



St Mark's School Te Kura o Hato Māka

Kia ora St Mark's Whānau,

Term 3 Week 7
28 August 2025

The term is rapidly running with only three weeks or so to go. This week I have been pleased to be able to see many students with examples of outstanding successful work in my office, all worthy of a principal's award. For me the best part is seeing a young person persist and achieve and enjoy the good feelings that success brings. Church this Friday will take a little longer as I will be handing out no fewer than eight awards!

Mōkihi Hockey

It has been wonderful to have a whole season of free hockey coaching for our youngest students. The last session was held yesterday and the growth and development in skills was very evident. Our thanks to the leadership and generosity of Ben and Sarah Rutherford. We know this opportunity has been greatly appreciated by parents and students.



Warning

Over the coming weeks if you choose to park on yellow lines or across driveways at pick up time, there is a good chance you will experience a negative financial consequence as we are expecting a visit from a parking warden.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story



St Mark's School Te Kura o Hato Māka

Observatory Visit

It was fantastic to see so many people signing up for this brilliant opportunity and it happened to be too cloudy on the night last week for the event to take place. Watch out for a revised plan advertised via the school app soon from Mr Davis.

Year 6 Cycle Safety

This important Christchurch City Council programme is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday next week. Families are reminded that bikes can come to school and be stored safely in Waka Hourua overnight. This weekend would be a great time to oil chains and tighten brakes ahead of the mechanical safety checks that the CCC staff do as part of the programme.

Winter Sport Uniforms

With the end of our Year 5-8 winter sport programme last week, it is time to get all school owned pieces of uniform back to us. Our Year 8 sport leaders will be visiting each class every day to collect in playing tops and netball skirts etc.

School Uniform

For the rest of this term and into term 4, staff will be closely monitoring the uniform students are wearing for accuracy and adherence to correct standards. Your child may bring home a notice highlighting a part of their uniform which needs to be fixed up. We would appreciate your attention to this and your support in maintaining high standards.

Police Dog Visit



Waka Puhara students enjoyed a visit from a NZ Police dog team, Gary, his dog Rivet, and the puppy called Whero. It was great for our students to learn about the important work the police do our community. Also, the dogs were very cute and friendly.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story



St Mark's School

Te Kura o Hato Māka

Whānau Day

What an amazing celebration of our whole, extended school community as grandparents, aunties, uncles and parents came to school last Thursday. It was lovely to see how excited students were to show their whānau around the school. We all gathered in the hall where we were treated to songs from Mōkihi people (Year 0-2), the senior choir and the whole school singing a new, and firm favourite song of blessing. The weather was great for a family, picnic style, morning tea.



Transforming lives through the St Mark's Story

Church Certificates

Pūtakitaki	Luka A
Harakeke	Olive A
Kawau	Stella W
Aua	Bram C-B
Wheke	Iwin D J
Mako	Genevieve F
Toroa	Amelia N
Kahawai	Louisa T



Welcome Certificate - Maya D



Canterbury Interschools Individual Chess Competition

Last week, on Tuesday, St Mark's was represented by 19 students at the annual Canterbury Interschools Individual Chess Competition. Our students played lots of great chess and once the dust had settled Dante E won the Year 4 division, followed by Beau W in second place. In the Year 3 age group Alex P came second and in Year 2, George McC came second also. Well done to these boys for reaching the podium and to the whole team for their amazing play on the day.



ST MARK'S SCHOOL (CHRISTCHURCH)

PARENT BOARD ELECTION CANDIDATE

PROFILES

AMAN, Amira



Kia ora koutou, My name is Amira Aman, and I'm standing for election to the school board. I've worked in the education sector for over 30 years; 20 of those as a secondary teacher and the past 10 as a facilitator and mentor for principals and leaders in schools. This experience has given me a strong understanding of what factors are needed for successful, inclusive schools where learners can thrive. I hold a Master of Education (First Class Hons), a Bachelor of Arts in English and Classics, and a secondary school teaching qualification. I bring a strategic mindset, empathy, and a collaborative approach to leadership, and I'm confident in supporting governance teams as they plan for the future. I'm a proud mum of three boys—Zach Ormandy, who has just graduated from St Mark's, Zaia (Year 7), and Zabian (Year 5), who are currently at the school. I've enjoyed being part of the school community and value the relationships I've built with staff and whānau over the years. I'm standing for the board because I believe in the power of a clear, community-informed vision for our kura. I would be honoured to offer my support and educational expertise as the board embarks on developing a new strategic plan to ensure all tamariki at St Mark's feels supported, inspired, and confident in their learning. Ngā mihi nui, Amira Aman

