



Saint Mark Lutheran School News

August 2008

"If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully." (Romans 12: 7&8)

I am happy to report that the new school year is off to a wonderful start! We are thrilled to welcome two new teachers - Mrs. Anita Dunn and Mrs. Cara Eyer, a new pastor - Interim Pastor Erwin Wichner and a new Director of Christian Education - Mr. Tim Walsworth to the Saint Mark Ohana. Please join us in wishing them a warm aloha as they "teach", "encourage", and "govern" in service to Him.

The complete 2008-2009 SMLS faculty and staff are listed as follows:

Kindergarten - Mrs. Gundermann
Grade 1 - Mrs. Sutton
Grade 2 - Miss Mirikidani
Grade 3 - Mrs. Knott
Grade 4 - Mrs. Tongg
Grade 5 - Mrs. Flores
Jr. High Science, Social Studies & P.E. - Mr. Weber
Jr. High Math, Social Studies, P.E. & Drama - Mr. Annis
Jr. High English, Social Studies & Drama/Speech - Mrs. Dunn
Jr. High Bible and Math - Mrs. Eyer
Computer, Athletic Director, Special Programs Director - Mrs. Kong
Band - Mr. Bauchle
Choir - Mrs. Pescht
Kindergarten Teaching Assistant - Mrs. Akaka
Grade 1 & Grade 3 Teaching Assistant - Mrs. Jackson
Grade 2 & Grade 3 Teaching Assistant, After Care Director and Jr. High Art - Mrs. Gibo
Library - Mrs. Manu and Miss Jen Gibo
After Care - Miss Courtney Gibo
School Secretary/Admissions Coordinator - Mrs. Lee
Business Manager - Mrs. Lawrence

In Christian Love,

R. David Gaudi Jr.

Dates to Remember

August 27:	Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students
Sept 1:	Labor Day, No School
Sept 3:	"Great American Opportunities" school fundraiser ends
Sept 4 & 5:	Parent Teacher Conferences Grades 1-8 (Early Dismissal at 11:30)
Sept 12:	Fall Family Night - Movie night at SMLS beginning at 6:00 p.m.
Sept 15 - 19:	Scholastic Book Fair
Sept 21:	Grades 4-6 sing at 8:30 a.m. church service
Sept 21:	Nike 5K for Kids Fun Run
Sept 26:	First quarter ends
Sept 26:	Fall picture make-ups



K - 5 CLASSROOM NEWS:

Kindergarten: Twenty five Kindergartners have gotten well acquainted with each other and are making new friends. They are also getting familiar with the Kindergarten program. The Kindergartners are excited to work in their math and reading workbooks, printing on lined paper, and studying the alphabet with lots of fun activities. Next week they will be making Stone Soup for “S” day. Mrs. Gundermann is also getting well acquainted with the families as she visits them throughout August.

First grade: First graders are excited to be back in school! They have been learning the rules, singing new songs, and making new friends. The children are looking forward to their first Open Market at the end of the month. They have anxiously been saving their moolas! Thank you to those who came to Back-to-School Night Orientation! Thank you to our PTC reps, Mele Manu and Nalani Nelson.

Second grade: Second grade is already having a bushel of fun. They have learned the classroom rules and are trying very hard to obey them. They are also making new friends and have been enjoying learning together. Shurley grammar is new for the students and they are learning the jingles to help them remember the parts of speech. This school year is off to a great start.

Third grade: Third graders are busy settling into the daily routines. They are working really hard on following the classroom rules and have written short and long term goals for themselves. They also enjoyed making and eating Bird Nest clusters and blowing bubbles on the blacktop to celebrate the opening of the Olympics. Welcome back to school from the “Friendly Frogs.”

Fourth grade: Fourth graders look forward to the end of the month field trip to the Bishop Museum to learn about Polynesian voyaging. They will also visit the Science center and volcano exhibit there. Students have learned how the Hawaiian Islands formed from undersea volcanoes and how the sea and wind brought the first plants and then animals to these remote islands. Soon they will study the items introduced by the first Hawaiians and the changes that took place here. In Science, they are learning about Earth’s interior and landforms on the crust.

Fifth grade: Fifth grade began the school year by studying the cultures of the different Native American groups. The students worked in groups to develop posters and presentations about either the Plains, the Southwest, the Northwest Coast, the Woodlands, or the California Indians. Next, they individually selected a Native American project to make so they could experience a little of what Indian life is like. They enjoyed presenting their projects and describing what they had learned as their presentations were videotaped. Finally, we did a Venn diagram comparing California Indians to the Hawaiians. It was great connecting what they had learned last year in Fourth Grade Hawaiian Studies to what they are learning this year.

Uniforms for Sale

Saint Mark Lutheran School has **new** girl's uniform shorts on-sale in the school office. The shorts are already imprinted with the Warriors logo and are ready to be worn. The sizes range from 12 to 16 and are being sold for \$10 each on a first come first serve basis. The school also has various used uniforms on sale. Please check with the school office for details.



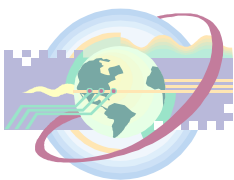
JUNIOR HIGH CLASSROOM NEWS:

Sixth Graders have been busy in English and Literature classes reviewing grammar rules, writing daily assignments and learning all about poetry. In Social Studies they have learned where history began, who the author of history was, and where we came from. They are starting to learn about the Fertile Crescent and early civilizations, and have just taken home instructions for a major Egyptian project due in four weeks.

