

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**

A Message from the Head of School

We are four weeks into the new school year, and I am happy to report that the students seem to be settling in nicely. We are excited to welcome three new educators to the Saint Mark ohana this year - **Mrs. Miriam McMillian** (grade 2), **Mrs. Vanessa Souki** (grades 6-8), and **Ms. Lorien Pelletier** (grades 6-8). Please join me in extending them a warm aloha as they join our family.

The complete 2014-2015 Saint Mark faculty and staff are listed as follows:



Kindergarten - **Mrs. Gonzalez**
Grade 1 - **Mrs. Venegas**
Grade 2 - **Mrs. McMillian**
Grade 3 - **Ms. Gerling**
Grade 4 - **Ms. Camit**
Grade 5 - **Mrs. Flores**



Middle School Science, Math & Bible - **Ms. Pelletier**
Middle School English, Math & Bible - **Mrs. Schroppel**
Middle School Social Studies, English & Bible - **Mrs. Souki**
Middle School P.E. & Director of Christian Education - **Ms. Morris**
Middle School Art, Grade 2 Educational Assistant & After Care Dir. - **Mrs. Gibo**
Assistant Head of School, Director of School Programs & Athletics - **Mrs. Kong**
Band, 4 & 5 Ukulele, K-2 Choir, and 5 & 6 Choir - **Mr. Bauchle**
3 & 4 Choir and K-2 Choir accompanist - **Mrs. Pescht**
Kindergarten Educational Assistant & Before Care Worker - **Mrs. Akaka**
Grade 1 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Ms. Courtney Gibo**
Library, Grade 1, 3 & 4 Educational Assistant & After Care Worker - **Mrs. Manu**
After Care - **Mrs. Gibo, Mrs. Manu & Ms. Courtney Gibo**
Administrative Assistant/Admissions Coordinator - **Mrs. Lee**
Business Manager - **Mrs. Lawrence**

As is customary at Saint Mark, in addition to the new staff, we also want to welcome all of our new school families and welcome back our returning families. We know that you have many choices when it comes to your children's education, and we thank you for putting your trust in us. You continue to be our most important ambassadors, and we greatly appreciate your commitment!

August 2014

Dates to Remember

September 1: Labor Day
No School

September 2: Mid-Quarter
Reports go home

September 7: Grades 5 & 6
Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 10: Kindergarten
Grandparents Day

September 12: Fall Family
Night - Movie Night

September 15-19: Scholastic
Book Fair

September 16: PTC Gala
Planning Meeting at 5:30pm

September 21: Grades 3 & 4
Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

September 26: 1st Quarter
Ends

September 29 - October 10:
Fall Intersession

October 1-3: Grades 6-8
Report Cards mailed home

October 13: School Resumes
K-5 Report Cards go home
with students

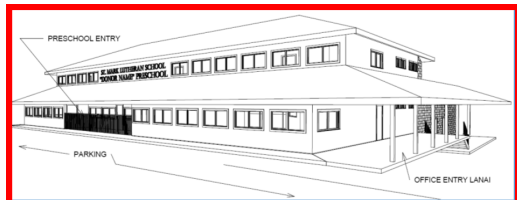
October 15: Fall Picture
Make-up Day

October 19: Grades K-2
Sing in Church at 9:30 a.m.

Building for the Future - Early Education Facility !

Make a Difference!
DONATE

As was officially announced last spring, Saint Mark Church and School have kicked-off a multi-year endeavor to raise money for the construction of a new early education building on the footprint of the current administrative offices, kindergarten room, and computer room. Preliminary plans call for the new building to include three pre-school classrooms, library, technology center, meeting rooms and administrative offices.



*Preliminary Rendering of the Future
Early Education Facility*

The fundraising efforts have gotten off to a great start, but we need everyone's help to bring our plans to fruition. Our most immediate and pressing goal is to **raise \$100,000 by this December**. Please call the school office to set up a meeting with Mr. Gaudi to learn more about how you can support this very important project. Mahalo Nui Loa!

