

# 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**

**November/December 2018**

## A Message from the Head of School

The second quarter has seen a flurry of activity at Saint Mark. After beginning the quarter with Parent/Teacher conferences, we quickly moved into our varsity volleyball season, had our second ever `Ohana Fun Fair, Girls on the Run 5K Race, LSSL Cross Country Meet, Open House for Prospective Parents, and annual all-school Turkey Trot. The students even collected donations for the Hawaii Food Bank & Toys-for-Tots.



*Lots of Fun was had at the 2nd Saint Mark `Ohana Fun Fair*

We also had numerous learning trips to such locations as the Kailua Fire Station, Pacific Aviation Museum, USS Missouri, Symphony Hawaiian Birds, and the Waimanalo Pumpkin Patch.

As we proceeded into December, our attention turned to the joys of the advent season, and among myriad Christmas activities, we enjoyed three wonderful Christmas Musical Programs directed by Mr. Bauchle.



*Students collected canned goods for Saint Mark's Food Bank*

It's been an eventful few months full of meaningful learning and as Head of School,

I couldn't be more appreciative of the dedicated work of our faculty and staff.



**Saint Mark Receives a \$1.29 Million Gift from the Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation**

In addition to the classroom related activities, we are rejoicing because of the tremendous support (\$1.29 Million from Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Foundation, \$550K from the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation, and \$525K from the Sam and Mary Castle Foundation, in addition

to all of the other generous donations from individuals) we have received for the new building.



**Early Learning Center Opening in Fall 2019  
NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS**

Besides expanding our current program to include Pre-K, this new 11,000 sq ft. building will house a beautiful collaborative learning space (for all K-8 students to enjoy) as well as administrative offices, health room, kitchen, and tech room.

It's scheduled to be completed in the spring and open for next school year.

As we bid farewell to 2018, we sincerely thank our families for their commitment to Saint Mark and pray that every one of you are able to slow down this Christmas season long enough to relax and enjoy the full splendor of our *Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.*

## Dates to Remember

**December 21:** 2nd Quarter Ends 11:30 a.m. dismissal with No Aftercare

**December 24-31:** All Report Cards mailed home

**December 24 - January 4:** Winter Intersession

**December 24:** Christmas Eve Church Services 9:30 a.m., 6:00 p.m. & 8:00 p.m.

**December 25:** Christmas Day Church Service at 9:30 a.m.

**January 7:** School Resumes

**January 16:** "Get Active" Kick-Off at 8:30 a.m.

**January 16-18:** Optional Parent Teacher Conferences for Grades K-8

**January 18:** 11:30am Dismissal

**January 21:** Martin Lutheran King Jr. Day - No School

**January 31 & February 1:** Staff Professional Development - No School

**February 3:** Grades 3 & 4 sing at the 9:30 a.m. Church Service

**February 5:** Mid-Quarter Reports go home with students

**February 15:** Spring Family Night

**February 18:** Presidents' Day - No School

**February 20:** Get Active for Saint Mark and Potluck

**Mele Kalikimaka me ka Hau`oli Makahiki hou!**



## Classroom News - Kindergarten through Second Grade

**Kindergarten:** Happy Holidays from the Kinders! We have had a great time celebrating the holidays together. We learned about Pilgrims, pioneers, and early settlers last month. The kindergartners shucked corn, looked for gold, and made homemade butter like the early settlers did. We completed our unit on plants by making vegetable soup together. Everyone brought in a vegetable, we added them to our pot, and enjoyed soup and bread for lunch. We even had leftovers to share with some of the other teachers. One highlight this month was walking to Windward City Shopping Center with our eighth grade chapel buddies. The chapel offering this month went to Toys-for-Tots which supplies gifts for children in need. We used the offering monies to pick out and purchase toys for donation. We enjoyed lunch and play time together afterward. It was a fun time for all! The kinder 'ohana would like to wish all of you a blessed Christmas as you celebrate and remember the birth of our King, Jesus!



**First Grade:** The first graders have been busy building a thankful list this month as we prepared for the Thanksgiving holiday. Our class enjoyed a Thanksgiving feast with second grade where each student brought a special family dish to share at our feast. The K-8 students participated in the 7th Annual Turkey Trot. It was a huge success as well as our drive to collect canned goods for our Saint Mark Lutheran Church Food Bank. We couldn't have done it without our parent volunteers who stamped the children on each completed lap and the donation of otter pops by the school for a treat at the end of our run. The first graders also participated in completing over 3 Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes that will bless needy children and share the love of Jesus with them all around the globe. We are especially excited to learn about different Christmas traditions around the world during our unit on geography. The K-2 classes did an amazing job at their Christmas Concert by learning new songs and memorizing speaking parts. It was a wonderful event to celebrate the Birth of Jesus - the true reason for the season.

