A Message from the Head of School

First quarter is pau, fall break is over, and the school-wide conferences are history. So, we have now turned much of our attention to our very important 4th Annual Benefit Gala scheduled for Saturday, November 9 at 5:30 p.m.

The Gala committee, under the leadership of event coordinator Cissy Shaner, along with the PTC are working overtime collecting donations, selling tickets, and planning the entertainment.

Monies raised from the gala go in support of two very important needs – financial aid and technology. With increasing numbers of Saint Mark families requesting financial assistance along with Saint Mark's commitment to offer fresh, innovative, and relevant technologies to our students, the success of the gala is extremely important.

We encourage our families to get involved in the gala. If you have not done so already, please know that there is still time to purchase tickets or make a donation to the silent auction - but you have to hurry!

Mahalo to all who have generously given so much (time, talent, and financial contributions) in support of this important event!

OPEN HOUSE for Prospective Parents

We are planning our annual Open House for prospective Saint Mark Lutheran School parents.

Place: Saint Mark Lutheran School Gym
Date: Thursday, November 21, 2013
Time: 5:30 –7:00 p.m.

Please join us in welcoming prospective Saint Mark families!
**Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade**

**Kindergarten:** The Kindergartners were happy to be back at school after the break. Mrs. Gundermann thinks the parents were even happier. Now they are all back working and talking about their Hokule’a tour, visits from firefighters, motorcycle police, and paramedics who brought their ambulance. They’re talking about the season of autumn, fire safety, and how pumpkins grow and are looking forward to "Shapes Week” and "Teen Numerals” week. And they’re trying to find time to decorate the room with Halloween and autumn art projects.

**First Grade:** As we begin a new quarter, the first graders are learning about all the different jobs that the parents of our first graders have. We are also learning about being “fire safety superheroes” during Fire Prevention month. We were fortunate to have the Kaneohe Fire Station visit our school the first day back from fall break. We also had the Honolulu Police Department come and teach us about being safe over Halloween and all about what they do to protect our community. We got to see their motorcycles and inside their police car. We are looking forward to learning about places all over the world as our Flat First Graders start coming back to us in the mail.

**Second Grade:** The second graders have jumped right into the second quarter after their fall break, and are ready to learn! These second grade authors have been busy working hard in writing - remembering to include lots of interesting details in their stories. They are looking forward to learning how to add a bold beginning, a strong middle, and an excellent ending to make their story even better. The second graders are excited to put all their learning together, as they will be publishing a class book in the spring!

**Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade**

**Third Grade:** October was an exciting month for third grade. We started the month going to see the Hokulea before it embarked on its world wide voyage. We worked on a "Still Life" project in art this month. Each student learned how to add shadows to their art work as well as learning to see basic shapes in objects. We ended the month by having an exciting visit from the Honolulu Police. Each student wrote a question to ask the officers during the visit. We enjoyed many interesting topics as the officers impressed the students with their answers and stories.

**Fourth Grade:** The fourth grade class is starting their study on plants and animals. We will be focusing on plants and animals that are found in our Hawaiian Islands. To kick off our study we took 60 different plants and animals that are found in Hawaii and categorized them by Native and Introduced species to the islands. Students worked in pairs using iPads and books to categorize and discover an interesting fact about the plants and animals they got. Through a research project students will learn more about life science and what makes our islands home to many different species.

**Classroom News - Fifth Grade**

**Fifth Grade:** The grade five students are looking forward to spending three days at Camp Erdman along with students from other Lutheran Schools. Archery, swimming, and campfire top the list of the events that our students are anticipating. While at Camp Erdman, they will participate in group activities and cooperative challenges, and learn how to preserve their environment. They will create crafts, such as sand art and high-flying kites, and use their imaginations in various activities. Best of all, they will be making new friends as well as enjoying the ones that they already have. Camp Erdman is sure to be a wonderful experience which they will always remember!
Mrs. Brooks’ News: Students in sixth grade Bible are beginning to study the Gospel according to Mark.

In seventh grade science students completed their CELLebration with cell models. They are increasing their understanding of cells and learning about photosynthesis, cellular respiration as well as the cell cycle/mitosis.

Seventh grade math students are working on adding, subtracting, multiplying and dividing fractions.

In eighth grade science students are investigating different elements and learning about atomic structure and the periodic table. They will be choosing elements to research in the upcoming days.

Students in sixth grade science are investigating types of rocks, how they are formed, different characteristics of rocks and the rock cycle.

Mrs. Schroppel’s News: Seventh graders are anxiously anticipating three days of leadership camp at beautiful Camp Erdman on the North Shore. Besides growing in faith with their classmates, they get to enjoy the beauty of God’s creation. Among other things, students will be challenged by the Odyssey rope obstacle course.

In Bible, we are finishing a unit on Martin Luther and the Reformation. In seventh and eighth grade English students are starting work on the paper portion of their science project. Watch out for due dates. The final paper will not be due until the beginning of third quarter as it requires the completion of the research experiment.

The sixth grade math and seventh and eighth pre-algebra students will be authors this quarter as their project will be to write and illustrate a math themed book for younger students. They will get an opportunity to creatively present a math idea.

