



PRESS RELEASE

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ST MARK'S SCHOOL CELEBRATES EXCEPTIONAL RESULTS IN INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE EVALUATION

St Mark's School was delighted to learn this week that it earned a phenomenal 24 commendations in its recent International Baccalaureate evaluation.

"I am incredibly proud of the St Mark's community for delivering this exceptional result," says Mr Kent Favel, Principal at St Mark's School. "I have never heard of anything like a school achieving results like this before. This is big news indeed!"

St Mark's offers the International Baccalaureate Primary Years Programme (PYP) to all students, from Preschool through to Year 8. The programme sees students exploring a series of transdisciplinary topics of global significance, strengthening their knowledge and understanding as they explore topical and relevant 'big picture' questions about the world around them. The aim is to inspire students to be caring, global citizens who help to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect.

"The report is outstanding", says Steven Wishart, IB World School Manager Australasia. "It highlights a significant number of commendations and demonstrates exceptional practice and programme implementation. The number and nature of commendations reveals practice exceeding the requirements of the programme and underlines St Mark's school as a leader in PYP delivery."

The International Baccalaureate evaluation was held remotely, with two assessors from Auckland touring the school virtually with the aid of student guides who used a Chromebook to show the assessors around the learning environment. Parents, students, teachers and Board members were also interviewed via a Chromebook.

St Mark's School was particularly commended for promoting students' awareness of individual, local, national and world issues. The school was also commended for its strength in bringing together parents, staff and students in a very inclusive setting.

"The IB Evaluation results affirm that St Mark's is excelling in so many ways within the IB World Schools community. Both philosophically and through our day to day practice, St Mark's offers a world class education and we could not be more proud," says Mrs Angelee Jarrett, PYP Coordinator at St Mark's.

[St Mark's School](http://www.st-marks.school.nz) is an independent school, and has been educating boys and girls for over 100 years. It delivers a high quality academic programme for students from Preschool to Year 8, and offers small class sizes and a warm and inclusive community. More information at www.st-marks.school.nz

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