

Warrior News

Saint Mark Lutheran School
Kaneohe, Hawaii

November/December 2008

A Message from the Principal

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:9-11)

As we proceed through this wonderful season of advent in preparation for the Christ Child's birth, we see our campus bustling with activity. Our faculty and students are busy rehearsing for Christmas programs and concerts, creating beautiful holiday projects, going on exciting excursions, collecting offerings for the less fortunate, and preparing to bring the second quarter to a close.

In addition to the frenzied activity, we are also able to see the culmination of a great year for Saint Mark. With the hard work and cooperation of the dedicated faculty, staff, and families, we've enjoyed many highlights in 2008. Some highlights include being able to maintain our enrollment in the midst of difficult financial times, growing our Parent Teacher Committee (PTC), beginning our self-study as part of the re-accreditation process, continuing to improve our website & on-line services, unveiling a new science curriculum, and sending our teachers to exciting professional development opportunities. 2008 also saw us bid farewell to old friends and welcome new members to the Saint Mark Ohana.

As I reflect on the year gone by, many colorful images come to mind. I picture the students I've observed participating in fantastic class activities, collaborating as they problem-solve, singing to the Lord in chapel, playing at recess, competing in athletic events or just conversing with one another, and I can't help but marvel at the awesome gifts that have been given to your children and subsequently given to us. You are blessed to have such wonderful children, and we are blessed with the opportunity to serve them.

We thank you for your continued support of Saint Mark and encourage you to share with others the wonderful news that "...a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord."

Mele Kalikimaka me ka Hau'oli Makahiki hou !

In Christ,

R. David Gaudi Jr.



Project Gratitude

Project Gratitude

Project Gratitude was a resounding success! With the donations we collected we were able to mail off 28 boxes packed full of goodies for the troops deployed overseas.

Three of the boxes went to service men with ties to our Saint Mark families.

Dates to Remember

Dec. 14: K-3 Christmas Program at 5:00 p.m.

Dec. 16: 4-6 Choir & 4-8 Band Christmas Concert at 7:00

Dec. 19: 2nd Quart Ends
11:30 Dismissal
No Aftercare

Dec. 22-Jan. 6: Winter Inter-session

Dec. 22-24: 6-8 Report Cards mailed home

Dec. 24: Christmas Eve church services at 6:00 & 8:00 p.m.

Dec. 25: Christmas Day church service at 10:00 a.m.

Jan. 7: School Resumes

Jan. 14: Jump Rope for Heart Kick-Off

Jan. 18: Grades 4-6 Sing at the 8:30 a.m. church service

Jan. 19: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School

Jan. 31: PTC sponsored Rummage Sale at 9:00 a.m.

Feb. 6: Spring Family Night at Ice Palace

Feb. 11: Mid-Quarter Reports go home

Feb. 13: Staff Professional Development Day - No School

Feb. 16: President's Day - No School

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: Kindergartners have been very busy with Christmas art projects as they sing their Christmas program songs. They sing happily about the birth of their Savior. It was fun learning



how to say their first “speaking part” in the microphone for their program. They are learning how to add and subtract like “big kids.”

They’re looking forward to their Christmas ice cream party with their 8th grade chapel partners and the class “posada.”

First grade: First graders have finished their seed and bean turkeys along with a delicious Thanksgiving feast and we’re moving into Christmas activities! They have been working very hard on their choir parts to get ready for the Christmas Concert. We will be starting on some fun crafts and gifts for families soon as well as learning Christmas hymns and



learning about the birth of Jesus. Our Christmas party will be on Thursday, December 18th.

Second grade: Second grade students have been busy making Christmas projects, learning about the birth of Jesus, practicing for the Christmas Concert, and of course learning new concepts in all of their subject areas. The students are very proud of the fact that they are now reading in their 3rd grade books. They are looking forward to making mini gingerbread houses and making Christmas gifts for others.

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third grade: Third graders are busy learning multiplication facts, observing the growth of their two bean plants for science and practicing their songs and speaking parts for the upcoming Christmas

Next up for third grade is constructing gingerbread houses and an Open Market

Concert. They also enjoyed their ice cream party for box tops (with lots of sprinkles) and participating in our sharing bowl activity for

Thanksgiving. Next up is constructing gingerbread houses and an Open Market. Way to go THIRD GRADERS!

Fourth grade: Fourth grade is studying fishing in old Hawaii as part of their Hawaiian Studies curriculum. Great pictures from the lo’i at Ulupo, where we farmed kalo last month are available on our website. We look forward to a visit to Waikalua



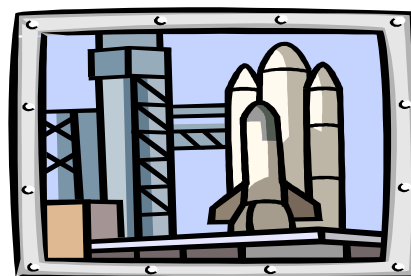
Loko Fishpond when we return back from Christmas break. We also look forward to stopping by the huge pond at Kualoa in the spring when we visit the beach park there for Hawaiian Makahiki games and outrigger canoe paddling. The 4th graders are also busy practicing their singing skills for their upcoming Christmas performance.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth grade: 5-4-3-2-1- Blast Off! Fifth grade is looking forward to a week-long visit to Starbase-Atlantis at Pearl Harbor in January.

Atlantis Program is an educational experience involving hands-on math and science activities.