**Second Grade:** Second grade has been super busy! In October, we took a trip with kindergarten and first grade to the Kailua Fire Station and the Kailua Library. Our students enjoyed learning more about fire safety and listening to great stories. In math, second grade continues to rock it out! We have learned half of our multiplication facts and are currently working with 2D and 3D shapes. We also completed our first book study, *Molly Pilgrim*, where we learned about immigrants and how to be accepting of people that are different than ourselves. In social studies, we have been studying different cultures. This culminated with each of us completing a culture case project in which we shared what culture means, what cultures we identify with and what traditions are important in our families. Everyone did a fantastic job with their project and in the presentation to the class. We also welcomed a new student, **Tristen Ebel**, and we are so happy that he is part of our 'ohana.



## Classroom News - Third & Fourth Grade

**Third Grade:** Third grade has been hard at work this quarter! We have been continuing to study multiplication and division, as well as relating it to area. We will wrap up the quarter with a graphing project in which we'll survey fellow students to create different types of graphs and analyze the data. In reading, we have been focusing on expository texts and recognizing different text features, as well as finding main ideas and details. We have been studying plants and animals in our science unit. To wrap up our unit each student got to choose an animal to research independently. We

turned the gym into a zoo and each student dressed as their animal and shared information with all the other grade levels in the school. Currently, we are finishing a unit on culture in social studies and studying how different countries celebrate Christmas. To culminate this quarter each student will interview a family member and bring in something related to their culture to share with the class.

**Fourth Grade:** The fourth graders are learning long division in math. It has been a challenge for them but they are slowly understanding the concept. In Hawaiian studies, they

celebrated the Makahiki season by playing ancient Hawaiian games and having a large feast. The fourth graders also recently went on a field trip to Ala Moana. They learned how a bookstore operates at Barnes & Nobles and were able to learn about coding at the Apple Store. In science, the students are learning about a variety of topics and recently did a project with the Blue Planet Foundation on alternative energy. Last but not least, the students are excited to celebrate the upcoming Christmas season and learn more about the birth of Christ. Mele Kalikimaka!

## Classroom News - Fifth Grade

**Fifth Grade:** The theme right now in fifth Grade is knowing a subject well enough to be able to teach it to the class. In science, we are going through a weather unit where students are in partners and take on one lesson out of the unit. They

figure out how to teach the lesson, whether using a poster board or PowerPoint, and then teach the class the material. They then are using their lesson to either create an experiment or a 3D model. In language arts, students are taking



what they have been learning over the last couple of years and creating a video. The video is about a hobby or passion of theirs, and it will be shown to the class as an instructive tool to teach the class about their particular hobby or passion.



# Classroom News - Middle School

## Mrs. Kuster's News:

We learned all about Martin Luther and the Reformation in **sixth grade Bible**. We are currently studying Jesus' miracles, teachings, and parables. In **earth science**, we studied plate tectonics and will now apply what we learned to study earthquakes.

We are in the middle of our touch chapter on equations and inequalities in **seventh grade math**. In **life science**, we are studying modern genetics and completing mini-projects for each section to help us take a deeper look into the subject.

**Eighth grade algebra** students are finishing inequalities and will work with graphs and functions next. In **physical science**, we finished our chapter on atoms and bonding and are now studying chemical reactions.



Grade 1 & their Grade 7 Chapel Buddies in the Garden

**Seventh and eighth grade pre-algebra** students will continue their study of fractional operations as they begin some in-depth work with ratios, proportions and percents. This will assist them in finding the best deals on their Christmas shopping!

The **sixth grade math** class has just finished perfecting addition and subtraction of fractions and are moving on to multiplication and division. If you have gotten a little rusty with your fraction operations, you might want to review some of the rules with your student. Letting them explain it to you is a good way for them to learn it better.

This quarter in **eighth grade English**, the students are exploring poetic language and are creating some original pieces as well. Be on the lookout for these works of art due the last week of the quarter. We also continue to improve vocabulary, grammar skills, and writing with our *Wordly Wise* and *Shurley* practice.

