

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**

February/March 2018

A Message from the Head of School



With the recent demolition of our old building and clearing of the construction site, it was exciting to pause and celebrate our long-awaited ground breaking earlier this week. After six long years of studying, planning, and fund-raising, it was very gratifying to “officially” kick-off the construction of Saint Mark’s Early Learning Center.

Among our guests for the ground breaking, we had **Ken Ito** (State House Representative), **Jarrett Keohokalole** (State House Representative), **Corbett Kalama** (Vice President of Real Estate Investments and Community Affairs for the Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation and Kamehameha School’s Trustee), and **Mitch D’Olier** (Board Chair for Kaneohe Ranch Management Limited) in attendance.



Pastor Matt, Mitch D`Olier, Rep Keohokalole, and Rep Ito at the Ground Breaking



In addition to the numerous individuals who have given so generously to this important project, Saint Mark has also been truly blessed with extensive community support. The *Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, Samuel N. and Mary Castle Foundation, Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, Ather-*

ton Family Foundation, Pettus Foundation, and First Hawaiian Bank Foundation have all generously supported this endeavor recognizing, like so many others in our community, the significant need for additional, high-quality, early learning centers on the Windward side of Oahu. We thank you all for your continued patience and support! If all goes as planned, the completion date is projected to be in the spring of 2019.



Easter Service

Sunday, April 1



You are invited to join us for Easter Service on Sunday, April 1.

Easter Service - 8:00 a.m. at Saint Mark Church

Easter Breakfast & Egg Hunt to follow

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

Dates to Remember

March 12-16: Saint Mark Spirit Week

March 16: 3rd Quarter Ends 11:30am Dismissal

March 19-30: Spring Break

March 21-30: All Report Cards mailed home

March 29: Maundy Thursday Service at 6:00pm at SMLC

March 30: Good Friday Service at 7:00pm at SMLC

April 1: Easter Sunday Service at 8:00am at SMLC with breakfast & egg hunt to follow

April 2: Easter Monday - No School

April 3: School Resumes

April 6: Spring Pictures

April 15: Grades 5 & 6 sing in church 9:30am

April 21: Family Work Day at 9:00am

April 23-27: SAT Testing

April 30: Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

May 4: May Day Program 5:00pm

May 9-11: Grade 4 Big Island Trip

May 18: K-2 Choir Spring Concert at 6:30pm

May 22: Grades 3-4 Choir and Beginning Band Spring Concert at 6:30pm

Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

Kindergarten: We keep learning and having fun!! We have been reading, writing, and doing harder math! We had a fun Chinese New Year, and got to experience a lion dance. We had a loving Valentine's Day celebration, and got to learn a lot about Lent. It was great to see all the families that came out to Ice Palace to ice skate for Spring Family Night. Our Get Active Day was AMAZING - Thanks to everyone who volunteered, brought food, and fundraised! Please enjoy your Spring Break and come back refreshed and ready to learn! Wow, it's almost 4th Quarter already? Bring it on!

First Grade: The first graders have been busy learning about keeping their hearts healthy in science. They celebrated healthy heart month at our annual "Get Active"



Grade 1 celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday

event and potluck with the whole school. We participated in dental awareness month. The students also enjoyed a special Valentine Workshop that involved art, STEM, and a healthy snack. We harvested vermicomposting from our worm bin with our 2nd grade friends. In March, we celebrated the birthday of Dr. Seuss by Reading Across America throughout the week. The students collaborated with 3rd and 4th in stations and partner reading. We also enjoyed fried green eggs, spam and rice. We end this quarter with Spirit Week, All School Game Day and our 3rd Open Market. We have worked hard this quarter and look forward



Grade 2 students with their animal discovery projects

Using the information they learned through their animal research projects they created an animal making sure the animal had all the adaptations it needed to survive. They used recycled material and donated items to create all the body parts and even a food container. After they finished their animal they took data of their new discovery. They measured the length in inches, weight in grams, and making sure the food container can hold at least 1 cup of macaroni. This was a fun culminating activity for our animal study with math integrated!

to enjoying a vacation with our upcoming spring break!

