

Warrior News

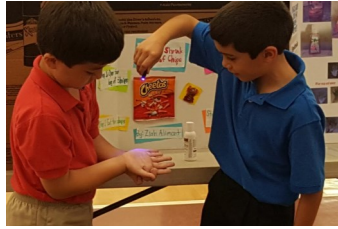
Saint Mark Lutheran School extends the love and care of Jesus Christ to all people, while nurturing families and preparing students to integrate faith with life, through quality Christ-centered education.

Saint Mark Lutheran School
Kaneohe, Hawaii

April 2015

A Message from the Head of School

Walking around the gym this past Thursday exploring the **Science & Invention Exhibition** was a true treat. It was an opportunity to witness first-hand the curiosity, creativity, passion, and ingenuity that our over 200 students possess.



A grade 1 student demonstrates his science project

From *Copter Coins* (**Kain Faufata** - grade 1) and *Where Does Oil Hide?* (**Michael Ambler** - grade 2) to *Putting Your Water to Work* (**Kahekili Catrett** - grade 7) and *Best Method of Gum Removal* (**Nani Pegueros** - grade 8), the gym was abounding with a myriad of different experiments, inventions, and other creative creations.

CURIOSITY
IS THE COMPASS THAT
LEADS US
TO OUR PASSIONS.
FOLLOW IT AND
YOU WON'T BE DISAPPOINTED.
THE FUTURE BELONGS TO
THE CURIOUS.

As I weaved my way through the sea of projects, I ran across a first grader who was in the midst of carefully and passionately demonstrating his invention (see above picture) while his entire class looked on with wonder and intrigue.

Watching this young student's enthusiasm and fervor reminded me that anything is possible when a child's innate curiosity is nurtured in ways that unshackle their creative juices and help them discover their true passions. Albert Einstein once said, *"I have no special talent. I am only passionately curious."*

At Saint Mark we strive to provide a rigorous and disciplined learning environment that is fun, exciting, and full of God's love. By sharing and living God's loving and saving grace, we hope to create a caring atmosphere where our students are pushed to do their best BUT feel safe enough to take risks and explore their learning and curiosity without a paralyzing fear of failure. In other words, we want our students to feel free to make mistakes knowing that God loves them, we love them, and failure is not fatal. Winston Churchill put it well when he said, *"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts."* So, when our students fall (and they will), we must encourage them to get right back up with the courage to continue!

I congratulate the students of Saint Mark for exploring their curiosity and courageously creating some fascinating science projects! Keep up the great work!

Science & Invention Exhibition



"Great job"; "Very creative"; "Great projects"; "The kids did a wonderful job" were just some of the comments heard at our recent **Science & Invention Exhibition**.

Students from kindergarten through the eighth grade did an excellent job researching and presenting their inventions and science experiments. Congratulations to all the students and teachers on a job well done!

Dates to Remember

April 25: Family Work Day at 9:00 a.m.

April 30: Grades 5-8 Track Meet

April 29: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

May 4-8: SAT Testing

May 7: Athletic Banquet at 5:30pm

May 13-15: Grade 4 Big Island trip

May 15: Grades K-2 Choir Spring Concert at 6:30 p.m.

May 19: Grades 3-6 Choir & Beginning Band Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

May 21: Grades 5-8 Choir & Advanced Band Spring Concert at 6:30 p.m.

May 22: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 25: Memorial Day - No School

May 28: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 29: Last Day of School 11:30 a.m. dismissal

STAND BACK



**I'M GOING TO TRY
SCIENCE**

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergarteners are finishing up their last edits and illustrations to meet their press date at the end of the month. They are excited to publish their first class book titled, "Peace Is ...". In a few short weeks they will receive their printed hardbound copies and will have a special celebration to recognize all of their hard work! They have also been working hard learning their lines and songs as they get ready to perform a patriotic play. They can't wait to perform for their families and loved ones! The kindergarteners had lots of fun and learned a lot as they visited the Honolulu Zoo and the Waikiki Aquarium in the beginning of the month. What a great way to start off their unit learning about God's amazing animals!

First Grade: First graders had a wonderful spring break. Upon returning their first activity was sharing and writing their favorite memories of spring break. They also

learned about the daily steps Jesus took leading Him to the cross to die for our sins. They told the story of Easter through resurrection eggs and took their eggs home to retell the story of Easter to their families and friends. We shared a special resurrection party to celebrate Jesus by cooking resurrection rolls and going on an egg hunt. In math and science, they are busy learning the different tools used to measure length, height and capacity. They began a unit on weather, read non-fiction books, and observed the water cycle first hand in the terrariums they built. Then we shared our class science projects and went to

the all School Science Exhibition to see the amazing reports, projects and inventions from K-8.