## Mrs. DeMello-Kuntz's News:

In **eighth grade Bible**, we completed our first chapel, which focused on gratitude and thanksgiving. In the first week of December, the eighth grade and kindergarten picked up gifts for Toys-for-Tots.



Grade 7 on the Ropes Course at Camp Erdman

In **sixth grade English**, we just completed a personal narrative project. These stories about the sixth graders' life experiences will surely make the readers laugh, cry, and reflect on similar experiences.



K and Grade 8 Chapel Buddies Spend some Time Together

The **seventh grade English** students are busy completing their class novel, *The Outsiders*, and we have had more than one student "shed real tears" this year. Needless to say, they are enjoying it!

## Mrs. Schroppel's News:

The **seventh graders** have been enjoying some special, Christmas related events: On Wednesday December 12th, we presented *A Charlie Brown Christmas* in chapel. We were joined by many parents as we discovered, along with Charlie and the gang, what the true meaning of Christmas is. On Thursday, December 13th, the class presented their musical gifts in the 5-8 grades' choir and band concert. We enjoyed a wonderful lunch with our chapel buddies this past Friday, December 14th.

In **sixth grade world history**, we are learning about ancient India, and will soon begin a project about Indian holidays. The **seventh grade social studies** class is finishing up our chapter on Brazil and will be working on South American country projects next.

**Eighth grade** students just completed two debates on the following subjects: the military draft and felons retaining the right to vote. Both affirmative and negative teams had to reference the constitution and amendments during their arguments. We are currently learning about Manifest Destiny.

# 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](http://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!



## No Aftercare

Friday, December 21 is the last day of school before the beginning of the Winter Intersession. There is early dismissal at 11:30 a.m. with **NO AFTERCARE**. Please plan accordingly.



## Christmas Services

You are invited to worship with us during the holiday season. Saint Mark Lutheran Church is offering Advent church services on Wednesday nights at 7:00 p.m. and special services on Christmas Eve & Christmas Day:

Christmas Eve Services at 6:00 & 8:00 p.m.  
Christmas Day Service at 9:30 a.m.

*You're Invited*

## Athletics



The cross country meet was held on November 9. Our JV boys took second place as a team. Top 10 finishers were **Caden Lill, Jordyn Remily, Marcelus McCullah, Conor Williams, Jacob Gaudi, and Rachael Williams**. Congratulations to all the participants!

The varsity volleyball season has come to an end. It was an exciting season of change and adaption as we watched the players gain skills and improve their play as the season progressed. Congratulations to our MVP's: **Rachael Williams and Conor Williams**.



Next up is the much anticipated basketball season which will begin when we return from Winter Break with JV. Varsity games will begin in mid-February.

## Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) - News Flash



The PTC encourages everyone to save their items for the

### 2019 Rummage Sale!



Please join us at the next PTC meeting on **Monday, January 14 at 5:30 p.m.** when we'll be planning for the **Rummage Sale on March 2, 2019.**

## This & That

For December's chapel offerings, we are collecting unwrapped new toys, money, and food for *Toys-for-Tots*. With the monies collected kindergartners and their eighth grade chapel partners went on a shopping trip to Ross' and purchased more gifts.



**K and their Grade 8 Chapel Buddies Purchased toys for Toys-for-Tots**

Hopefully you were able to enjoy the wonderful Christmas programs put on by our students, which included the K-2 Christmas Program, the grades 3-4 Choirs & Beginning Band Christmas Program, and the grades 5-8 Choir & Advanced Band Christmas Program.



**Grade 4 Students Spent and Enjoying and Educational Day visiting the USS Missouri**

A **BIG Mahalo** goes to everyone for supporting Saint Mark's **'Ohana Fun Fair and Hawaiian Plate Fundraiser**. And a special thanks to our Planning Committee and our Parent Teacher Committee (PTC) for their hard work!

We want to remind everyone that the dress code states students are only allowed to wear **Saint Mark Lutheran School jackets**. These are available through our uniform store, Pueo Print, in Aiea.



**Grade 1 Students Enjoyed Harvesting Worm Vermicast**

The Geographic Bee and Spelling Bee will be held in January. This will give our students a chance to show off their geographic and spelling knowledge!

If you have friends or family interested in applying to Saint Mark please let them know that we are **now accepting new applications** for the 2019-2020 school year. All applications received no later than **January 15, 2019** will get priority consideration.

**APPLY NOW**