

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 2011

A Message from the Principal



*Mrs. McGregor
Smiling*

As many of you have heard, Mrs. Michelle McGregor, our beloved junior high science teacher, was recently diagnosed with breast cancer. While I am happy to report that she underwent successful surgery on April 4, she is currently undergoing additional testing to determine her future course of treatment.

There are still a lot of questions to be answered as we prayerfully await the test results. At this point, it does appear that she will be undergoing chemo therapy and will therefore be missing additional school days. We will have a better idea of exactly how much school she will miss once she hears back from her doctors.

In the meantime, Mrs. McGregor's students are in great hands! We have former Saint Mark teachers Mr. Annis and Mrs. Tongg filling in for her. Mrs. McGregor has completed her lesson plans for the remainder of the school year and is communicating daily with Mr. Annis and Mrs. Tongg. Furthermore, Mrs. McGregor is regularly checking email and updating her website.

Mrs. McGregor expresses her sincere appreciation for all of your prayers, cards, encouragement, and overall support as she works to beat this disease.

Please continue to pray for her and feel free to drop her an email if you have something to share. She loves to hear other inspirational stories of perseverance and triumph.

Get well soon Mrs. McGregor! We miss you!



*Mrs. McGregor
Teaching*



Easter Services



You are invited to join us for Easter Service this Sunday, April 24.

Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. at HPU Windward Campus

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt - 8:30 a.m. at Saint Mark Church

Easter Service - 10:14 a.m. at Saint Mark Church

Please call the church office at 247-4565 if you have any questions.

Dates to Remember

April 22: Good Friday - No School

April 24: Easter Sunday

April 25: Easter Monday - No School

May 1: K-3 Cantata at 5:00 p.m.

May 2-6: SAT Testing

May 5: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

May 11-13: Grade 4 Big Island trip

May 17: Grades 4-6 Choir & 4-8 Band Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

May 20: Grades 5-8 Track Meet

May 26: All library books due

May 27: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 30: Memorial Day - No School

June 2: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

June 3: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal
K-5 Report Cards go home

June 7-10: Grades 6-8 Report Cards Mailed Home

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: We eagerly learned about Jesus' suffering, dying and especially coming alive again on joyous Easter morning. We have lots of songs and art projects for this special time. Soon we'll have Wheel Week again. The new kindergartners who will take our places are coming to visit. Can't wait to show them everything. "The Reptile Man" is coming to our class - wonder what he'll bring. We'll be making special surprises for Mother's Day and will celebrate Boys' Day. If you walk by our class you'll hear us singing lots of dinosaur songs as we "study" those wonderful creatures from long ago. And our biggest news is that we'll be learning speaking parts, songs and dances for our important graduation operetta.

First grade: April is poetry month in the first grade. The children are exploring words that create powerful images and feelings. We're writing acrostic, cinquain, haiku and concrete poems and will publish a book of poetry featuring a piece written by each student at the end of our unit. We're also busy preparing for our upcoming chapel presentation on Wednesday, April 27, where we'll share our "Resurrection Eggs" and a special Easter message. Finally, we're looking forward to the hatching of eggs in our classroom incubator! We're busily learning about the life cycle of chickens and how to

care for incubating eggs. Stop by our class the week after SAT testing to see our new chicks!

Second grade: Second grade students have been learning about different cycles found in nature such as the animal life cycle, plant life cycle, nutrient cycle, water cycle, and gas cycle. We were able to go on a fun field trip to the Nature Center. The students went fishing, hiking, and insect hunting. The students are looking forward to the wonderful celebration of Easter. We will be having our last Open Market, and taking part in the "Creatures of Hawaii" program so we have a busy and fun month.



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third grade: We are busy doing the research for our "Wax Museum". The students are very excited. We walked to the library last Tuesday and each child was able to find at least one book for their research. We will begin the power point portion with Mrs. Kong during our computer time. We are preparing for our S.A.T. test the 1st week of May. There is a link on my teacher website with some practice tests that can be done on the computer. This gives them practice on the format of standardized tests. In social studies we are learning about the 13 colonies. Our wax museum presentation and test on the 13 colonies will make up the majority of your child's social studies grade this quarter. Remember that this quarter A.R. points will be averaged in with the total reading grade, so encourage your child to

read, read, read. They still need a total of 6 points to meet their goal. There will be a special reward for those students who earn 10 points or more.