Second Grade: The 2nd graders got into groups and created their own animal!

Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

Third Grade: It has been a busy 3rd quarter for third grade! We recently went on a field trip to Hamakua Marsh led by the Hawaii Nature Center. We learned about endangered, protected birds in our community and how to care for our environment. In reading, we have been focusing on reading stories from different points of view and recognizing the author's point of view in a text. We recently wrapped up our unit on graphing and data by collaborating with the middle school. Each third grader came up with a question to include in a survey for the middle school students. We created graphs using the data we collected. We have moved on to geometry and

are enjoying exploring shapes, perimeter, and area. In social studies we have been discussing business and economics. We welcomed a guest from Junior Achievement who shared her knowledge of owning a business and taught us about making smart money choices. Finally, we are wrapping up our quarter in science by talking about force, motion, and energy. The students have enjoyed building simple machines and discovering how they use force at recess.

Fourth Grade: The fourth graders are busy with their last two fundraisers for their Big Island Trip. They also received a grant from



Matson for \$1,000. The fourth graders are relieved that they are able to take a break from long division as they tackle geometry and fractions in math. In science, the students learned how to identify the six simple machines. They spent last week walking around the classroom and campus looking for simple machines as well as creating their own with food! The students are also busy writing a five-paragraph persuasive essay and will create a commercial using what they learned about persuasion. Last but not least, the fourth graders have been practicing for May Day and are excited to show everyone what they have been working on!

Classroom News - Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade: Throughout the 3rd quarter, 5th Grade has really been focusing on getting ourselves more and more prepared for entering into Middle School next year. In reading, we have been working our way through literacy circles as the class has split themselves into 5 different groups with different books in each group. In social studies, we are sim-

ulating a wagon train expedition as we explore the hardships of moving from the Eastern part of the United States over to the Western part during the early 1800's. In science we finished our space unit and are now into motion and energy. Then in writing, each student has taken a subject and are writing a persuasive essay on it. By the end of the quar-



ter, they will have gone head to head with another student(s) in our classroom debates. It has been a wonderful year so far, and as their teacher. I look forward to the 4th Quarter and giving them the finishing touches as we get them prepared for middle school.

Classroom News - Middle School

Mrs. Kuster's News:

We are finishing our unit on Holy Week in **sixth grade Bible**. Our next unit will look at the spread of the Gospel after Jesus' resurrection.

Sixth grade science students are finishing their chapter on erosion and deposition and will be studying fresh water next. **Seventh graders** are finishing their chapter on the circulatory system. We have studied the heart, blood vessels, blood flow, blood itself, and cardiovascular health. We will look at the nervous system next. **Eighth graders** are finishing their chapter on forces in which they applied our math skills a lot! Next they will be studying work and machines.

We are finishing our chapter on geometry in **seventh grade math** and will next learn how to find perimeter, area, circumference, surface area, and volume. **Eighth grade algebra** students are working on solving systems of equations and inequalities using a variety of methods and applying these skills to solving real life problems.

Mrs. Schroppel's News:

Seventh grade Bible students have begun a study of the Means of Grace: God's Word and the Sacraments of Baptism and Communion. We will dive into scripture to find out how these, together with the Holy Spirit, work faith in each of us.

Sixth grade math students just wrapped up a chapter on percents, and as the quarter draws to a close, we are beginning a study of algebra: integers and rational numbers. Fun! **Pre-algebra** students are being challenged with linear equations: understanding them, using them, and graphing them! Next up: geometry! Fun stuff (and some art work) ahead!

Eighth grade English had a choice of novels to read this quarter and have just finishing presenting some projects that went with them; we have learned from *Family Trees* that our relatives have come from ALL OVER! We are also researching science careers and writing papers that tie science and

English together.

Mrs. DeMello-Kuntz's News:

We have just completed our first chapel message in **eighth grade Bible**. It is about Jonah and was written and directed by **Ethan Shek**. The eighth graders created their own props which enhanced the message, but the highlight was the physical comedy of Jonah being tossed out of the ship!

