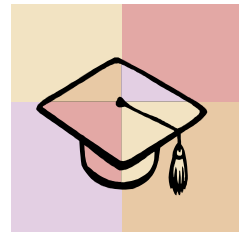


Saint Mark Lutheran School News

May 2008



I made you grow like a plant of the field. You grew up and developed and became the most beautiful of jewels. Ezekiel 16:7

WOW! It is hard to believe that the 2007-2008 school year is already drawing to a close. It has been a wonderful year of growth - physically, spiritually and academically. It has been a true blessing to witness your children grow taller, deepen their personal relationship with Christ and expand their academic understanding. As the book of Ezekiel says, they have become the "most beautiful of jewels."

We thank you for the opportunity to serve you and your children this past school year. It has been our pleasure! We invite everyone to stay connected to Saint Mark over the summer. One easy way to do this is to visit our website. We are continuing to improve the site and are excited to now offer a new and improved e-mail system that allows families to quickly and easily email faculty, staff and administration. While the faculty will be getting some well deserved rest and may not be regularly checking their e-mail, the school office will be open most of the summer and will be answering e-mails and the phones.

To those of you who are leaving Saint Mark, we pray that you are blessed with all the good that God has to offer and encourage you to please visit us in the future. You will be missed! To those of you returning, we will look forward to seeing you in July. And, to all of you, we pray that your summer is safe, relaxing, and altogether refreshing.

In Christian Love,

R. David Gaudi Jr.

	<u>Dates to Remember</u>
May 19:	K - Grade 3 Honolulu Theatre For Youth field trip
May 23:	Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.
May 26:	No School - Memorial Day
May 29:	Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.
May 30:	Last Day of School - 11:00 a.m. dismissal
June 15:	Pastor Betker's Retirement Party at the Hale Koa at 5:30 p.m.
June 16-20	Summer Mailing goes out
July 24:	First day of school, early dismissal at 11:30 A.M.



K - 5 CLASSROOM NEWS:

Kindergarten: Kindergartners are very excited these days: they are counting down how many days until they are ‘first graders;’ they are excited to do their operetta, “Hansel and Gretel” at graduation; they look forward to the Honolulu Theatre for Youth production, “*Ferdinand the Bull.*” Not excited is Mrs. Gundermann who will miss these students who have progressed so much in just 10 months.

First grade: The month of May has been busy for our first graders. After May Day, we started right into making soaps, cards and notes for Mother’s Day. We’ve been learning new songs and getting ready for our Parent Dessert Day on May 23rd. Everyone is excited for our last field trip to see “*Ferdinand the Bull.*” Our class has also been very excited about chapter books lately. After we read a Junie B. Jones book as a class, just about everyone has been checking one out from the library! We love chapter books! First graders have also been earnestly saving their moolas for our big Silent Auction and movie theatre the last week of school. Thank you to the parents for being so helpful and willing to donate items and their time this year. Once again, you are appreciated!

Second grade: As the school year is coming to an end the second graders are looking forward to their family lunch and craft day. They have worked hard and learned a lot of new concepts this year. This month the students have been having fun playing kickball and learning about well known artists such as Claude Monet. Every day they enjoy reading the joke of the day. Here is one of our favorites: “What do you call a duck that steals?”

Third grade: We are looking forward to summer vacation. We bid a fond aloha to our friends Keahi, Braden, Jordan and Sandra who will not be returning next year. We are really enjoying our chapter books. The students choose a chapter from Clementine to present to the class. They either do a group skit or a diorama. We are enjoying reading our newest book, Champ, we take turns reading the speaking parts aloud. Have a great summer everyone!

Fourth grade: Fourth grade enjoyed their Big Island trip. They left on Wednesday morning and visited Kaloko-Honokohau National Historic Park, Pu’ukohola Heiau, Akaka Falls State Park, Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden, the Tsunami Museum and Volcanoes National Park, just to name a few. It was a tired group of 4th graders who returned on Friday afternoon.

