valuable assistance of the Parent Teacher Committee, we have already begun the planning process for a major fundraiser for the 2010-2011 school year and are investigating ways to improve our school's technologic infrastructure.

We look forward to working closely with our families in the years to come to continue to improve Saint Mark to better serve you!



Dates to Remember

April 28: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

April 30: May Day Program at 12:45 p.m.

May 3-7: SAT Testing

May 11: Grades 5-8 Track Meet

May 11: Grades 4-6 Choir & 4-8 Band Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

May 12-14: Grade 4 Big Island trip

May 21: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 27: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 28: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal
K-5 Report Cards go home

June 1-3: Grades 6-8 Report Cards Mailed Home

May Day Program



Please join us for our Bi-Annual May Day program on Friday, April 30 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.



Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergartners are looking forward to quite a few special occasions while completing their kindergarten work: they will sing and dance on Lei Day, they are practicing speaking parts, songs, and dances and making the scenery for their graduation operetta, they are getting excited about special projects for Mothers' Day, they will go to the Teddy Bear Clinic at Castle Hospital, and they will host the new kindergartners when they will "show and tell" them all about kindergarten.



First grade: In April, the first graders have been learning about life cycles through a hands-on science unit. We learned that animals are called embryos in the beginning stages of life and enjoyed learning all about the embryonic development of chickens and the parts of an egg. Do you know what the albumen, yolk, chalaza, and shell membranes do? We also learned to label a diagram and to speak and write like scientists. The unit culminated with the hatching of five chicks in our incubator.

Second Grade: The second graders started off the month of April with laughter as we played fun tricks and jokes on each other. In science we explored different habitats of animals, how habitats can change, and extinct and endangered animals. The students had fun pretending to be paleontologists as they carefully "dug" out fossils from the dirt. (Our fossils were chocolate chips and the dirt was the cookie surrounding them.) In math the students have been learning about measurements and multiplication... which they LOVE! We have been practicing the hula for May Day and can't wait to show off our moves!

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third grade: Aloha from the third grade. We are so excited to report that 14 of the 16 students in our class earned the required points for the A.R. Star lunch. We will be having that shortly. **Mrs. Hinton** may have to get a second job to pay for these lunches (just kidding). We have increased the points necessary for the A.R. Star lunch for the final quarter. Each child will need 10 points to earn the lunch. The minimum for the quarter is still 6 to reach the target grade, but 10 is necessary for the lunch privilege. Please remember that if a student doesn't reach the 6 point minimum, their reading grade will be adjusted to reflect that. May Day is coming on April 30. The students have been busy practicing with **Mrs. Saunders**. They are doing well. They will need a white t-shirt and jean shorts for the celebration. SAT testing will be following week. We are working

hard to make sure we cover what needs to be covered so that we do well on that test. We will be starting our last social studies unit in a few weeks. Right now we are discussing the states and changes of matter in science. We have started novel studies and the students are really enjoying reading these books. Please encourage to keep reading to improve their fluency. They are doing well and we will end the year very strongly.

Fourth grade: The fourth graders 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. Some of the students questioned why we no longer cele-



brate the makahiki in this way. Miss Arban agreed and explained that we can and should learn a lot from our Hawaiian ancestors about the true meaning of peace. Heads up parents! Big Island trip is less than a month away. The 4th graders will be setting off on their Big Island adventure May 12-14.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth grade: Westward Ho! We completed our wagon train interactive study last month. None of the groups reached their goal of Hacker Valley, but three did end up in Snow Pass instead. All the groups suffered freezing



snow storms, lost of supplies, and even the lives of some of their family members. One wagon train never made it at all, but was stranded in High Valley after a severe snow-storm with all its members perishing there. This



was an enjoyable study as our students gained an appreciation for how difficult it actually was traveling west on the wagon train trails during the 1850's.

Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

The **sixth grade Bible** students are using skills learned in their poetry unit with **Miss Maddick**, to study the Old Testament. The students are immersing themselves in God's love through the poetic books of the OT (Psalms, Proverbs, etc).

The **eighth grade algebra** students are rejoicing in the fact that they can put their graph paper back in their lockers and forget about graphs for a few weeks. However, the **seventh grade pre-algebra** students are dusting off the graph paper and preparing themselves for awesome linear equations.

Sixth grade science students are out of this world. They have just finished studying the sun, moon and stars. Next, they will be incorporating their technology skills as they prepare powerpoint presentations on the different planets in our solar system.

Seventh grade life science students are becoming experts on how the nervous system uses the different senses to send impulses to the brain.

Eighth grade physical science is asking, "What makes a good teacher?" After brainstorming the different qualities of an effective lesson, the eighth graders were presented with a lesson of their own. The different groups are in charge of teaching a particular section in the book. Ah, to be in the teacher's shoes.

Miss Maddick's News:

The **sixth grade language arts** students are reading **A Wrinkle in Time**, while **seventh grade language arts** students read **Nothing But the Truth**. The **eighth graders** are divided into five groups, each reading a different novel about World War II. These books are opportunities for us to learn new concepts and ideas in history, math, science, current events, and even philosophy.

