



St Mark's School

Te Kura o Hato Māka

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

Term 1 Week 3
12 February 2025

This is an exciting week for all of our Waka Hourua students as they head away to two separate camps. Our Year 8 students will spend three days at the Hanmer Forest Camp as they work on their leadership strategies for 2025 and our Year 6/7 people will be away at Waipara also for three days.

Our senior students share a common language which is about leadership, love and care. Their teachers talk about being “a group of friends together” so that no one is left out and the mahi (work) is shared. That culture of loving service is such a strength for our senior students and it makes for a whole school which values love and care for ourselves, others and God.

Organising and running camps is a huge commitment for staff as they have spent hours making arrangements and are away from their own families. Teachers really do feel the weight of responsibility of caring for all those students twenty four hours a day for three days. My thanks to Mr Gordon, Mrs Learman, Mr Davis, Mrs Morgan, Mrs Bigelow and Mrs Spijkerman. Mr Clarkson is also helping for part of the Year 8 camp.

Library

A major job has been a stocktake of every book in our school library. Some lovely school community members have generously given their time to help count books and clean shelves. Thanks to Frances Ormandy, Katelyn Rogers, Lisa Heine and Robin Burnell.

Swimming Sports

Our school swimming sports are scheduled for Thursday 27 February at Waltham Pool. More details will follow via the school app. This year we are honouring successful students at school events such as swimming, athletics, cross country, chess etc at a church service following the event. Parents are warmly invited to attend. Dates and times will follow.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story



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Parents' Association AGM - 19 February

All parents and whānau are invited to attend this event. Our PA is an amazing group of people who do wonderful work in support of the school.

There is never pressure on folk to help, just gratitude for those who can. Don't feel that to contribute, you have to join the group. Anything people can do to pitch in is appreciated.

6:30pm Meet and greet

7:00pm AGM where officials are elected followed by the first meeting of the year.

Coming Events

12 February	Year 6/7 Camp at Waipara
	Year 8 Camp at Hanmer
14 February	Campers return
19 February	Parents' Association AGM
27 February	School Swimming Sports
4 March	Shrove Tuesday
5 March	Ash Wednesday Service 1:45pm
7 March	Swimming Sports Certificates in church from 9am
	Colour Run 1:30pm
11 April	Last day of Term 1

He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata

Goodwill towards others is a precious treasure

**Blessings to all,
Adrian**



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COLOUR RUN 2025

Our Colour Run fundraiser has launched. Please see the letter we have sent home or just head to <https://stmarkscolourrun.raiseit.co.nz/> to sign up for a fundraising profile for your child(ren). We are raising funds for Performing Arts Resources for our wonderful school.

This year we have partnered with Go Raise It to run our fundraising platform and we have some great fundraising spot prizes and incentives up for grabs – further details are on the fundraising website. Thanks for your support!

St Mark's Parent's Association



**Friday 7th
March
1.30pm**