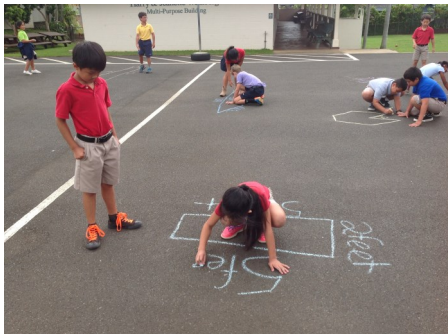
Second Grade: Second grade had an amazing time at the Pacific Aviation Museum on Ford Island. The students did a STEM activity and dressed up like real aviators. They also presented their biography projects in class. From Nelson Mandela to Bill Gates, they all learned from one another as they talked about famous people from history. They are also learning about a famous female artist, Georgia O'Keeffe in art. As they prepare for third grade, the students are beginning to learn basic multiplication facts and doing daily homework.



Grade 2 students enjoyed an educational and extremely exciting learning trip to the Pacific Aviation Museum

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: The third graders have been super busy this past month. We have been learning about ecosystems in science and in math, we learned all about shapes, triangles, and lines. We spent quite a bit of time outside drawing triangles, perimeters and areas with chalk. In reading and writing, we started writing book re-



Grade 3 students spent some time outside on a beautiful afternoon learning about area and perimeter

ports and presenting them to the class.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders worked hard on their plastic bottle inventions for the school science fair. We brainstormed ways we can reuse plastic

bottles to help reduce trash. They came up with some very creative, beneficial, and entertaining projects.

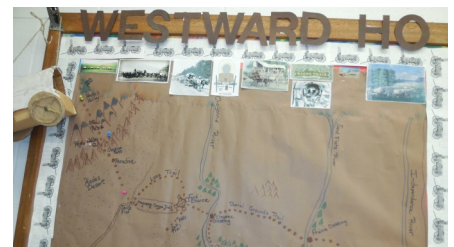


Along with displaying these projects at the science exhibition, each student presented their invention to the class and demonstrated how to use it. Students are already talking about what other things they could invent to help our world!

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: Westward Ho! For the last few weeks, fifth grade students assumed the roles of different pioneers as they headed west on a wagon train. They learned about what it really would have been like to live back in the 1850s. The students each chose an actual character and loaded up supplies in their covered wagons for their six month journey. Each wagon train faced hardships, sickness, dangers, and even deaths as they traveled across the Oregon Territory in hopes of making it to

their final destination of Hacker Valley. Only one of the groups reached their goal where they built their homesteads and started their new lives in a lush, beautiful Oregon valley. Three groups were stranded in Snow Pass and suffered freezing snow storms, loss of supplies, and even the lives of their members. The last wagon train never even made it as far as the mountains, but remained in Hades Desert just trying to survive. This was a memorable study as students gained an appre-



The Oregon Trail map that the grade 5 students used as they traveled to Hacker Valley

ciation for how difficult it actually was to travel west on the wagon train trails during the 1850s.

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

In **Sixth Grade Bible** we are studying the early Christian church and how Jesus' followers were able to spread the Gospel.

Sixth grade science students just finished their science projects and will be moving onto a chapter about energy resources.

In **seventh grade math** we are finding the area, perimeter and circumference of polygons and mastering other measuring skills.

In **seventh grade science** we finished our science projects and are moving onto a chapter about blood and circulation.

Eighth grade algebra students are graphing linear functions in point-slope form and graphing absolute value functions.

Eighth grade science has just finished their science projects and will be moving on to a chapter about the physics of energy.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh and eighth grade pre algebra students started a project that ties in with geometry: tessellations! Not sure what a tessellation is? Look up the work of M.C. Escher for some fantastic examples. For everyday uses, look at floor tiles or a sheet of postage stamps!

In **eighth grade English**, besides Wordly Wise and Shurley lessons, we are looking at the historical fiction genre. Students are using re-

search to find facts they will use to write a short story, then they will read a novel and create a presentation to share with the class.

Seventh grade is finishing the year with a heavy research paper on a country of their choice. They are working through the process of research, organizing, writing, editing, etc. Then they will stand up before the class and share the highlights of their findings.

Mrs. Souki's News:

Eighth grade Bible students began the quarter with a chapel service. It was bittersweet as it's the last chapel service for the eighth graders before they move onto high school. We were excited to partner up with our kindergarten chapel buddies to perform a skit. The message was about finding who you are in Christ and sharing that love with others through kindness.

In **sixth grade English** we continue to learn the eight parts of speech in Shurley and added a verb chart to our playlist of songs. We are finishing up the Wordly Wise book and looking forward to our last class novel in May.

Seventh grade world geography students finished their study of Europe and up next is the Middle East. Mrs. Souki is excited to help guide them in their understanding of the regions, geography, and history. The area is often in the news and the hope is that they come to a better understanding of our world

today through this study.

Eighth grade U.S. History students are looking into the World Wars, the Great Depression, Vietnam, and current issues. They continue to develop inquiry and writing skills as they synthesize the information they have learned into meaningful conversations about what it is to be an American.

