

ST MARK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Seek and you shall find



Newsletter

Kia Ora, Welcome, Hello, Nǐ hǎo, Talofa Lava, Hallo, Salut, Namaste, Bonjour, Bula Vinaka, Guten Tag, Shalom, Ciao, おはよう (Ohayou), 안녕 Ahn Nyeong, Olá, Privet!, Xin Chào, Kia Orana, Malo e Lelei, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Sat Shari Akal, Melo Ni, Halo Ola Keta, Mauri, Fakaalofa Atu, Salam, Welkom.

Key Dates

Date	What	Details
Monday 17 July	First day of Term 3	
Wednesday 19 July	Year 'O' parent interviews	Book online from 1:30pm
Tuesday 25 July	Year 3-6 School Cross Country	Torotoro & Whakatare teams
Wednesday 26 July	Year 3-6 School Cross Country	Saving Day
Tuesday 1 August	Caring Mass (small group attending)	Details to follow
Thursday 3 August	Choir practice	Farm Cove Intermediate 9:15-10:30am
Tuesday 8 August	Interschool Cross Country	Lloyd Elsmore Park
Wednesday 9 August	Kitea Team Cross Country	Years 0-2 (time tbc)
Thursday 10 August	Interschool Cross Country	Saving Day
Friday 18 August	Grandparent's Mass	11:30 am

Please note:

Mrs Kopua is still on sabbatical until Friday 11th of August. We will look forward to her return in Week 5. Please contact Mrs Trish Hodgson (Acting Principal) in her absence. thodgson@stmarks.school.nz or Mrs Jenny McKenzie jmckenzie@stmarks.school.nz

Special Catholic Character

The students will be learning the Sacrament and Holy Spirit Strands this term.

Our students will also be learning about the importance of Matariki.

(Letter from Mrs Dias McAllum DRS)

Term 3, Week 1

The word Matariki can be translated as Mata Riki (Tiny Eyes) or Mata Ariki (Eyes of God). These eyes watch over the land and her people.. Matariki is a time of growth and change, a time to celebrate what we have and what gifts we have to use. Matariki is a celebration of culture, language, spirit and people.

We give thanks for Matariki, the season of new beginnings and quiet growth. Let us give thanks specially for the tangata whenua, and pray that we may all continue to grow together to understand and honour the treasures of our heritage.

Lord,

We thank you for the heavens which you have made, the moon and the stars which you have arranged.

We are grateful for all that is evoked in us when we consider the heavens in all its vastness and wonder.

Science is giving us many wonderful insights into the origin and evolution of the universe and for that we are grateful.

We give thanks also for the imaginative stories people tell about the stars that feed and nurture our souls.

Amen

Dear Families of St. Mark's School

We are looking forward to our Grandparents Mass on 18 August at 11.30 am and would like to extend a warm invite to grandparents, family members and friends.

Mass will commence at 11.30 am and there will be some light refreshments in the foyer for our visitors at the end of Mass.

We welcome those attending to bring an item or two for the Parish foodbank.

I would like to put a slideshow together with photographs of our precious grandparents. Please share no more than 2- 3 photographs of grandparents and the grandchildren that are studying in St. Mark's school to bdias@stmarks.school.nz

The last date to send these photos which take a while to collate is **11 August 2023**.

This might be a nice way to include grandparents who cannot attend or who are no longer with us.

Blessings

Beverley Dias McAllum

Director of Religious Studies

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST LEARNERS

A very warm St Mark's welcome to Beauden, Harper, Klyve, Jayden, Nihal, Armando, Jordan (Room 4) and Kaeden and Yuan (Room 11)

Message from the Principal/ Leadership Team

Kia Ora St Mark's Catholic School whānau. Welcome back after the holidays. We will look forward to a great term of learning and hopefully some improved weather. We welcome a number of new students this term and wish them well for the start of their learning at St Mark's.

We are sad to be saying 'goodbye' to Mackenzie Morgan in Room 7 at the end of Week 4. We wish her all the best for her new teaching position in London. Huge appreciation for all the hard work you have contributed for our Kitea Team learners, Mackenzie. We welcome Nazley Erntzen to our school this week. She is working in the Kitea team for the next 4 weeks before starting in Room 7 in Week 5. Nazley is well known to you all as a parent and a BOT member.

The students in all teams will be participating in Cross Country events this term. Please see the dates above. You are welcome to attend and encourage your child at these events.

We have been fortunate to complete some works in the holidays with the fencing around the front of the school and some new decking outside Rooms 6 and 7. The parking lines in the carpark have been repainted and there are now some safety bumper stoppers in place. All of these works will help to support the safety of our students. We ask that you enter and exit from the new gate. All Year 5 and 6 students are expected to walk around the school and not cross the driveway unless accompanied by a teacher. At the end of the day, the children will stay seated as usual, around the rock garden and we would like parents to reverse park and collect your child. Please do not stand by the pedestrian crossing (school side) or the gate, as it blocks visibility for our younger students to check if their parents have arrived. We would also appreciate it if you could wait on the Church side of the crossing or the grass area outside Rooms 1/2/3 to avoid congestion. A reminder that teachers are on duty at 8:25 at the front of the school and until 3pm at the end of the day. Our beginning and end bells ring at 8:30 and 2:45. Please try to keep to these times as a number of students are arriving very early and there is no supervision to ensure safety.

Wishing you all the best for the beginning of the term.

Trish Hodgson (Acting Principal)

COMMUNITY NOTICES:

We have been offered an opportunity from our St Mark's Parish for any new parents who would like to get to know our local area, especially if you have recently arrived from overseas. The bus trip will be during school hours. Please read the proposal below and if you are interested contact: rosachow@xtra.co.nz or the Parish Office mannix@stmark.org.nz to show an expression of interest or to find out more information

Proposal of Bus Trip

Objectives and benefits

1. To know more about the community
2. To learn and demonstrate respect to cultural differences
3. To foster relationship with our neighbours

Target Group

People in St. Mark's Catholic Mission Parish, optimal number 40 to 45

Activity Description

This is a bus tour. The bus will pick up participants from St. Mark's and visit two places of religious, cultural or historical interest. Duration is three to four hours, with lunch included.

Common destinations include:

- a. Polish Museum (Howick)*
- b. Howick Historical village (Howick)*
- c. Tzu Chi Foundation (East Tamaki)
- e. Fo Guang Shan Buddhist Temple (Flat Bush)*
- c. Sikh Temple (Papatoetoe)
- d. Hindu Temple (Papatoetoe)
- e. Mosque (Otahuhu)

* An entry per visitor will be charged for these destinations. For temples and religious places, usually there is no entry fee, but a koha will be given. As the budget is limited, it is advisable that a mix of fee and no-fee places be included in a single trip, taking into account too, that there will be costs for bus hire, lunch and administration.

Date

Proposed: 1 August 2023 (Tuesday), subject to availability of destinations and bus

Cost

Free. Sponsored by Howick Local Board and organized by Inclusionz Charitable Trust.

The trips are family friendly and are suitable for any ages and physical condition. A little bit of walking is expected.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus
At St Mark's Catholic School
By remembering . . .

Learners at St Mark's are reminded to follow in the footsteps of Jesus. To encourage learners to do this, we reference our school's ABCs and 3Rs.

ABCs: A – AROHA; B – BELIEF; C – COURAGE

3Rs: RESPECT; RESPONSIBILITY; RESILIENCE