

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**

March 2010

A Message from the Principal



***Roberta Richards, Kelly Goheen,
Linda Turnbull, and Joel Wahlers***

The WASC / HAIS / NLSA accreditation visiting committee has completed their three day visit at Saint Mark, and I am happy to report that their time with us was wonderful!

The team read our self-study, thoroughly investigated our programs, visited our classrooms, met with our different constituencies, and then shared their findings. The entire process was extremely positive and reaffirming. They validated what we are doing well but also provided us with specific ideas on how to enhance our programs and offerings.

We are excited to move forward with some clear goals that help to pave a meaningful path for school improvement in the years to come.

Our profound thanks goes to all the students, parents, and board members who worked in support of this meaningful process!

We especially thank the four members of our accreditation visiting team. Roberta Richards from Pauoa Elementary School, Kelly Goheen from Holy Nativity School, Linda Turnbull from Ho'ala School, and Joel Wahlers from St. John's Lutheran School in Napa, California all donated their time and talents to our school, and we are greatly appreciative!

Mahalo Nui Loa!



Easter Services



You are invited to join us for Easter Service on Sunday, April 4.

Easter Sunrise Service - 7:00 a.m. at HPU Windward Campus

Easter Breakfast - 8:30 a.m. at Saint Mark Lutheran Church

Easter Service - 11:00 a.m. at Saint Mark Lutheran Church

Please call the church office at 247-4565 if you have any questions.

Dates to Remember

March 8-12: Lutheran Schools' Spirit Week

March 12: 3rd Quarter ends

March 15-26: Spring Intersession

March 13-16: Grades 6-8 Report Cards Mailed Home

March 29: School Resumes
Grades K-5 Report Cards go home with students

April 2: Good Friday - No School

April 5: Easter Monday - No School

April 11: K-3 Cantata at 5:00 p.m.

April 16: Spring Pictures

April 17: Family Work Day at 9:00 a.m.

April 28: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

April 30: May Day Program at 12:45 p.m.

May 3-7: SAT Testing

May 11: Grades 4-6 Choir & 4-8 Band Spring Concert at 7:00 p.m.

May 12-14: Grade 4 Big Island trip

May 14: Grades 5-8 Track Meet

May 21: Kindergarten Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 27: Grade 8 Graduation at 7:00 p.m.

May 28: Last Day of School
11:30 Dismissal

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten:

We're excited about Spirit Week. Thanks to Mrs. Akaka, we have special patriotic T-shirts for red, white and blue day. Parents are coming for devotions on Friday. We will share our prayer book of 13 prayers with them. We made special Girls' Day dolls and had mochi, and we'll celebrate St. Patrick's Day a little early with "potato sundaes" for lunch. Yum. We're busy learning the Lenten story about Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. We have all kinds of art activities to go with this study.



In February we did a journal by writing an entry a day. It was fun sharing "all about ourselves." After Spring Break we will start first grade spelling books. There are so many fun learning activities!

First Grade:

The first graders are learning about place value and comparing numbers in math. In reading we have moved into the second grade curriculum and are focusing on comprehension and story elements. We enjoyed a special day of reading in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2. We enjoyed green eggs and ham, and reading with our friends in tents that we put up around the room.

Second Grade:

The second grade students had a busy February, and March looks like it's going to be busy as well! The students are exploring their creativity through writing imaginative and sometimes silly stories and through creating different art pieces. In art the students are studying about Vincent Van Gogh and are creating artwork modeled after some of his famous paintings. The students are looking forward to another exciting Open Market and dressing up during Spirit Week! The students have been preparing a fun family devotion. Every day the second grade students start with a joke or tongue twister of the day. For example: If apes live in trees, where do they sleep?

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade:

The third grade is busy studying the properties of matter in science. We are completing our math chapter on geometry and measurement. The girls will be working on a research project about a famous American woman in history. They will be presenting their reports orally when we return from spring break. Don't worry boys, you will be doing yours in May, in honor of Boys' Day. Ma-



halo to the parents who participated in our 3rd grade devotions on Monday.

Fourth Grade:

The 4th graders are getting all charged up about electricity. We have been exploring how electricity travels through parallel and series circuits. The students also had the opportunity to learn how a plasma ball works. The students just placed their fingers on the glass surface and watched as colored bolts of glowing light followed their every move. They could actually "feel" the energy as the light gently tickled their fingertips!

Mahalo to Mrs. Shaner and Mrs. Manu for doing such a wonderful job organizing our 4th grade bake sale that took place at our school-



wide rummage sale. We would also like to thank all the parents who helped donate baked goods and gave up their Saturday morning to work at the sale.

Classroom News - Fifth Grade



Fifth Grade:

Saint Mark Lutheran School's Fifth grade celebrated manners and proper etiquette by having a High Tea in honor of friendship. Dressed in their nicer clothes, students enjoyed tea sandwiches, scones, cakes, and teas while conversing with one another about various topics. All the students were very polite and really enjoyed the whole experience.



Classroom News - Junior High

Mrs. Hantel's News:

Eighth grade physical science students have spent the past few weeks working with speed and velocity. The students were able to demonstrate their knowledge of the subject by calculating the speeds of various Hot Wheel cars. They also became safety experts after assessing the safety of the SMLS gym after calculating distances to the wall and stopping time.

Seventh grade life science students learned about sternocleidomastoids, phalanges, and the patella! If you are unsure of the meaning of these words, just ask one of the seventh graders. These students are exploring the workings of the inner body. In the past few weeks, they have spent time in the skeletal system, muscular system, and the ever-interesting digestive system.

Sixth grade science students are having a blast from the past as they explore fossils and the many stories they tell.