Fourth grade: During the month of April, the fourth graders were exploring electricity and magnetism. One of our lessons was explaining how electromagnets and electric motors work. The students had a great time building their own electromagnets. Our fourth grade 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'uhonua o Honaunau (city of refuge), Volcano National Park, Petroglyph Park in Puako, the Naha stone that King Kamehameha lifted, and much more. I hope the fourth graders are ready for a trip they will never forget! A big thanks goes to **Grace Pakele** for organizing our Rainbow Cookie Fundraiser. Also, thank you to **Rachel Hilpert** for being a great fourth grade PTC representative. Mahalo nui loa!



Grade 4 student constructing her electromagnet in science class

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth grade: Westward Ho! This month, we completed an interactive study about traveling west on a wagon train. Two of the groups reached their goal of Hacker Valley after suffering freezing snow storms, loss of supplies, and even the lives of some of their family members as they waited for winter to pass. The other two wagon trains

never made it at all, but were stranded in High Valley after a severe snowstorm with all their members perishing. This was an interesting study because our students gained an appreciation for how difficult it actually was traveling west on the wagon train trails during the 1850s.



Grade 5 Students showing off their wagon trains to the class

Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade math students are taking their math skills to the next level. They are learning how working together can help solve different mathematical and real world problems. Two (or more) heads are better than one!

In social studies the seventh graders are beginning to explore more familiar territory as they spend the quarter learning about the land and people of Asia and the Pacific Islands.

Eighth grade social studies students are getting closer to modern day as they study the lives of Americans in the 20th and 21st centuries. Seventh grade Bible students - have finished their walk through the life of Jesus and are now examining the growth of the early Christian church.

Miss Maddick's News:

Language arts students are exploring new ideas. They are putting their creative minds to work in reading groups. The sixth grade is reading books that take place during ancient history to fit with our World History class. In seventh grade they are exploring what the world looks like to people with disabilities and trying to understand how similar our worlds really are. World War II is the topic of study for the eighth graders as they examine the war from its various home fronts.

In seventh and eighth grade communications, students are reading a version of *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare in preparation for going to see it acted out live at the Hawaii Theater - a great opportunity to see Shakespeare come alive.

In sixth grade world history they are exploring the world along with Columbus and those who followed him to the Americas. After discussing the colonization, we will examine the rise of monarchies.

Mrs. McGregor's News:

Seventh graders have been studying skeletal, muscular and integumentary systems. Here are some learned facts: the human hand has 27 bones; our face has 14. We have over 230 moveable and semi-moveable joints. Our skin is considered the largest organ in the human body. Currently, students are studying our circulatory system: the heart's structure and how it works.

In science, the sixth graders created an ocean mural which included the ocean zones, marine life and their habitat. Students researched features of the ocean floor and created games to play. All the students made awareness fact sheets about protecting marine life from pollution. Sixth graders are currently studying the earth's moon and space explorations.

Eighth graders designed submarines with homemade materials. The goal of each craft was to demonstrate floating, subsurface floating, and sinking. Each submarine was required to be controlled to go from sinking, subsurface and to the surface again. Every craft was cleverly designed. Students are currently studying characteristics of waves.

Mrs. Moerbe's News:

Junior high P.E. classes are wrapping up the Presidential Fitness Challenge, and I am very proud of each and every P.E. student! Expect some awards to come home, they did a fantastic job! We will be moving into softball and track & field soon, so please continue to remember that proper athletic shoes provide great support for the ankle and will help prevent injuries. If your student needs a new uniform for P.E. please let us know! We have plenty available for purchase. Please e-mail me with any questions. Thanks!

You may have heard from your students about the *New Vision* group that will be here this month! They are a mission group that just arrived here after spending 3 months in Australia. They are ready to serve, and we have many different and exciting activities available for you to see them! Check out the flyers all over campus to see when their next activity is, and please see me if you have any questions!

