



# MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

JULY 2015

# NEWSLETTER

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Thank you to everyone who has supported our students in sporting and cultural events during term 2. The campus music concert and the celebration of Matariki have been among the highlights. It was fantastic to have 80% of families of year 11 and year 12 students come along to the mentoring day. We greatly enjoyed meeting you and having extended conversations with your children about their learning. The recent report evening for years 9, 10 and 13 was also well attended. Thank you for making the time to do this.

The confirmed ERO report for the school will be released next week. The school has again been recognised for the outstanding support its governance, leadership, teachers and support staff provide students with a **4-5 year period before ERO will return – the highest possible category.** ([further detail is included on page 2 of this Newsletter](#))

The report concludes: *Mt Roskill Grammar School promotes and supports successful outcomes for its diverse student community. School leaders continually review the curriculum and set effective goals and targets to improve school performance. The school's inclusive values and restorative practices encourage high levels of student engagement, participation and achievement. The school is very well placed to sustain and further improve its performance.*

Many people contribute to making our school strong. Thank you to our wonderful Board of Trustees, particularly our Chairperson Marjet Pot whose governance, guidance and leadership are invaluable. Also the school leadership, teachers, support staff, students and the entire community who make our school a place where great learning happens. We can be rightly pleased with ERO's endorsement of our work together.

At the end of term we are saying farewell to several teachers who are leaving Mt Roskill Grammar School on promotion. Congratulations to Brenda McNaughton who is moving to Otahuhu College as Deputy Principal, Jon Ely who is moving to Glendowie College as HoD Mathematics and Katalina Ma who is moving to Southern Cross Campus as Assistant to the HoD in Mathematics. Also George Taunga leaves us to travel overseas with his family and Gaylyn Byrne is returning to Ireland. Vicki Earl is leaving to focus on her doctoral studies. We wish them well in their chosen next steps.

A very productive term is completed. Thank you to everyone in our community for your on-going support of our teachers and students in their quest to be great learners and achievers.

Sursum!

Greg Watson



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## OUTSTANDING ERO REPORT—FURTHER DETAILS



In his opening article Greg Watson referred to the recent ERO report which attests to the quality of teaching and learning at MRGS—we include further detail below:

Some excerpts from the report:

- ♦ *Mt Roskill Grammar is a successful and progressive school.*
- ♦ *The school's vision of students becoming successful powerful learners is evident through the academic and co-curricular life of the school.*
- ♦ *The school curriculum is effectively promoting and supporting student learning.*
- ♦ *Programmes of learning are well designed and students are enabled to take ownership of their learning.*
- ♦ *The school adds value to learning and students make good progress and achieve well overall.*
- ♦ *The school is justifiably proud of improved outcomes for all students at NCEA Levels 1 and 2, particularly the significant improvement of Maori and Pacific students.*
- ♦ *High quality teaching enabled students to attain 47 scholarships in 2014, maintaining strong performance in this award.*
- ♦ *An effective pastoral system supports student engagement. A restorative ethos underpins the focus on positive learning relationships. Students are encouraged to participate and develop social competencies and key learning skills. Diversity is celebrated and opportunities for leadership and peer support at all levels are strongly promoted.*
- ♦ *The school's vision and mission statements are central to strategic and annual planning. The principal continues to provide professional leadership to the board and staff. Trustees work collaboratively with the principal to promote ongoing school improvement making informed decisions through robust self-review and responsible governance.*
- ♦ *The school adds value to learning and students make good progress and achieve well overall. There is good support for students who enter the school below expectations. The achievement of different groups and ethnicities is tracked and compared over time. The board is responsive to the trends and patterns indicated in the principal's analysis of achievement information.*
- ♦ *Programmes of learning are well designed and responsive to student and parental aspirations. Learning pathways for senior students have been expanded and the high levels of student retention, together with leaver destination data, indicates that more senior students are leaving school with suitable and useful qualifications.*
- ♦ *Teachers are well supported to improve outcomes for students through high quality professional learning and development. They are benefitting from reflective inquiry practices that are expectations of the school's appraisal procedures. Teachers are consulted about schoolwide changes and have increased opportunities for leadership*
- ♦ *The percentage of students leaving with NCEA Level 2 is nearly ten percent higher than national levels. NCEA Merit and Excellence endorsements are similar to or above national levels.*

The full report can be viewed by following this link [ERO report on school website](#)