As the **sixth grade Bible** class continues its journey through the Old Testament, they enjoy the ability to meet all the different kings and prophets of Israel and Judah. The students are using these kings and prophets as examples of how and how not to live a Christ-centered life.

The **pre-algebra** and **algebra** students are trying to grasp different concepts such as graphing linear equations and working with percents and fractions. More importantly, the students are learning how to apply these concepts to the real world.

Miss Maddick's News:

In **Bible**, the **eighth graders** are preparing for the future by learning how to be a Christian witness. They are continually reminded that Saint Mark graduates will need to be prepared to proclaim Christ when future classmates ask them. We are also examining how we show love to each other and how we can improve speaking the languages of love to our family and friends. This is based on a book by Gary Chapman. The **seventh graders** are walking in the steps of Jesus as the events of Passion week are examined.

In **language arts**, the students are winding down their units. In **eighth grade** we are finishing *The Bomb* by clarifying the ending that leaves a lot to the imagination. Reading this book has been a good opportunity to explore the reasons for war and use of atomic weapons. In **seventh grade**, we completed *The Giver* by also changing the ending. The novel ends without concluding the action, leaving us unfulfilled. We hope that by rewriting the ending, we will be happier with the novel. In **sixth grade** we have been writing wonderful poetry in many formats. We are going to be writing some free verse poems to share with our families as we conclude the quarter.

In **world history**, we are beginning to look at the Middle Ages. This part of history is filled with religious and territorial battles. It is also when Martin Luther dared to disagree with the church. With all the tales of knights and their fair ladies, reading this part of history is much like reading a story from a book! *Robin Hood*, for example, is a

perfect book to examine typical lifestyles during Medieval times.

Mr. Annis' News:

The **Sixth grade math** class is ready to start operations using negative integers.

In **seventh grade math** the students are learning how to find the area of geometric figures.

In **eight grade pre-algebra** the students are starting to find slopes & intercepts and are ready to start graphing.

The **seventh grade social studies** class is finishing a study of Europe and Russia. Next they will start a unit on Africa.

The **eighth grade social studies** class is finishing their study of the U.S. expansion in the Pacific and will soon be learning about WWI.

In **seventh grade drama** they are preparing a play for Chapel on Wednesday morning, March 10.

Eighth grade drama is working on two plays: *Unlucky Cinderella* and *The Trial of Hansel & Gretel*.

Mr. Johnson's News:

Over the past month, the junior high students have been playing soccer, basketball, and kickball. The students are also preparing for May Day by practicing their hula skills every week. Parents, please remind your children to bring their P.E. uniforms to school on Tuesdays and Fridays. P.E. uniforms are required and failure to wear a uniform during class results in a lower P.E. grade. Thank you!

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!



Please take some time to visit the SMLS website. It continues to be updated!

Saint Mark Website
www.smls-hawaii.org

The website is continually kept fresh with **calendar updates, news updates and Facebook and Twitter updates, as well as daily devotions and daily Bible verses.**



Spring Family Night



*Keana Russell and
Hana Rupnow at the
Ice Palace*

Thanks to **Mrs. Gundermann** for organizing the fun evening!

A fun time was had by all at the Spring Family Night! Over 150 people from Saint Mark spent time ice skating and enjoying one another's company at the Ice Palace.



*Saint Mark Students
enjoying themselves*

Athletics



Congratulations to both the boys and girls varsity basketball teams and their coaches, **Coach Ryan** and **Coach Kim**. The girls finished their season second in their division and fourth in the tournament. The boys finished first in their division and took third place in the tournament. Great season, Warriors!

Congratulations also to the all-stars, **Hana Rupnow**, **Keana Russell**, **Tani Buckley**, **Kaimi Chang**, **James Chaffin**, and **Casey Takahashi**. Our MVP awards went to **Hana Rupnow** and **Kaimi Chang**.

The junior varsity basketball is starting up with practices at the end of this week. Their games will be played during the month of April. **Coach Kim** is looking forward to an exciting season with the enthusiastic 5th and 6th graders.

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



Thanks for all of the support given to the spring Rummage Sale. Over \$1,600 was raised! The PTC encourages everyone to continue collecting Box Tops & Labels for Education.



Please join us at the next PTC meeting **Monday, April 12 at 3:00 pm**. The PTC continues discussing some new ideas and possible initiatives for the PTC in the year(s) to come. We are hoping for a good turn out!

This & That

Chapel offerings in February went to LCMS World Relief & Human Care's **Haiti Relief Fund**. We were able to raise almost \$700!

Saint Mark families proudly **raised \$5,855** for the **American Heart Association** and celebrated with the Jump Rope for Heart Jump-A-Thon and potluck on February 17 to promote a heart-healthy lifestyle and to celebrate the successful fundraising endeavor.



*Jayson Wong , Sean Oketani, and
Braeden Watanabe jumping at
the Jump-A-Thon*

May is rapidly approaching and students have begun practicing for their **May Day Program**. The **seventh and eighth graders** have started Hula practice, and the **sixth graders** will begin practicing this week. More information will be coming home, but we will need as much greenery and flowers as we can possibly find. We will also need volunteers to help us decorate the gym. If you would like to help please let **Mr. Annis** know, or contact **Mrs. Lee** in the school office. Thank you!

Please be sure to check out Saint Mark on Facebook and Twitter



Facebook



Twitter



*The 2nd graders gave Mr. Gaudi
a "Heart Attack" in celebration
of Valentines' Day*

The PTC (Parent Teacher Committee) **raised over \$1,600** this past Saturday at their spring rummage sale! A big mahalo goes to all who helped make this fundraiser so successful. We especially thank **Robin Kaha'ulelio** and **Nalani Nelson** for taking the leadership roles in the planning and execution of this event.

Please stop by the school office to receive refunds for the cancelled Lutheran Schools' Music Festival.