The Starbase-Atlantis Program is an educational experience involving hands-on



Starbase - Atlantis Program

math and science activities. While there, our students will observe and participate in experiments and scientific demonstrations, including flight simulators and the launching of rockets that are built by each student.

It’s going to be a real BLAST!

Classroom News - Junior High

Mr. Weber's News:

6th, 7th and 8th Grade Science classes are currently working on their Science Fair projects. All projects are due on Jan. 23. You can find some helpful websites on Mr. Weber's teacher web page.

7th Grade Social Studies students will be giving presentations on historic cities of Aztec, Mayan and Inca civilizations on December 12.

Mrs. Dunn's News:

6th Grade English students are working in their *Shurley Grammar* books. They should be wrapping up their AR assignment and need to take their AR test by next week Wednesday, Dec. 17th.

7th Grade English students are also working in their *Shurley Grammar* books and are reading *Robin Hood* on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Student's quarter end project, a medieval castle and report, is due on Tuesday, Dec. 16th. They are finishing up their AR assignment and should take their AR test by Wednesday, Dec. 17th.

8th Grade English students continue to work in their *Shurley Grammar* books and are reading *Homer's Odyssey* on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Their quarter end project, The Parthenon (8A), and the Temple of Zeus (8B), and a report, is due Dec. 15th. They should finish their AR assignment and be ready to take their AR test by next week Wednesday, Dec. 17th.

6th Grade Social Studies Students are finishing up a chapter on the history of Africa. Students' quarter end project, the Trojan Horse, is due this Friday, Dec. 12th.

6th Grade Literature students have just finished *A Christmas Carol*, the book we read together in class. We will start *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight* when we come back from Christmas vacation.

8th Grade Drama students finished up and performed their puppet plays in chapel last week. The students had a lot of fun working with puppets. It taught them a lot - script writing, how to work in a group, coordination, puppet care, etc. Mrs. Dunn is very proud of the class and will put pictures of the on the class web site very soon.

Mrs. Eyer's News:

6th Grade Bible students are continuing their journey through the Old Testament learning about the adventures of King David. They are also designing a life sized *Coat of Arms* that will represent the spiritual and Biblical character traits of themselves and their family line.

7th Grade Bible students are completing their in-depth study of the second Article of the Apostles creed, which includes the humiliation and exaltation of Christ. Students will be designing and making a diorama displaying one event of Christ's humiliation or exaltation, including a written explanation-essay of their chosen event.

8th Grade Bible students are completing their Forum Discussion Projects/Applying the Bible and Christianity to Real Life. Some of the topics being researched and discussed from a Biblical point of view are - Christian Martyrs, Homelessness, the Elderly, Music, and Prison Ministry. 8th Grade Forum Speeches began on Dec. 11th.

7th Grade Pre-Algebra students are studying fractions.

8th Grade Algebra students are learning how to graph equations, identify slope and y-intercepts and apply linear functions.

Mr. Annis' News:

7th Grade Drama students performed "Turkey Saves the Day" for the school on Nov. 25. They are now rehearsing "Santa Strikes" and "The Birthday Party" which will be performed on the morning of December 19th.



8th graders trying to start a fire during their Camp Erdman trip

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!



The website continues to be a wonderful way to keep current with the latest

Saint Mark Website
www.smls-hawaii.org

school activities. We are working to soon begin including the latest results of athletic events on the website.



Athletics

Our JV volleyball season has just concluded. Both the boys' and girls' teams had an exciting season, with the girls winning 8 of their 9 games!

Go Warriors!

Varsity boys and girls basketball teams have already been hard at work practicing. The boys played in a preseason 20/20 tournament on Saturday, December 6 at Hanalani School in Mililani. Their first regular season game is on **Tuesday, January 20.**

Christmas Services

You are invited to worship with us during the holiday season. Saint Mark Lutheran Church is offering special services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day:

**Christmas Eve Services at 6:00 & 8:00 p.m.
Christmas Day Service at 10:00 a.m.**

Please join us!!



Merry Christmas

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC is sponsoring a Rummage Sale on **Saturday, Jan. 31 at 9:00 a.m.** at SMLS. Please save the date!

Please join us at the next PTC meeting on **Tuesday, Dec. 16, at 3:10 p.m.** We value your input.



This & That

Remember that there is **early dismissal** at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, December 19 and there will be no Aftercare!

Box Tops for Education: Thank you to all those who have been supporting Saint Mark Lutheran School through box tops. During the September/October months we collected 2112 box tops! We held an ice cream party for third grade who had the most box tops! Box tops were just collected and counted for November giving us a total of 1044 for the month. Fourth grade collected the most and will be receiving an ice cream party later this month. Our next winning class will receive a pizza party! Keep collecting those box tops. Remember, each box top is

worth 10 cents that goes directly to Saint Mark to help buy a nice PA system for the school. Thank you for all of your support!

Chapel offerings of over \$400 and donations of much needed items were collected for Operation Gratitude! We were able to fill and mail off 28 boxes of goodies for our service men and women in Iraq. Mrs. Kong and Mrs. Lee enjoyed filling the boxes and thinking of the smiles they would bring.

For December offering we are collecting: new toys, non-perishable food, gift cards and money for the Family Promise that Saint Mark will be hosting during the Christmas Intersession. We hope to make Christ-

mas a little merrier for these families struggling to get back on their feet. Other food and toys will be given to Kaneohe's Salvation



**Your donations
are appreciated**

Army who will be distributing Christmas baskets to needy families in windward Oahu.