BOURNE, Claire



Claire, mum to Minnie (9) and Quinn (4), is deeply committed to seeing tamariki thrive. With a Bachelor's degree including a minor in Education, she brings strong HR, governance, and leadership experience and a heart for service to the Board of Trustees. Claire is the People & Capability Lead at Intepeople | Brannigans, supporting schools and organisations across Aotearoa. Most recently, she led Investigation Workshops for multiple Christchurch schools. She's a board member of the Graeme Dingle Foundation Canterbury, sits on the Chartered Governance Institute's Women on Boards Executive Committee, and previously chaired The Period Place. She's also a proud bonus mum to Irihapiti (16), who she has mentored through Big Brothers Big Sisters since 2015. Claire has served on the St Mark's Board of Trustees for the past four years and is currently the Chairperson. In this role, she leads the Board and works closely with the Principal, Board of Proprietors, and the Anglican Diocese. She also leads the People sub-committee, bringing her governance experience, HR skills, and strategic thinking to every decision. She is passionate about maintaining St Mark's special character, ensuring we attract and retain excellent teachers, provide the right support and resources for every child to thrive and transition confidently to high school, and reflect the voice of our community in all we do.

DALY, Paul



After a decade working in Marketing positions across the Finance and Events industries in Melbourne and London. In 2013, Paul returned to Christchurch with his wife Julia and daughter, Sofia. Soon adding two more children in son Henry and youngest Harper. Paul is currently the Director of a Biotech business in Christchurch focused on developing products for sustainable living in the New Zealand Agriculture, Viticulture, and Waste industries. Paul joined the Board of Trustees in 2022 as a Parent Representative and member of the Property sub-committee. Paul is passionate about ensuring we deliver strong outcomes that align with the school's vision and strategy and support all St Mark's students.

HEALEY, Nadia



My name is Nadia Healey, currently I am part of St. Mark's PA and was part of the school fair committee and volunteers over the last years. I am very passionate about the investment in education as a precursor to the formation of a personality and predictor for future success – both professional and personal. I have three boys at the school, one of them is neurodiverse and is benefiting from teacher's aide support. I appreciate the Christian values and the holistic education, that St. Mark's school provides through a variety of extra-curricular activities. I would be an advocate for maintaining the fine balance for the decision-making of the school between supporting the extra development of gifted students and supporting the extra needs and inclusion of special needs students as I understand this through the experience in my own family. St. Mark's school feels like a small, supportive family and I am profoundly grateful for the safe, nurturing and enriching environment the school is providing for my children. I am eager to give back to the school from my time and expertise. My education and experience would be an asset for board of trustees: I am a chartered procurement and supply chain professional, and with 16 years of experience in tenders, negotiations, contracts and service level agreements, ensuring the best value for money, strategic sourcing, lease or buy decisions, total cost of ownership assessment, etc. I would be able to help with the school's suppliers, purchases and contracts. I hold an executive MBA degree, and I can assist in assessing the organization's strategy and priorities as aligned to its vision, values, goals and differentiation. My broad network within the business community can be useful to support the school's fundraising efforts. My analytical skills and diverse ethnical and cultural background can contribute a different perspective, out-of-the-box thinking and fresh ideas. I really enjoy working alongside the very energetic and dedicated parents and school community. I find the enthusiasm contagious and inspirational, and I would love to be part of it and contribute to the best of my abilities. Thank you for considering my application. Nadia Healey

LALLU, Kavita



Kavita Lallu (ACA) Finance Manager, Venues Ōtautahi | CAANZ Member | Parent & Community Advocate As a dedicated member of CAANZ and current Finance Manager at Venues Ōtautahi, I bring over a decade of experience as both an Accountant and Business Advisor across Canterbury's diverse sectors. My deep understanding of financial management and strategic planning ensures I can make a real difference to our school's future. Since joining the St Mark's School Board of Trustees in 2020, I've been honoured to serve as Parent Representative, and member of the Finance Sub-Committee. I have championed robust governance, promoted accountability, and ensured that every dollar entrusted to our school is managed with transparency and integrity. My aim is to safeguard the school's resources so they can directly benefit our children's learning and wellbeing. St Mark's is more than just a school—it's a community that my husband Prashil and I are proud to call home. With our three children, Ahri, Khelan, and Kiara, currently attending the school, we have a personal stake in its continued success and are actively involved in school life. I believe that every family deserves to feel valued and every child should have the opportunity to excel. If re-elected, I will continue to advocate for educational excellence, inclusivity, and open communication, ensuring all voices are heard and respected. I would be honoured to have your support and trust to continue this work.