In **seventh grade Bible** we are discussing questions about the Bible and Christian life that the 7th graders have. We are also looking at the main events of the Bible to help us understand God and His work on earth better.

In **eighth grade Bible** we finished a unit on witnessing, and are looking at our behavior as Christians. We are well prepared for this unit because we are continuing our examination of Gary Chapman's Five Love Languages. They help us improve how we show our love and Christ's love to others.

In **sixth grade World History**, we are exploring and discovering new lands with Christopher Columbus, Amerigo Vespucci, and others. Their world expanded greatly, and we are discussing how the explorers treated the inhabitants vs. how they should have treated them. Whether reading a book, exploring history, or studying the Bible, we are challenged to understand the world so that we can use Christ's example to make it better.

Mr. Annis' News:

The **seventh grade social studies** class will be studying African and Pacific Rim countries for the remainder of the school year. **Eighth grade American History** will be covering key events in the last 90 years of our country's history.



Mr. Johnson's News:

The junior high students have been busy preparing for the **May Day** celebration! Thanks to our guest instructors! They have been learning hula in all of the **P.E.** classes.

The **eighth graders** had an incredible opportunity to participate in the 30 Hour Famine this past Friday - Saturday! Over 25,000 children die every day around the world because of hunger, and the youth can be part of the solution! During the Famine, the youth starved, did Bible studies, raised money, played games, and raised awareness of world hunger! Youth in grades 8-12 came from other LCMS churches on the island to participate in this event at Saint Mark! The lock-in began on Friday night and ended on Saturday morning. It was a wonderful, fun, and totally exhausting event!

Junior High Awards

Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)

Gaby Aihara
Deidra Iseri-Pama
Kailani Linton
Spencer Oda
Haley Pilien
Jason Lau
Tani Buckley
Jannah-Jane Crisostomo
Duke Quitevis
Zachery Thomas
Korinn Trinies

Honor Roll

(GPA 3.0—3.74)

Dominic Sousa
Tiana Buckley
Sunshine David
Deja Lee
Anastasiya Melnyk
Aaron Wilford
Kaimi Chang
Jason Flores
Heidi Jacobs
Maraea Mussell
Keana Russell

Casey Takahashi
Rodney Williams

Principal's Award

Braden Pagaoa
Maraea Mussell
Rodney Williams

Citizenship Award

Gaby Aihara
Deidra Iseri-Pama
Kailani Linton
Jaron Pagaduan

Haley Pilien
Dominic Sousa
Aulama Jiannino
Pa'ahana Kaha'ulelio
Jason Lau
Tani Buckley
Kaimi Chang
Jannah-Jane Crisostomo
Leila Latorre
Maraea Mussell

(cont. on page 4)

Awards (cont.)

Casey Takahashi
Zachery Thomas
Korinn Trinies



Athletics



The JV basketball season has started and the 5th and 6th grade boys and 4th-6th grade girls are off and running! They are improving with every game they play so come on out and cheer them on!

Go Warriors!

Our Lutheran School's Track and Field Meet for the 5th-8th graders has been moved from Friday, May 14 to Tuesday, May 11 due to the public schools' "Furlough Friday". It will be held at Mililani High School again this year. More information will be coming home later.

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



Please join us at the next PTC meeting on **Monday, May 10 at 3:00 p.m.**

We are working hard preliminarily planning the major fundraiser for next fall and need everyone's help in the process.



This & That

We had great weather and a great turnout with over 40 workers in attendance on our April 17 **Family Work Day!** Thank you to everyone who came out to help us keep our school and church looking good.

Chapel offerings for March went to the Hawaii Food Bank. We collected over \$500. Thank you for your continued generosity.



Grade 3 and 4 students having fun with "Crazy Hat Day"

On May 11 grades 4-6 **Choir** and grades 4-8 **Band** will hold their Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

All students, except for kindergartners, will be participating in **SAT testing** the week of May 3-7. Please make sure your child comes to school well rested.

It's **kickball** time again! All students in grades K-3 can sign up to play in the After School Intramural League. Notices have gone out to the classrooms and need to be returned by Monday, April 26. Games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting at 3:05 p.m. and should last about 45 minutes. The season begins the week of May 3 and will last 3 weeks. There are sign-up forms in the school office.

On Tuesday, May 18 the students in grades K-5 will visit their "**next year's teacher**" and spend a half an hour with her. This will be a wonderful orientation for next year.

On Thursday, May 20 the Kindergartners will present the **oper-**

etta, "Just Pretend", to all the Saint Mark students. The eighth graders may recall their parts since it's the same program they performed when they were kindergartners.

Kindergarten graduation is on Friday evening, May 21. They will have their cap and gown graduation 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".



Mr. Gaudi and the grade 1 students checking out the newly hatched baby chicken in Mrs. Olson's class