Sixth grade world history students are focused on early Europe, the Renaissance, and the Reformation. Aside from the textbook, we will be completing an art project. The students will be learning about the many new developments in art and culture during this time with some hands-on experiences.

Miss Morris' News:

At the end of April all fifth-eighth grade students will participate in the **All Lutheran Schools Track and Field Meet**. They will show off all of Saint Mark's athletic talent as they compete in races, relays, and field events!

Vacation Bible School is right around the corner! This year we will be visiting Hometown Nazareth, where Jesus was a kid, and hearing about Jesus from his mother Mary. Join us **June 8 to 12 from 8:30am to 12:30pm** for this exciting adventure! Registration is open for keiki ages 4-entering 5th grade (older kids can volunteer) and costs \$5 per keiki. Register today at: <https://www.groupvbspro>.



Middle School - 3rd Quarter Awards

Principal's List

(GPA 3.75—4.0)

Nathanael Aiu
Mariah Basques
Casey Barreca
Laura Dart
Abigail Hilpert
Ian Stone
Jackie Tucker
Joshua Kemp
Reef Lee
Emma Lindsey
Sirena Linton
John Tittel
Lani Warren
Fenua Aiu
Miriam Ha

Joshua Hilpert
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton
Kathryn Koopman
Jenny Tucker

Honor Roll

(GAP 3.0—3.75)

Kaimana Bueno
Kiara Carvalho-Salazar
Kaila Flores
Noah Gaudi
Marc Gonzalez
Noah Hanohano
Sophie Hepton
Keaupo McGee-Lee
Camille McMillian
Dane Sumimoto

Hank Warrington
Mikeila Beazley
Brynn Denis
Hunter-Bailey Kaimikaua
Keeton Manguso
Sophia Sagarese
Eli Warren
Logan Aiu
Kuulei Aona
Hunter Mansanas
Justice Naehu
Justin Pascua
Nani Pegueros
Mackenzie Plunkett
Kaleimakalii Saunders
Amy Warrington

Principal's Award

(Improved GPA by 0.3)

Mariah Basques
Noah Hanohano
Dane Sumimoto
Luke Buckley
Kahekili Catrett
Hunter-Bailey Kaimikaua
Makena Lemapu
Keeton Manguso
Justice Naehu
Justin Pascua

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Awards (cont.)



Citizenship

Casey Barreca
Mariah Basques
Laura Dart
Kaila Flores
Noah Hanohano
Sophie Hepton
Abi Hilpert
Camille McMillian
Ian Stone
Jackie Tucker
Mikeila Beazley
Brynn Denis
Hunter-Bailey Kaimikaua
Joshua Kemp
Reef Lee
Makena Lemapu

Emma Lindsey
Sirena Linton
Sophia Sagarese
John Tittel
Eli Warren
Lani Warren
Fenua Aiu
Logan Aiu
Miriam Ha
Joshua Hilpert
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton
Katy Koopman
Nani Pegueros
Jenny Tucker
Amy Warrington

Great work!!

Athletics

The last of our Lutheran Schools Sports League (LSSL) seasons is underway with the JV basketball boys and girls (5th and 6th graders) practicing hard and looking forward to playing. Their schedule is on the school website calendar, so check it out and come out and cheer them on!



The 5th-8th graders will be attending the **LSSL Track and Field Meet on Thursday, April 30** at Leilehua High School. Each student will be competing in one run event and three field events. Additionally, some will be competing in 4x100 relay races.

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



Please join us at the next PTC meeting on

Monday, May 18 at 5:30 p.m.

We will be debriefing the year and beginning the preliminary planning process for the **6th Annual Gala** next fall - Saturday, November 7, 2015.



This & That

Saturday, April 25 is one of our annual **Family Work Days**. We start at 9:00 a.m. and work through noon, with pizza lunch being provided by the school. Please bring some cleaning supplies and join us as we make minor repairs and generally spruce up our campus.



Please join us on **Friday, April 24 at 6:00 p.m.** when the **Kindergarten** class will present their patriotic play entitled *We Love the U.S.A.*

It's almost **Kickball** time! All students in grades K-3 can sign up to play in the After School Intramural League. Games will be played on Tuesdays and Thursdays, starting at 3:05 p.m. and should last about 45 minutes. More information coming soon!

The February and March chapel offerings went to the **American Heart Association**. Students donated a total of \$321.00. April offerings are going to the Make-a-Wish.

The **grade 4 class** is excitedly anticipating their trip to the **Big Island** from May 13 to May 15.



Congratulations to the middle school students who earned the 3rd quarter principal's award or spots on the principal's list



Some Kindergartners, Grade 3 and Grade 4 students paused for a photo on class color day

All students in grades 1 to 8 will be participating in **SAT Testing** the week of May 4 to 8. Please make sure your child comes to school well rested.

**Saint Mark
Lutheran School**

NOW ENROLLING

247-5589

www.smls-hawaii.org

*Saint Mark is still accepting
new student applications for
the 2015-16 school year*