WALKER, Jake



Jake graduated university in 2004 with a Bachelor of Business Management and has since had a long career in the construction industry leading national Sales and Marketing teams and large manufacturing facilities both in New Zealand and the United Kingdom. He currently is the Director of an ITM building merchant and a Scaffolding Business. Jake is a father to Hudson and Audrey and joined the Board of Trustees in 2022 as a Parent Representative and member of the Property sub-committee

WILSON, Kate



My name is Kate Wilson, and I am applying for the role of board member at St Marks. Our family has been part of the St Marks community for four years. My eldest son, Henry, is in Year 4, Arlo is in Year 2, and my daughter Emilia will start in the new entrant class next year. My husband, Mike, also attended St Marks with his brother Andy, and both have fond memories of their time at the school. Their experiences made it an easy decision for us to send our children here. I come from a family of educators – my mother and four of my sisters are trained primary school teachers. This background has given me a deep appreciation for the dedication and impact of teachers, both in and out of the classroom. What first drew me to St Marks was its special character. From my first interaction, I felt a strong sense of belonging and care for each child and their family. I often describe the school as the "best kept secret" – once you discover it, you want to be part of its unique and nurturing community. Professionally, I work in Human Resources and Employment Relations and have experience across both public and private sectors. I'm currently part of the People Team at a large international organisation, where people and culture are central to everything we do. My role has equipped me with strong communication skills, the ability to mediate and resolve complex issues, and a deep understanding of policy, compliance, and inclusion – an area I'm particularly passionate about. I believe these skills align well with board responsibilities such as strategic planning, policy oversight, and fostering a positive school culture. I also understand the importance of governance – supporting school leadership while maintaining a strategic and future-focused lens. A quote that guides me is: "Leave everyone better than you found them." I believe this mindset reflects the values of St Marks and the role of a board member. I'm confident that my experience as a parent, combined with my professional background, will allow me to contribute meaningfully to the board. I am ready to commit the time and energy required to support the school's continued success. Thank you for your consideration.



Election Pilot Mission Control
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Level 1, 89 Nazareth Avenue
Middleton, Christchurch 8024

Schooled.nz
0800 868 369
election@electionpilot.nz

Below is the election timetable for your kura for the 2025 triennial school board elections

PARENT & STAFF ELECTION TIMETABLE

CLOSE MAIN ROLL Wednesday 16 July

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS Friday 18 July

CLOSE SUPPLEMENTARY ROLL Monday 4 August

NOMINATIONS CLOSE 12 noon Wednesday 6 August

VOTING PAPERS ISSUED Wednesday 13 August

ELECTION DAY **Wednesday 10 September**

CLOSE POLL 4pm on Wednesday 10 September

COUNT VOTES & DECLARE RESULTS Tuesday 16 September

BOARD TAKES OFFICE Wednesday 17 September

If you have any questions, please contact the Election Pilot Mission Control Team.

Board of Trustees Policy Review News



An Update from the Board of Trustees Review Committee



2025 Term 3 – Policy Reviews:

As part of St Marks' Policy review cycle, the below Policy requires dedicated feedback **INPUT from SCHOOL PARENTS** this term.

Police Vetting

1. Go to www.schooldocs.co.nz



2. Click on the "Search for your School" button

Search for your school >>

3. Enter - "St Marks School".
 - a. Username: saintmarks
 - b. Password: saint

4. Click on the "Reviews" button to review available policies currently under review

Reviews

5. Select the Policy you wish to Review the click the "Start your review" button

Term 3 policies	Review opens 30 June
• Child Protection	Board review
• Abuse Recognition and Reporting	Board review
• Food and Nutrition	
• Safety Checking	Board review
• Police Vetting	
• Missing Student Procedure	

Anglican Parish of Opawa St Martins St Mark's Church



31 August 2025
22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time



What's on this week?