Student Council is in the planning phase for a fall social. It will include games, snacks, and prizes. Our first quarter fundraiser for Aloha United Way was a huge success with over $300 donated to help support the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Mahalo for your generous contributions!

Mrs. Pelletier’s News: As second quarter gets underway the Middle School is brewing with excitement. The eighth grade is focusing on the structure and inspiration of the books that make up the Old and New Testaments of the Bible.

In social studies, we are working our way through the American Revolutionary War and the Constitution of the United States. Seventh grade is currently delving into the geography of Canada, Mexico, and Central America. Social Studies for grade six involves the ancient civilizations of China and Greece.

For language arts in sixth grade, besides the usual Wordly Wise and Shurley Grammar lessons, we will be working on the 6 + 1 writing traits to improve our writing skills.

Miss Morris’ News: The middle school P.E. students did great last quarter with their Fitnessgram testing. Our next testing time will be just before mid-quarters, so get ready! Parents, if you have any questions about the new Fitnessgram program feel free to send me an email or check out the Parent FAQ section at: www.fitnessgram.net/faqparents/

Youth Quest is going great this year! We have 20 kids who are learning more about God and their faith each week on Wednesday afternoons. We just finished up the 10 Commandments and are moving on to the Lord’s Prayer. Don’t forget to do your take home devotions each week! Parents, if you lost your snack schedule let me know and I can get you another one. The kids thank you for the delicious snacks they have enjoyed so far!

Middle School - 1st Quarter Awards

Principal’s List
(3.75-4.00 GPA)
- Joshua Gonzalez
- Sage Iona
- Kathrynn Johnson
- Kala Kahapea-Aquino
- Rhys Kalama
- Melia Manu
- Tristan Scharfenstein-Montgomery
- Koby Tengan

Kaleialoha Froning
Sirena Linton
Mckayla McCullah
Moani Manu
Lani Warren
Fenua Aiu
Miriam Ha
Joshua Hilpert
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton
Kathryn Koopman

Honor Roll
(3.00-3.74 GPA)
- Mikeila Beazley
- Benjamin Brophy
- Kahekili Catrett
- Jason Cruz
- Kainalu Keliikuli-Grace
- Emma Lindsey
- Eli Warren
- Logan Aiu
- Justin Pascua
- Mackenzie Plunkett

- Amy Warrington
- Tatiana Buck
- Alexis Chang-Takayama
- Seth Denis
- Christian Fee
- Kaitlyn Kaimikaua
- Kainoa Kawaihui
- Manaia Moe
- Kanoe Ratledge

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Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash

The PTC is busy working on the 4th Annual Benefit Gala for Saint Mark on Saturday, November 9 beginning at 5:30 p.m. at The Pacific Club. If you would like to assist in any way, please contact the school office at 247-5589.

Mahalo for Your Meaningful Support!

Awards (cont.)

Citizenship Award
Mikaela Beazley
Benjamin Brophy
Kaleialoha Froning
Emma Lindsey
Sirena Linton
Mckayla McCullah
Moani Manu
Lani Warren
Fentua Aiu
Logan Aiula
Kuulei Aona
Miriam Ha
Joshua Hilpert
Kara Iwamoto-Skelton
Katy Koopman
Kaleimakali'i Saunders
Amy Warrington

Athletics

Congratulations to our varsity volleyball teams and Coach Tony. The boys came in 2nd in the post-season tournament and the girls came in 3rd. Our all-stars were Sage Iona, Melia Manu, Rhys Kalama, and Koby Tengan. Most valuable players were Melia, Sage, and Rhys. Once again, congratulations to all and especially to our all-stars and MVP's.

Our JV volleyball season has started with our first games being played last week. Both the boys and girls are working hard and having fun.

The cross country meet will be held on Friday, November 15. Any students in grades 5 - 8 who are interested in participating should see Mrs. Kong.

In September the students raised $300 for the Family Promise program through their chapel offerings. The students raised an additional $500 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation through the Aloha United Way. Thank you for helping us support these charities.

On November 17th at 9:30 a.m. the kindergarten - grade 2 students will sing at Saint Mark Lutheran Church. They will be singing songs of praise at this time of thanksgiving. Families are invited and during the sermon the children will have their own “keiki church.”

The Performing Arts Center of Kapolei and O'Haia Productions are presenting two programs at Saint Mark. “School House Rock” was performed on October 29th, and on November 5th O'Haia Productions will present “I Wish.”

Frank Delima will be here on November 19th. He will perform for grades K-3 at 9:30 a.m. and for grades 4-8 at 10:00 a.m. Interested parents or family members are welcome to attend.

On November 21 we will hold an Open House for Prospective Parents in the gym. There will be pupu's and the opportunity for mingling after which parents can visit the classrooms they are interested in. Current school families are encouraged to bring friends or family who would like to learn more about our program.

All are invited to grab their scissors and join Mrs. Tabitha Cameline as she organizes a second Box Tops Clipping Party on Tuesday, November 12 at 8:00 am in room 2. If you have any questions, please contact Tabitha Cameline at 239-9190 or by email at tabithacameline@gmail.com.

The grade 8 students and Mrs. Pelletier working on a service project at Papahana Kualoa

Check out SMLS on....