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: On your mark, get set, go! Kindergarten is off to a fantastic start! The kindergarteners were excited to start kindergarten at Saint Mark Lutheran school. During these first weeks the students have been busy getting to know each other and making new friends, taking care of their class pets, Rocky and Stanley, and learning a lot about numbers and letters. They also got a chance to meet and spend time with their eighth grade chapel buddies. This month the kindergarteners can't wait to cool off from this heat and go swimming at the Kokokahi YWCA. They are looking forward to learning lots of new things together this year!



Grade 1 student pausing for and underwater picture on a recent swimming excursion

First Grade: The first graders have experienced a lot of "firsts" in their first month of school. They have completed their first math minute, and a spelling test, as well as our mini-unit about getting to know each other. They also planted seeds in the first/second grade garden, met their seventh grade chapel partners, and are enjoying writing in their journals each morning. They especially enjoyed their first week of swimming lessons at the YWCA. The children are looking forward to their first Open Market at the end of the quarter. They have been anxiously saving their play money! Thank you to those who came to Back-to School Night Orientation. It has been a wonderful start to a new year!

Second Grade: Our super second graders have all done a wonderful job adjusting to their new classroom procedures and rules. They are off to a fast start as they wrap up their first chapter in math. They are also refining their writing skills everyday in their journals and are finishing up their community unit. This week marked the first week that homework was due and every student submitted and completed it on time! This month was also special for the class because they celebrated six birthdays. The students really enjoyed all the extra cupcakes and ice cream! They enjoyed their very first field trip to the Honolulu Theatre for Youth and they continue to show enthusiasm for the year to come!



The grade 2 students using tiles to solve complex addition and subtraction math problems

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: The third graders have been busy during this first month of school. They jumped right into Place Values and Greater numbers in math which has been challenging. Cursive writing is already underway as we learn slants and how to make our handwriting flow. We have also been learning more about how to find Bible passages.

the school year! Writing is a favorite subject among the students. They have produced some vivid journal entries and have started to write their first Authoring story. To help the students become detailed and descriptive



Grade 4 students enthusiastically enjoying an activity

Fourth Grade: The fourth grade class has jumped right into

writers we have banned the word "GOOD". This word cannot be in any writing or uttered in our classroom!! We did a class brainstorm

"Writing is a favorite subject among the students."

and came up with tons of words we can use instead, such as, marvelous, perfect, spectacular, etc... What words can you think of to replace "GOOD"?

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade:

What helps a student be successful? Fifth graders were asked this question on the first day of school and wrote down all their ideas. They classified their ideas into four categories that their classmates, their teacher, their family, and they would do to help them be successful this year. From these ideas, they selected

the most popular ones and created a list of rules for our classroom which we called *Our Plans for Success*. These included doing our best, studying hard for tests, being nice to each other, staying on task, being positive, and many more. The students are all excited about following these rules, so they can have a terrific year in fifth grade!



Grade 5 students collaborating to create a set of class rules

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

Aloha Saint Mark Ohana! I am very excited about what lies ahead of us this school year!

In the **sixth, seventh and eighth grade science** classes, we have spent a good amount of time learning about the scientific method and practicing these steps with a fun paper airplane lab.

In **sixth grade Bible**, we are working on memory verses and how they can be meaningful in our lives. We have also completed a couple lessons in our One in Christ workbooks.

In **seventh grade math**, we are learning about estimating, decimal numbers and integers.

Eighth grade Algebra 1 students are learning about variables, functions and graphing.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

The **seventh grade class** will be exploring the Six Chief Parts of the Catechism with our new **Bible curriculum One in Christ** and have started with looking at God and His Word (the Bible!). Our theme for the year is that we are MARVELOUS! Psalm 139:14.

In **English, both seventh and eighth graders** are reading novels about [future] societies that have found a way to make things "better". The **eighth grade** is enjoying Uglies and **seventh grade** is getting into The Giver, which is a new motion picture. And of course, all are getting reacquainted with the Shurley Method of English!

In **math sixth graders** have been

digging into place value, exponents, and estimation, and are just getting into PEMDAS... also known as Order of Operations.

Seventh and eighth Pre-Algebra students are looking forward to their first test on algebraic expressions and integers. They will soon start a **Mathenger Hunt** as they learn about how important math is in life beyond the classroom.