Sixth grade English students have been hard at work on their persuasive essays for English. Since their class novel was a book about a student-athlete, many of their essays are sports-themed and range from

the dangers of youth sports to the greatest athletes in history.

Seventh grade English students are working on persuasive essays related to their class novels as well.

Their job is to persuade schools to either require classes to read *Number the Stars* or to not require it.

Sixth grade social studies students are ending the third quarter with Ancient Rome. We have just completed learning about their government and are now learning about life and society in Rome.

Seventh graders have recently completed their European country projects which were quite impressive! I learned so much more about

Europe from listening to our students present. Thank you also to all the groups who brought food!

Our **eighth grade social studies** students have just completed presentations on Google Slides about an important figure, invention, or battle of the Civil War that had a great effect on the outcome of the war. Next, we'll be taking information from these presentations and writing essays.



Middle school students on Ash Wednesday



Middle school students dressing as "Professors" for Career Day



Middle school students enjoying a lion dance in celebration of Chinese New Year

Saint Mark Lutheran School is on-line!



Check out the **SMLS 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!



Lenten Services

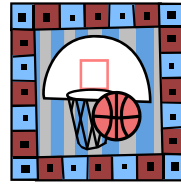
Lent is a time of solemn remembrance of the sacrifice of Jesus Christ for the sins of the world. The `ohana of Saint Mark Lutheran Church invites you to join us for these Lenten services.

Each Wednesday **Lenten service** will begin at 6:00 p.m. with a Soup Supper followed by worship at 7:00 p.m.

For more information please contact the church office at 247-4565.



Athletics



We are in the middle of our split varsity basketball season with our new head coach, **Coach Dave**. He, along with **assistant coaches Tyson, Jason, Bret, and Miki**, have both the boys and girls working hard at practices; learning a lot about basketball, discipline, and teamwork. The season will continue after Spring Break culminating with the playoffs and championship games during the last week of April.

Our track and field meet will be held on Thursday, April 12 for all students in grades 5 - 8. They will be competing against students from Our Savior, Trinity Lutheran, and Hongwanji. If you would like to help with this track and field day, please contact Mrs. Kong.

Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



On March 3, the PTC held its Annual Rummage Sale, which generated approximately **\$1,600** (best ever) in funds that will be used to support the PTC's mission of improving and enhancing the learning environment for the students of Saint Mark! Thank you to everyone who donated their items, time, and assistance to help make this event a great success!

In particular, we thank **Andy** (the planning chair) & **Reid Honda, Elena Bryant, Robin Kaha'ulelio, Mele Manu, Jen Seibold, Mel Lawrence, Pam Kong, Kauli Dias, Tanya Flores, Jace & Tiki Faufata, Amy Casey, Martin Kaninau, Leona Christensen, Sam & Shealee Rodrigues, Claire Gawryluk, Cheryl Chang, Tanja Remily, Sarah Mau, Stan Dickson, Rogan `ohana, Schippers `ohana, and Wilson `ohana.**

This & That

Our **Scholastic Book Fair** was a success! We sold **\$3,809** worth of books and supplies. Profits go toward books for the library and teachers, and *Scholastic Magazine* subscriptions for the students. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped and to the generous parents who purchased "wish list" books.

Chapel offerings for February and March will be going to the American Heart Association. We appreciate your generosity!

Our "Get Active" campaign raised **\$3,260** which will go towards new P.E. and playground equipment. Congratulations to our top money raisers who were **Jacob Gaudi** (grade seven), **Alyssa Oreskovich** (grade five), and **Kailena Kepaa** (kindergarten).



Grade 3 students look curiously at some marine life collected on their recent learning trip

We are completing **re-enrollment** for the 2018-2019 school year. Please be sure your paperwork has been turned in to the school

Check out SMLS on....



office. We have applicants for all grades and need to know what space is available. Paperwork was due on February 22nd.

Congratulations to **Maddux Springer** (grade 6) for qualifying to compete in the state level competition of the National Geographic Bee on Friday, April 6, 2018. Go Maddux!

Saint Mark Lutheran School
NOW ENROLLING
247-5589
www.smls-hawaii.org

Saint Mark is accepting new student applications for the 2018-19 school year