

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**

September 2015

Message from the Head of School



Families Gathering for Fall Family Night

The weather was beautiful, the food fantastic, and the movie delightful!

This past Friday's fall family night was another example of how blessed Saint Mark is to have the steadfast support of its wonderful families.

After being postponed for a week due to heavy rains, the Saint Mark 'ohana came out in full-force and enjoyed a beautiful evening of food, fun, family, and fellowship.

This event reminded me how Saint Mark is a family oriented community that celebrates the 'ohana and tries hard to foster a collaborative environment where parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, and friends can actively participate in the life of the school.



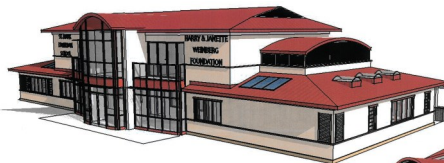
The grade 4 families raised over \$2,000 for the students Big Island trip in May

A BIG Mahalo goes to the **Grade 4 parents, Ms. Camit, and Ms. Morris** for their work organizing and preparing for this wonderful event and for preparing all of the delicious food. And also, a BIG Mahalo goes to all **YOU** who gathered under the stars to enjoying this special time together!

Work Continues as We Build for the Future - Early Education Center !

**WE NEED
YOUR HELP**

Saint Mark continues its 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. The architect is finalizing the plans for a beautiful building which includes three pre-school classrooms, library, technology center, meeting rooms and administrative offices.



Renderings of the Early Education Center with 3 Pre-School Classrooms

We need everyone's help to bring our plans to fruition. Please call the school office to set up a meeting with **Dr. Gaudi** to learn more about how you can support this very important project. Mahalo Nui Loa!

Dates to Remember

September 25: 1st Quarter Ends

September 28 - Oct 9: Fall Break

September 28 - Oct 2: Grades 6-8 Report Cards mailed home

October 12: School Resumes; K-5 Report Cards go home with Students

October 18: Grades K-2 sing in church at 9:30 a.m.

October 22 & 23: 11:30 a.m. dismissal due to Parent Teacher Conferences

October 28 - 30: Grades 5 & 7 Outdoor Education at Camp Erdman

November 2 & 3: Teachers' Conferences - No School

November 7: 6th Annual Benefit Gala at **The Pacific Club**

November 11: Veterans' Day Observed - No School

November 17: Mid-Quarter Reports go home w/students

November 18: Flu Vaccination at 8:30am

November 19: Open House for Prospective Parents at 5:30 p.m.

November 26 & 27: Thanksgiving Break - No School

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: The kindergarten classroom was overflowing with aloha and excitement for our Grandparents' and Grandfriends' Day Celebration! Kindergarteners sang some of their favorite songs and had fun making a craft with their tutu. The kindergarteners have also been enjoying swimming every week with their friends at the Kokokahi YWCA during these hot summer days. They have also been busy writing, counting, listening, and learning this quarter and are excited about becoming expert readers and writers this year!

First Grade: First graders had a busy first quarter! We learned many new rules about addition, and began memorizing addition facts. Gumball

Math and Math Minute help strengthen those skills. In reading, we focused our word attack skills by



Grade 1 students excited about a fun science experiment

using different reading strategies. We enjoyed reading *Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown, as part of our social studies unit focused on "communities". We will be sending our "Flat people" off to visit communities around the globe. We enhanced our swimming skills with weekly swim lessons at Kokokahi YWCA. We are also busy caring for and tending our garden and our

worm bin with the second graders and take pride in caring for our pet bunnies named Butterscotch and Licorice, and we have a pet fighting fish named Rocket.

Second Grade: The second graders are well acclimated with the routines and procedures of class now. They are finishing up their third chapter in math and have learned all of their Shurley English jingles. They are also having fun completing their science folders and learning many things from the Bible from Ms. Morris. Students will formally present their cultural projects for social studies. They will also culminate the end of the first quarter with first grade as they have their first, "Open Market." The first quarter went by very quickly, but all of the second graders have learned so much!



Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: This month third grade worked at becoming proficient at counting money. We invited the second grade to our class to "buy" items while we made change. Currently, we are busy learning mental math & number sense. In reading, we are learning all about "how to think while we read". We have been asking questions about what might happen in our stories, visualizing, and sequencing events. In writing and grammar we are practicing our capitalizing & using different end marks.

Fourth Grade: Fourth graders have been busy learning about ROCKS!

Rocks are very important to our world and can be very interesting. We visited the Lucoral Museum to learn more about minerals; minerals are the ingredients that make up rocks. To learn more about the properties of



Grade 4 students showing off their saxophones during beginning band

rocks we explored different types of rocks and tested whether they could

float and how hard they are. Just like the water cycle there is a rock cycle. To learn this rock cycle the students did a project using chocolate candy to represent a rock. Our rocks changed to the three different types of rock by applying heat, pressure, weathering, erosion, etc. This hands on activity helped them experience the rock cycle first hand.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: In fifth grade, we have been focusing on the concept "unity" within our classroom. Whether it is taking care of a class pigeon for a few precious days, working together to understand Shurley concepts, or helping one another recall how animals adapt in their environments, we are learning how to genuinely work together towards our classmates' success.



Grade 5 students enjoying themselves at the 2015 Fall Family Night

Classroom News - Middle School

Miss Pelletier's News:

The **sixth graders** finished the unit on Jesus' early life and are moving into a unit about His ministry in **Bible**. In **science** they went on an awesome field trip to the Lucoral Museum to learn about minerals and are finishing a chapter about rocks.

In **seventh grade math** we have been working with fractions and decimals, finding LCMs and GCFs, prime factorization, and scientific notation and in **science** students created cell models and cell worlds to study the different parts found in animal and plant cells. We are now studying cell processes.

In **eighth grade algebra**, we are solving equations. This was tough at first, but we're masters now! In **science**, the **eighth grade** has just finished a chapter on solids, liquids, and gases. We created skits and videos to demonstrate the changes of state of matter.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Sixth grade Math is in the midst of a decimal dilemma: When do we have to line up the decimal point? When don't we? As we learn about decimals, we will know what to do!

Seventh Grade students have started a new unit in Bible that takes a closer look at the work of the Holy Spirit. He is the one who works faith in us and sanctifies or makes us holy. We are getting to know our first grade chapel buddies better.

Seventh & eighth grade pre-algebra students are in the middle of a Mathenger Hunt. They are interviewing "real" people to find out how they use math in their everyday lives and jobs. It helps them answer the

question, "When am I ever going to use this?"

In **eighth grade English**, the students have finished the novel *Uglies* and had their ugly to pretty transformation. All of them put really good effort into the project and had excellent results.

Student Council is up and running. Elections were held today and the executive officers are **Sirena Linton** (President), **Emma Lindsey** (Vice President), **Hunter Bailey Kaimikaua** (Secretary), and **Noah Hanohano** (Treasurer). Congratulations!

Mrs. Souki's News:

Eighth grade Bible is busy planning chapel for the week after Fall Break. Students are working on a play and some new songs to help their fellow students understand the power of prayer. We can't wait to share.

Sixth grade English students finished their poetry unit. They have started their class novel, *The One and Only Ivan*, written from the perspective of a mall gorilla. It is an example of the personification element of figurative language. We are continuing with Wordly Wise vocabulary and Shurley grammar.

Seventh grade English students finished their class novel, *The Giver*, with its themes of utopian societies. We are continuing with Wordly Wise vocabulary and Shurley grammar.

Sixth grade world history students are studying core concepts of historical study and learning about the beginnings of civilization. They are also working on their five paragraph essay using the first city of Uruk to define a civilization.



Grade 7 students enthusiastically getting some exercise during P.E.