Mrs. Souki's News:

Eighth grade Bible students have been getting to know their kindergarten chapel buddies and learning about the big responsibility they have as the oldest students on campus. We made a craft with our kindergarten buddies that we turned into cross necklaces that our buddies got to take home after our first chapel together. Then we made creation books and shared them with our buddies. It has been an enriching experience for all involved.



Grade 8 and Kindergarten with their grade 8 chapel buddy sharing a book together

Sixth grade world history students have been studying pre-history. We have been looking at the artifacts that scientists and historians use to piece together the lives of prehistoric people. We have focused on the Chauvet Caves in France. In 1994, these caves were discovered with elaborate paintings that are over 32,000 years old. The students will soon be creating cave paintings of their own.

Seventh grade world geography students are studying core concepts of geography including the five themes of geography. Now we are breaking down those themes into smaller parts like the earth, climates and ecosystems, culture, and history. Soon we will be able to focus on different regions with a new ability to study the different aspects of the landscape.

Eighth grade U.S. history students have been studying the earliest Americans and how they arrived in America. We will be starting our unit on colonization where we will focus on the impact colonization had on the Native Americans. We have enjoyed our new discussion format as we talk about the important, but sometimes controversial, topics that come up in U.S. History.

Sixth grade English students have been working hard at getting into the rhythm of middle school and all the new procedures and they are doing great. We have been focusing on our Wordly Wise lessons and we recently started our unit on figurative language. The students had a lot of fun with personification!

Miss Morris' News:

Welcome back for another year! PE is simple - bring your uniform and try your best during class and you will do well. I look forward to a great school year with each of you!

Saint Mark Lutheran School is On-line!



Check out the **School Website** as it continues to be updated!

Saint Mark Website
www.smls-hawaii.org

If you haven't done so already, please sign up to receive **automatic e-mail alerts** when new items are posted to the school website. It's a great way to stay connected!



Athletics



Our first season of the year is underway...varsity volleyball! The 7th and 8th grade boys and girls have been practicing hard under **Coach Kuulei**.

The first game of the season took place on Thursday, August 21 at Saint Mark against Windward Nazarene. The rest of game schedule can be found on the calendar on our school website. So, check it out, mark the home games and come out and cheer on our Warriors!



2014-2015 Faculty and Staff at the Installation and Rededication Church Service on August 3

Check out SMLS ...



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is busy at work planning the **5th Annual Benefit Gala...**



The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 8 at The Pacific Club** and will include an evening of wonderful food, live entertainment and an exciting silent auction for our community and friends. The money raised in this event will be used to support our capital campaign to build and early education facility at Saint Mark and to our very important financial aid program. Thank you to the parents who have offered to serve on the PTC. It takes all of us working together to make Saint Mark the best it can be.

This & That

On Wednesday, September 10th, the kindergartners will celebrate **Grandparents' Day**. They will proudly show off all they are learning and introduce papa and tutu to their classmates and classroom.

Make plans to attend the **Fall Family Night** on Friday, September 12. It will be a fun-filled movie night with the fourth graders selling food as a fundraiser for their Big Island trip.

September 15-19 is our **Fall Scholastic book fair**. If you are interested in performing helping out with the fair, please call **Mrs. Lee** in the school office.

August **Chapel Offerings** will go to Lutheran Church World Relief. September offerings are going to the Aloha United Way. Mahalo for your support!

Saint Mark will once again be participating in Foodland's annual **Give Aloha program!** Throughout September customers are invited to make donations at check out (up to \$249 per person, per organization) to Saint Mark Lutheran School. Foodland and the Western Union Foundation will match a portion of each donation up to a total of \$300,000 for all organizations combined. More details will be sent home in the near future.



give aloha

Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program

Fifth Graders worked in groups to study the cultures of five major Native American Indian groups. Each student constructed a project demonstrating some aspect of the Indian culture. Projects were made *in the Indian way* using nat-

ural materials and then set up in Room 2 for the entire school to enjoy.



The kindergarten students were listening carefully as Dr. Gaudi recently read a story to them

Please put your child's name on jackets, lunch boxes, etc. If something hasn't made it's way home please come check the **lost and found** in the school office.

Remember, we need everyone's support to help make the **5th Annual Benefit Gala** scheduled for Saturday, **November 8th, 2014** a huge success!