Fifth grade: The fifth graders are completing their United States studies by memorizing all the fifty states and their capital cities. In addition students each selected one state to learn about and do a presentation for the rest of the class. They now know the geography, economy, historical events, famous people, places to visit, and other interesting information concerning their state. We’ll end our study by watching a video about our beautiful United States.



JUNIOR HIGH CLASSROOM NEWS:

Junior high students will participate in a "Science Bowl" on May 28th. The competition is designed to allow students to showcase their knowledge in the field of science. Each science class will have a separate competition.

On May 14th the 7th graders conducted chapel. Mr. Annis' 7th and 8th grade Drama students will be entertaining the student body on May 27th at 1:45 p.m.

Mrs. Denise Hayes who teaches junior high English and social studies will be moving to the mainland this summer to be closer to her family. We sincerely thank Mrs. Hayes for her commitment to Saint Mark and for her strong dedication to her students and their learning. Mrs. Hayes has been part of the Saint Mark family for four years and will be dearly missed.

This and That:

Thanks to your generosity and purchases at our two Book Fairs, we were able to buy approximately 300 new books and quizzes for the children to enjoy! We will be selling our surplus AR books for 50¢ in the library during and after school. Please watch for more details.


Everyone is invited to Pastor Betker's Retirement Dinner & Party at the Hale Koa Hotel on Sunday, June 15 at 5:30 p.m. If you are interested, please contact Theresa Annis at tannis@hawaii.rr.com or Nalani Nelson at st.marksecretary@yahoo.com

Many thanks to all parents who helped with May Day. It was a resounding success!

Sixth grader Heidi Jacobs represented Saint Mark in the Middle School Honor Band concert on May 3 at McKinley High School.

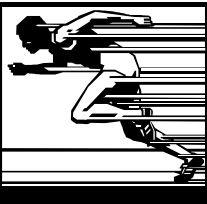
Eighth grader Ocean Hay was one of the winners in the Kids Day 2008 Creativity Contest. Her picture was published in the special Kids Day edition of the Advertiser on May 7th.

★★
 ★
GRADUATIONS
 ★
Kindergarten Graduation on May 23 at 7:00 p.m.
 ★
Grade 8 Graduation on May 29 at 7:00 p.m.
 ★
 ★★



Summer Office Hours

During the summer break the school office will only be open from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm



Athletics



Our 5th - 8th graders participated in the Lutheran School Track and Field Meet on Friday, May 9. All students ran in an individual race and competed in three field events. Some also ran 4x100 relays. We had a great time and came back to school tired and winners of many ribbons.

Congratulations to our 5th - 8th graders who participated in the Lutheran Schools Cross Country Meet on Thursday, May 15. Our JV girls received the 2nd place team trophy with **Kelli Lyman (6th grade)** coming in first and **Tani Buckley (6th grade)** coming in third. Our JV boys also did well with **James Chaffin (6th grade)** taking second place and **Kaimi Chang (6th grade)** taking eighth place. Varsity girls brought home the first place team trophy. **Keolani Cenido-Niheu (7th grade)** took first place, **Darcy Inouye (7th grade)** came in fourth and **Iolani Kahapea-Aquino (8th grade)** came in seventh place. Our varsity boys won the second place team trophy with three of them placing in the top ten individually. **Ka'eo Paik (8th grade)** took third place, **Iakona Cenido-Niheu (8th grade)** came in eighth, and **Kenny Rupnow (8th grade)** took ninth place. Go Warriors!

Intramural kickball for kindergartners through 3rd graders was once again lots of fun with many parents coming to cheer their children on.

The Saint Mark website has a new and improved email system and will soon have an all new photo gallery showing pictures from different school related events.

Please check it out at:

www.smls-hawaii.org



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) NEWS FLASH



The PTC sponsored Teacher Appreciation Week went well and gave us a chance to show our appreciation to the Saint Mark faculty and staff. PTC will be taking the summer off and will resume meeting in August. Please join us.