Seventh grade world geography students are studying the core concepts of geography and learning concepts like culture, government, resource distribution, religion, and many more. This will help them understand the complete perspective of geography when we start to study specific places in the second quarter.

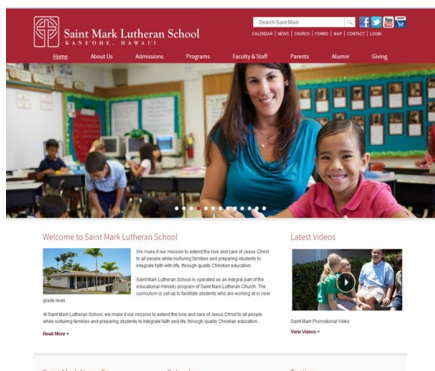
In **eighth grade U.S. history** students are finishing up the class novel *My Brother Sam is Dead* which goes along with their study of the American Revolution. This gives them a personal understanding of the that conflict and the people who faced it.

Miss Morris' News:

Middle School jumped right into PE by working on volleyball skills, running, and exercising. Congratulations to **Nathanael A., Mariah B., Kanalu C., Danae C., Noah H., Harvey W., and Keeton M.** who all beat their best mile time from last year! Keep up the good work!

Saint Mark's Youth and Keiki Ministry invites all our school families to join us for Sunday School every Sunday morning from 8:30 to 9:15. We also have some fun fellowship events coming up including our Family Beach Day on Saturday, September 26th at Kalama Beach Park from 2:00 - 4:00pm. At Beach Day we will have a Sandcastle Building Contest and a family devotion on Sandcastles.

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 with the school!



Athletics



The varsity volleyball season is coming to an end. Both the boys and girls have made great progress. They have learned and/or refined skills and have had fun in the process. A BIG MAHALO to Coach Kuulei.

JV volleyball for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls will start after Fall Break. Their first game will be on Thursday, November 5 and their season will end with a game on Thursday, December 3. Sign-up and practice information will be coming home.



Be sure to stay well informed by checking out the latest schedule of Athletic Events on the Saint Mark website calendar at: www.smls-hawaii.org/calendar/

Give Aloha

Saint Mark is again participating in Foodland's Annual **Give Aloha program!** During the month of September, customers are invited to make donations of up to \$249 (per person, per organization) at checkout 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.



give aloha
Foodland's Annual Community Matching Gifts Program



Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is busy at work planning the **6th Annual Benefit Gala**

The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 7 at The Pacific Club** at 5:30 p.m. and will include an evening of delicious food, live entertainment and an exciting silent/live auction for our community and friends. There are many ways to help support this important event. You can purchase tickets, donate auction items, assist with the class projects and baskets or simply talk-up the event!

This & That

September **chapel offerings** are being collected for Aloha United Way. We collected \$235 in August for Lutheran Bible Translators.

The end of our first quarter and the beginning of **Fall Break** are quickly approaching. Our last day of school is **Friday, September 25**, with classes resuming on **Monday, October 12**. The school office will remain open from 8:30-1:30 during break.

Report cards for students in grades 6-8 will be mailed home during Fall Break. Students in grades K-5 will receive their report cards when they return to school on October 12th.

We are still in **need of donations** for the silent auction at our **Benefit Gala**. The event, **Kulia I Ka Lani - Strive for the Heavens** on **November 7** at 5:30 p.m., will

once again be held at the beautiful Pacific Club. We encourage any of you who would like to attend the Gala to come by the school office to purchase tickets.

Mahalo to all who

supported and volunteered for our **Scholastic Book Fair**. We sold a little over \$3700 worth of books. We will use the profits to buy additional books for the school library.



Forms for flu vaccinations have been collected. Students who handed in their **vaccination**

forms will receive their shots on **Wednesday, November 18**. Those handing in late forms will be wait-listed to receive vaccinations if there is a sufficient supply.



Kindergarten students enjoying a very special visit from their grandparents on Grandparents' Day



Grade 1 students spending some time in prayer during their morning devotions