### ROSKILL RETAINS BRAIN BEE TEAM TITLE

Mount Roskill has for the second year won the Brain Bee team challenge competition. Our four member team of Karen Zhang, Alice Wang, Vyshni Ishwaran, and Sharon Mathew were victorious with 18 points beating closest rivals St Cuthberts who scored 15, ACG Parnell with 14 and Auckland Grammar with 11 points. The win gives the girls individual prizes and for the school a Plaque, Trophy and a 60 inch TV. This was the highlight of the day as the other 47 teams cheered and congratulated the Roskill



**The winning Brain Bee Team with Principal Mr Watson and HoD Science Mr Dass**

Team. The performance cements our mastery of this event as last year the title and the prize of a large screen TV were also brought home to Roskill. In the last 3 years the school has won two team



competitions and one individual competition. Forty eight schools competed in the event and in the final four teams competed closely but our team of four confidently took the lead in the first three rounds and despite a nervous seventh round kept ahead in the closing stages to take out the title. All those taking part in this prestigious science competition run at Auckland University by Auckland Chapter of Brain Bee, recognised the strength of Roskill and the capacity of our young scientists who have once again set the standard of excellence for others to try and match.

### PARENTAL VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTION

School donations are voluntary and may be tax exempt. The funding provided by the government meets basic education costs. However this funding alone is inadequate to provide the high quality of education expected by our community. Parent contributions greatly increase our ability to provide this.

We are extremely grateful for your on-going support. Last year parental donations assisted the school in providing class sets of tablets and laptops to enable a wider range of students to use these devices as part of their learning. The network filtering and electronic device management system was also upgraded to support on-going access for all students. We are developing the football field to premier level to support our academy and premier football teams. Donations also helped with the running of our afterschool homework centres.

Your help in enabling these improvements will lift the learning experience for all students.

The Accounts Office is open from 8.00am to 4.00pm each day. Alternatively you can pay in one of the following ways.

**\*\*Via the parent portal link <http://kamarportal.mrgs.school.nz/student/index.php>**

By cheque together with the payment advice to Mount Roskill Grammar School, Frost Road, M.

RoskillPayment via EFTPOS, VISA or MASTERCARD at the School Office by phone or in person between the hours of 8 am to 4 pm

Direct Credit or Internet Banking payment can be made to Account No: 12-3033-0358045-02. Please include your child's Student ID number in the reference column of the bank statement. **\*\*This method is the preferred option**





### CAMPUS MATARIKI CELEBRATION

Once again we joined with the two other campus schools to celebrate Matariki and mark the significance of the Maori New Year with performances and presentations. The event was as usual well attended and extra seating had to be drafted into the Primary school hall to accommodate all those wishing to take part. Our Kaumatua Ted Ratana welcomed everyone with a prayer and the campus Maori Co-ordinator Whaea Jackie –Jade introduced the first performance from the Primary school – ***Te Kura Tuatahi o Puketāpapa***, This was followed by sections from the Intermediate ***Te Kura takawaenga o Puketāpapa*** and finally the Grammar school ***Te Kura Tuarua o Puketāpapa***. At each stage the mix of dance song and spoken word both celebrated and set the context for Matariki. At the close of the evening all those present shared supper and had the opportunity to enthuse about the evening's presentations.

*“ Ka puta Matariki, ka rere Whanui.*

*Ko te tohu tena o te tau e*

*Matariki reappears, Whanui starts its flight and begins the sign of a new year.”*







### CAMPUS MUSIC CONCERT

Many months of practice and preparation culminated in another sparkling night of musical performances from students of the campus. Parents and community members packed the Grammar school hall and were treated to the usual high quality presentations from bands, choirs, concert bands, orchestras, the jazz combo and of course the Primary school 'Ukes'. The evening opened with every singer and musician combining in 'Nga iwi e' which was followed by a welcome from MRGS Principal Greg Watson. The programme next launched into full swing with the Primary school band performing modern melodies and movie themes. The Intermediate Orchestra later gave a great rendition of a Sam Smith composition in its set. Through the evening we were treated to traditional, modern and classical pieces from the range of vocal, ensemble and orchestral groups that the Music departments of each school tutor and direct. Every piece was enthusiastically and skillfully performed to the penultimate singalong campus item 'Que Sera' which drew everyone into song. Finally the Grammar school's award winning Jazz Combo played and at the close the audience and performers were invited to join together for supper which gave each person a chance to share their memories of a wonderful night's entertainment.







