Message from the Head of School

“Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6

A Day in the Life of a Saint Mark student is a sight to behold....

(All pictures were taken on the same school day)

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

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, a library, a technology center, meeting rooms, and administrative offices.

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!
**Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade**

**Kindergarten:** Kindergartners have been doing awesomely with their letters, letter sounds, numbers, and sight words. We are drawing, painting, and writing. We even wrote about our amazing eighth grade Chapel Buddies! At the Anime Momotaro field trip we learned it is better to be kind than unkind. Grandparents’ and Grandfriends’ Day was fun, we sang, recited a poem, and prayed with our guests. There was LOTs of yummy food provided by parents. We are working on patterns (we practiced with OREOS!) and did a coloring and writing assignment for the Moon Festival. Now we start learning about the different explorers and explorations around the world. Now we are creating a foundation for the United States got started. After doing big projects on different Native American tribes, we started looking into the different explorers and explorations around the world. Now we are beginning to look at the first few settlements that were successful, creating a foundation for the United States. In science, we have been learning about adaptation and survival of plants and animals. We also started a class reading of, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.* Between that and spending time at the Aviation Museum, we are having a great time & learning a ton.

**Second Grade:** The second graders have been gathering information and learning more about their families. Students have been coming to school everyday wanting to share artifacts or stories about their families. Their final piece was to interview one of their oldest relatives. They learned what it was like to be a kid during their grandparents’ time and compare that with how they live now. It was an exciting process for the students!

**Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade**

**Third Grade:** It has been a great first quarter in third grade! In math, we have been working on using mental math to add, subtract, and estimate. In reading, we are using our comprehension strategies, like asking questions and visualizing. We are also using our weekly Scholastic News magazines to practice close reading of non-fiction texts. The students have been eager to learn cursive and we have been practicing some of our lower case letters. We also wrapped up our ecosystem unit. We did a fun lab about adaptations in native Hawaiian birds and students have been hard at work studying different ecosystems in our world. For social studies, we are studying communities. We have finished our Bible unit on how God reveals himself to us through His Word.

**Fourth Grade:** Aloha from fourth grade! The students enjoyed preparing for Fall Family Night and are so proud of all the hard work they put into raising money for their Big Island Trip. In art, the students made foil sculptures and used one another as inspiration. They also learned all about the importance of the kukui nut in Hawaiian studies and each student made their own unique spinning top from the kukui nut. They are also learning new Hawaiian words and learning about each island. The students learned about idioms and relative pronouns in language arts and are excited to solve for “x” in math. Last but not least, the students recently took a field trip to the U.S.S. Battleship Missouri where they learned about ancient Hawaiian and modern day navigation. It has been a busy month for the fourth graders!

**Classroom News - Fifth Grade**

**Fifth Grade:** In fifth grade, we have been diving deep into how the United States got started. After doing big projects on different Native American tribes, we started looking into the different explorers and explorations around the world. Now we are beginning to look at the first few settlements that were successful, creating a foundation for the United States. In science, we have been learning about adaptation and survival of plants and animals. We also started a class reading of, *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe.* Between that and spending time at the Aviation Museum, we are having a great time & learning a ton.
Miss Pelletier's News:
Sixth grade Bible finished a unit on Jesus' early life and now are studying Jesus' ministry, miracles, & teaching.

Sixth grade science finished the chapter on minerals and are studying rocks. We went to the Bishop Museum to participate in an exciting game and learn about the rock cycle, plate tectonics, and the geology of Hawai'i.

In seventh grade math, we are finishing our chapter on fractions and decimals, finding LCMs and GCFs, prime factorization, and scientific notation. Next we will focus on operations with fractions.

In seventh grade science, we created and presented cell models and cell worlds as we studied cell processes and the cell cycle. We also participated in a Bishop Museum program called Attack of the Giant Cell.

In eighth grade algebra we are solving different kinds of equations. We're also working with ratios, proportions, similar figures, percent of change, square roots, and the famous Pythagorean Theorem.

Eighth grade science students finished the chapter on solids, liquids, and gases. They created skits, videos, and stories demonstrating the changes of state of matter. Next we focus on the periodic table of elements.

Mrs. Schroppel’s News:
Seventh grade Bible students started a unit taking a closer look at the Holy Spirit, who works faith in us and sanctifies or makes us holy. We are getting to know our first grade chapel buddies better and went on a swimming field trip with them.

Seventh and eighth grade pre-algebra students are having a Mathenger Hunt. They are interviewing “real” people to find out how they use math in their everyday lives and jobs. It helps answer the question, “When am I ever going to use this?”

Sixth grade English has a decimal dilemma: when do we have to line up the decimal point? When don’t we? As we continue to learn about decimals, we will find our answer.

Eighth grade English students finished the novel Uglies and enjoyed their ugly to pretty transformation. I'm proud of the effort they all put into the project.

Student Council is up and running. The executive officers are Casey Barreca (President), Mariah Basques (Vice President), Sophie Hepton (Secretary), and Kalanikapu Aona (Treasurer). Congratulations!

Ms. DeMello’s News:
In eighth grade Bible the God All Around presentations added insight into the lives of our eighth graders. They shared beautiful examples of how God has worked in their lives. From overcoming fears, to near-death experiences, to giving thanks for the everyday things we take for granted, they have all found God in their lives.

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!
Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is busy at work planning the 7th Annual Benefit Gala

The gala is scheduled for **Saturday, November 12 at The Pacific Club** at 5:30 p.m. It will include an evening of delicious food, live entertainment by **H2O (Hard to Oppose)** and both a silent and a 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 talking up the event.

This & That

September chapel offerings will be collected for Aloha United Way. We collected over $240 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 30**, with classes resuming on **Monday, October 17**. 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 17th.

We are in need of donations for the silent auction at our seventh annual Benefit Gala. This year we will be “Celebrating the Fabulous 50’s, Swinging 60’s and Sensational 70’s.” The event is on **November 12 at 5:30 p.m.** and 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. It was very successful with sales of a little over $4500. We will use the profits to buy additional books for the school library.

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

Athletics

The varsity volleyball season has come to an end. A big MAHALO to **Coach Kuulei**. The volleyball players practiced and played hard as they learned new skills and continued to improve on what they learned in the past. Congratulations to all-stars **Sophia Hepton, Mariah Basques** (the girls’ MVP), **Noah Hanohano**, and **Hank Warrington** (the boys’ MVP). The JV volleyball season, for 5th and 6th grade boys and girls, will begin when we return from Fall Break. More information will be forthcoming.

Check out SMLS on ...