Junior High Awards



Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)
Adrienne Bonham
Martine Marantz
Sean Oketani
Jayson Wong
Courtney Young
Megan Howland
Madison Lee
Kailani Linton
Haley Pilien
Brock Staheli
Alana Thomas
Tiana Buckley
Jason Lau
Aaron Wilford

Honor Roll

(GPA 3.0—3.74)
MiKayla Aki
Aimee Clark
Isaiah Graham
Risa McGregor
Lannin Nakai
Nainoa Sanchez
Darrin Tsugawa
Braeden Watanabe
Johannah Wilford
Autumn Butler
Alexandrea Lauro
Jaron Pagaduan
Nicole Pang
Keaka Rodrigues

Daesha Wilson
Chasey Abrams
Deja Lee
Samson Low
Anastasiya Melnyk
Rose Naone
Jonathan Pond
Shaiann Smith
Daniel Traylor

Principal's Award

Lannin Nakai
Johannah Wilford
Pomai Darlington
Alexandrea Lauro
Nicole Pang

Keaka Rodrigues
Daesha Wilson
Rose Naone

Citizenship Award

Mikayla Aki
Adrienne Bonham
Risa McGregor
Martine Marantz
Sean Oketani.
Jayson Wong
Courtney Young
Autumn Butler

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Awards (cont.)

Skye Hinazumi
Megan Howland
Kailani Linton
Nicole Pang
Haley Pilien
Keaka Rodgrigues
Alana Thomas
Jason Lau
Anastasiya Melnyk
Aaron Wilford

CONGRATULATIONS!

Athletics

Congratulations to the varsity boys' basketball team and **Coach Bruce**. They won the post-season tournament championship! Congratulations also to the boys' all-stars, **Samson Low**, **Jason Lau**, and **Brock Staheli**, who was also the boys' MVP and to the girls' all-stars, **Pa`a Kaha`ulelio**, **Chasey Abrams**, and **Deja Lee**, who was also the girls' MVP. Great season everyone!

The **JV basketball season** is well on its way. Both the boys and girls are getting better with every game they play. Their last home game is on Tuesday, April 26. Come on out and cheer them on!

The **Annual Athletic Banquet** is scheduled for the evening of Thursday, May 19. Details will be coming home soon.

Track and field day for grades 5-8 will be held on Friday, May 20 at Mililani High School. Students are preparing for the event in their PE classes.



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



Please join us at the next PTC meeting **on Tuesday, May 17 at 5:30 p.m.**

We are working hard planning for **teacher appreciation week** and preliminarily planning for the **2nd Annual Gala** next fall - Saturday, November 5, 2011.

This & That

Grades K-3 went to see "Where Do Things Go?" performed by Honolulu Theater for Youth. It's about recycling to save our planet Earth.

Chapel offerings for February and March went to the American Heart Association (\$389), with a special collection the week of March 11 (\$800) going to the LCMS World Relief to aid Japan. Thank you for your continued generosity.

The **grades 4 - 6 Choir** and the **grades 4 - 8 Band** will hold their spring concert at Saint Mark on Tuesday, May 17 at 7:00 p.m.

All students in grades 1-8 will be participating in **SAT testing** the week of May 2-6. 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 were sent home Monday and are due back on Thursday, April 21st. 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 2 and will last 3 weeks. There are additional sign-up forms in the school office.



Grade 3 students enjoying a beautiful Kaneohe afternoon by studying outside on the lawn

for their friends and families. They DO have school the last week of May when **Mrs. Gundermann** will refer to them as "first graders".

Kindergarten graduation is on Friday evening, May 27. Graduates will have their cap and gown ceremony and will present their operetta



Junior High Students working in the Saint Mark garden

Saint Mark Lutheran Church will be having a **Mother & Daughter Tea** on Saturday, May 7 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sign up forms were distributed Tuesday and are available in the school office.

Everyone is invited to the K-3 cantata "**Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat**" on Sunday, May 1 at 5:00 p.m.

The **Reptile Man** will visit grades K, 1, 2, 3, & 5 on Friday, April 29.

A big mahalo goes to all who worked so hard at last Saturday's **family work day!**