Seventh Graders have started reading the classic book, *Old Man and the Sea*. They are learning to analyze the plot, setting, and themes. They are also doing character analysis of the main characters and seem to be enjoying the tale of Santiago and his fish. In Science seventh graders have recently completed "Cell" projects where they constructed 3-D models of both animal and plant cells. Pictures of these projects will soon be available on the website.

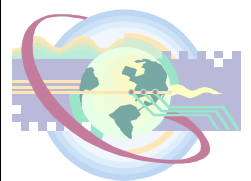
Eighth Graders have started reading the classic epic poem *Beowulf* and are learning about Viking history while also learning to analyze the plot, setting, and themes. They are asking critical thinking questions and coming up with clever analogies of Beowulf versus the monster, Grendel. It is an exciting tale! In Speech/Drama eighth graders are practicing individual speeches in front of the class. Next quarter Mrs. Dunn plans to have the students use puppets to act out Bible stories, with the plan to turn this into a ministry where they would be able to demonstrate their puppet theater for children or senior citizens. Any parent who would like to help build puppet theaters or donate supplies please contact Mrs. Dunn.

Junior High Bible Classes: Our Bible classes have been on a very exciting and adventure-some journey this last month. WHERE?? You may ask...HOW? Each day we have been journeying through time, learning and experiencing new events and meeting new people of the Bible. The 6th grade traveled through time to creation where they made a stop to meet Noah and learn about the amazing boat he created and the great faith that he had. The students also met Father Abraham and Joseph with the coat of many colors and have witnessed through reading about them that they had a really, really great faith in God. The 7th graders met up with Moses and the 10 commandments. They are taking extra time on their journey to learn about each one very, very thoroughly. The 8th graders have met Jesus in the Scriptures who is their Redeemer and Lord. They have learned about believing and having faith.



Please check out our WEBSITE for the
latest school news and updates

www.smls-hawaii.org





Athletics



The varsity volleyball season for girls and boys is underway! The teams have been hard at practice with **Coach Rudy**.

They have elected team captains, **Kalei Ah New** for the girls and **McKenna Miyata** for the boys. Our first game was played on Tuesday, August 19 and there are three games scheduled for this week - Monday against Trinity Christian at Keolu Park, Tuesday at Our Savior, and Thursday at home against Hanalani.

Please come out and cheer for our teams! The girls' game starts at 3:30 p.m. with the boys' game following at around 4:30 p.m.

This & That:

◊Grades K-3 will be going to the Honolulu Theatre for Youth's production of "**Alladin's Luck**" on Monday, August 25 at Tenney Theatre.

◊Students in all grades will take turns going to the **Kokokahi pool** with the Kindergartners during the first quarter. It's a great way to cool off after a hard working week of school. Mahalo to the Kindergartners for sharing this great activity.

◊Mrs. Gundermann is happily preparing the K-3rd grade choir for their **fall concert** which will be presented **Sunday, October 26 at 5:00 p.m.** followed by a potluck. The children will sing songs about all the months of the year.

◊Kindergartners will be inviting their **Grandparents** to spend time with them on Friday, September 12. The students will have a chance to share all they have been learning along with a potluck lunch.

◊The **Niketown 5K For Kids Run** is on Sunday, September 21, 2008. The total cost is \$20 and includes \$15 entry fee and a \$5 t-shirt fee. 100% of the \$15 entry fee will be donated to Saint Mark Lutheran School. If you are interested, please talk to Mrs. Lee in the school office or visit their website at www.nike5kforkids.com.

◊Plans are being made for our **Family Night** on **September 12**. We will be hosting an outside movie night, more information will be coming soon.

◊Our very own **Mr. Weber** spent time as a wrestling coach before coming to Saint Mark, and he helped coach **Henry Cejudo** who just won the **gold medal** in Men's Freestyle Wrestling.



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) NEWS FLASH



Each class should have a Parent Teacher Committee representative. If you are interested in being involved, please let your child's teacher know or simply join us at the next PTC meeting on **Tuesday, September 9th at 3:00pm.**

**Faculty and Staff Installation and Rededication
Saint Mark Lutheran Church
August 17, 2008**



Front row (L to R): Mrs. Dunn, Mrs. Sutton, Mrs. Knott
 Second row (L to R): Mrs. Kong, Mrs. Eyer, Mrs. Tongg, Mrs. Flores
 Third row (L to R): Miss Mirikidani, Mr. Tim, Mrs. Pescht, Mrs. Gundermann
 Back row (L to R): Mr. Gaudi, Mr. Annis, Mr. Weber

**“Great American Opportunities”
Annual School Fundraiser**

We have just kicked-off our Great American Opportunities **school fundraiser**. Students were given two catalogues containing various items ranging from Eco-Friendly Mugs and Bamboo Salad Servers to helpful cookbooks and fancy chocolates. The more products we sell, the more money we raise for the school. If we meet our goal of raising \$10,000 in profit, rumor has it that Mr. Gaudi will spend a night on the school office roof. He may even be joined by our new Pastor (Interim Pastor Erwin Wichner) and new Director of Christian Education (DCE Mr. Tim Walsworth). The sale runs from August 20 to **September 3, 2008**. Items will be delivered to the school and ready for pick-up in mid-November. We hope to use the money raised to improve the school’s technology.