Sunday 31 August - 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

8.30am	Holy Communion	St Anne's Chapel
10am	Sung Eucharist	St Mark's Church
11.30am	Stall holders meeting for Fair	St Mark's Church
11.45am	Synod presentation	St Mark's Church
5-7pm	Wardens Gathering	Chapman Lounge

Monday 1 September

9.30am	Opawa Shells Elder Care	Chapman Lounge
6-7.30pm	Brownies	Wilson Room

Tuesday 2 September

8.30-9.30am	Pastoral Support	Boardroom St Mark's School
5pm	Holy Communion	St Anne's Chapel
6pm	BOP Meeting	Chapman Lounge

Wednesday 3 September

10am	Holy Communion	St Anne's Chapel
7pm	Global Voices	Wilson Room

Thursday 4 September

8.15am	Morning Prayer Online via Zoom	Meeting ID: 878 542 1911 Password: 100100
10am	Private Meeting	Chapman Lounge
1.30pm	Elm's Court Rest Home Service	
6pm	Alpha	Chapman Lounge

Friday 5 September

8.15am	Morning Prayer Online via Zoom	Meeting ID: 878 542 1911 Password: 100100
9.15am	St Mark's School Service	St Mark's Church
9.45am	Cuppa after service	

Saturday 6 September

12.30-2.30pm	Brownies	St Mark's Car Park
3-10pm	Private Booking	St Mark's Hall

Sunday 7 September - 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

10am	Sung Eucharist	St Mark's Church
2-4pm	Private Booking	Chapman Lounge

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Simon Green 027 642 1987 osmvicar@gmail.com

AFTERNOON EUCHARIST



FRIDAY 29TH AUGUST
2PM
FOLLOWED
BY AFTERNOON TEA



PARISH OF OPAWA ST MARTINS
101 OPAWA ROAD
OSMPARISH.COM



Anglican Parish of Opawa-St Martins

Get - together Game Night



Enjoy the night catching up
with friends and family

Bring a game or play one of
the many games we will have
available.

101 OPAWA RD
OPAWA

SATURDAY 30TH
AUGUST FROM 4PM

BRING FAMILY AND
FRIENDS
4:00 PM ONWARDS.
DINNER 5.30ISH

ALL WELCOME



Sept Holiday Programme

Opawa School Holidays Sept 2025

30 Ford Road, Opawa, Christchurch

Full Day 7:30am - 6:00pm	07:30 a.m.-06:00 p.m.	\$74.00 (All inclusive - No Extra Fees)
Full Day 8:30am - 6:00pm	08:30 a.m.-06:00 p.m.	\$64.00 (All inclusive - No Extra Fees)
Half Day 7:30am - 3:00pm	07:30 a.m.-03:00 p.m.	\$64.00 (All inclusive - No Extra Fees)
Half Day 8:30am - 3:00pm	08:30 a.m.-03:00 p.m.	\$54.00 (All inclusive - No Extra Fees)

Nature Scavenger Day

Mon
22
Sep

Grab your explorer hat and let's hunt for natural treasures. Today we will be building our own birdhouse plus lots of amazing exploring.

TRIP: Mystery Movie

Tue
23
Sep

Kidsbase have created our own Movie Theatre with a Giant Screen, bring a cushion & snuggle down to watch a new mystery movie @ Kidsbase Spreydon

Pet Pal Day

Wed
24
Sep

Make a new best friend, design and craft your very own adorable pet pals today and take them home to love forever.

TRIP: Mega Air

Thu
25
Sep

A Super Popular full access trip to the Mega Air Arena to enjoy all the trampolines, foam pits and lots more.

Mighty Mini Sports

Fri
26
Sep

Big Sports made mini! Kid sized versions of all the classic sports, a day full of games, teamwork & laughter.

Wild Explorers

Mon
29
Sep

Step into the Wild! Get creative with big wildlife crafts & bring your favourite wild animals to life.

TRIP: Kingdom Circus

Tue
30
Sep

Step into the Big Top for a thrilling all ages live circus show! Packed with jaw-dropping aerials, mind-blowing juggling, and side-splitting comedy.

Gnome & Grow

Wed
01
Oct

Get your hands dirty and your imagination growing! Create a cheeky garden gnome and plant your very own starter kit.

TRIP Kids Stage Show

Thu
02
Oct

A private viewing of "Bad Jelly The Witch" stage show by the Luminaires children's theatre group. Held @ Ara Theatre on campus.

Art Masters

Fri
03
Oct

Become an Art Master for a day, learn new skills, experiment with lots of different materials and create your own masterpiece.

** WINZ SUBSIDIES AVAILABLE ** All Programmes are MSD approved. Children from ALL schools welcome.

For more information, call 027 544 5059 Or 027 239 7690

or email info@kidsbase.co.nz

Book now at kidsbase.aimyplus.com

SUPPORTING ST MARK'S SCHOOL



Part of the St Mark's School Family

For every home referred and sold or listed and sold with us within the school family, we will donate \$1000 to St. Marks School.*

With Sonia being a past parent, now grandparent, and Sophie a current parent at St Mark's, we are proudly involved with the school community and look forward to giving back.

**Supporting St Mark's school,
now and for its future**

*Terms and conditions apply.

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