### SPORTS EXCHANGE WITH PUKEKOHE

Our annual sports exchange with Pukekohe took place in June this term and as usual there was strong competition and great sportsmanship. This is an opportunity for our Premier teams to play opposition teams outside their normal geographical area and schools' gradings. It also gives a chance for some of the junior teams to have a first taste of 'travelling' and representing MRGS further away from home. The Roskill team was welcomed with a Powhiri in the main hall of Pukekohe before changing and warming up for the first games. There were two rounds of games and after the culmination of the final matches there was an after-match function with speeches which celebrated the day's sharing of skills. Unfortunately Pukekohe's teams proved too strong on the day and they were victorious in 6 of the ten games. Among our successes, however it was good to see the 1stXV winning and our U19 Boys Basketball maintaining its winning form.



#### Roskill Results vs Pukekohe High School

1st XI Boys Football drew 1-1	Netball Premier lost 28-34
1st XI Girls Football lost 1-3	Netball Y9 lost 9-34
1st XI Boys Hockey lost 0-2	Netball Y10 lost 13-41
1st XI Girls Hockey won 2-1	Junior Boys Football lost 0-5
1st XV Rugby won 24-21	U19 Boys Basketball won 59-14



### PEER MEDIATION AND MENTORSHIP NEWS

Firstly, on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 35 Mediators were trained by Julie McCracken in mentorship skills. This engaging, interactive training included goal setting, problem solving, rapport building, communication skills and learning how to think outside the square. A great time was had by all students and now these Peer Mentors are available to support younger students one-to-one. So if any student would like some support or mentoring from an older student please contact Donna Hourigan-Johnston at Student Services.



A big thank you to Julie McCracken for the wonderful training and to Louise Fisher and Peter Maher for their generous donation to cover costs.

Secondly, INTERNATIONAL PEACE WEEK is coming up on the 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> August and 80 Mediators had an exciting lunchtime meeting this week to plan activities. They welcomed student visitors from Kings College Amanda Ngo ( Head Girl) and Catherine Fu who are in the process of setting up a Mediation Service in their own school. Many activities are planned including assembly presentations, peace t-shirts, peace banners, peace march, anti- violence and embracing diversity stall day, mufti day, cake stall, random acts of kindness, face painting and the wearing of white ribbons.

Make sure you are involved in spreading the messages of peace and kindness to all.

### NEPAL FUNDRAISING

In response to the earthquake disaster in Nepal MRGS students organized a fundraising drive and were able to collect over \$1600 to donate to the Himalayan Trust. In response to our student and staff effort we received a letter and certificate of appreciation from the fund.

*"As a small gesture of our thanks for the school's fundraising efforts in response to the Nepal Earthquake, we've created and attached a certificate of appreciation from the trust. The money raised by the school will make a real difference to communities in the Everest Region and we are very grateful for the students' support. ...*

*.... Over the coming months and years we will continue working with our partners and local communities in the remote Solukhumbu region. Our focus is particularly on the schools and health centres that have been damaged and ensuring teachers and health professionals are equipped to do their jobs, and that children are healthy and well-educated.*

*This wouldn't be possible without your school's kind support, so a big thank you from all of us to your students once more. "*







### OPENING OF REFURBISHED NO. 1 FOOTBALL FIELD

After many months of anticipation our main football field was officially opened in a morning ceremony led by local Kaumatua and attended by school leaders, Board members, staff, students and representatives from Turftech—the grounds technicians who have delivered this state-of-the-art playing surface for our school. Groups gathered and were welcomed by Principal Greg Watson who then handed over to two local kaumatua who dedicated the field and the success of those who will play on it - in speeches and karakia. The attending party led by Head Prefect and 1stXI Boys Football captain Glenn Lewis then blessed each of the four corners of



the field before reassembling for a closing prayer. The field area has been laser-levelled, re-laid and equipped with an extensive drainage/irrigation system and will provide the level of surface and performance to grace our top football teams. In a fitting initial game on the following Saturday the 1st XI boys christened the turf with a solid 3-0 win over Kristin School and since then the girls 1st XI football team has also had two wins in their games on the field.



### 1STXI BOYS FOOTBALL—TOP OF TABLE

With one game remaining of this term's fixtures our premier football team remains unbeaten in its competition and sealed their position at the top of the table with a hard fought 4-2 win against Kelston Boys—the other team in the grade with a high achieving record so far. The Roskill team, despite some injuries in recent weeks to key forwards, has maintained its form around Auckland and will move into the term 3 fixtures in a strong position—already having played home and away games against key rivals. We wish them the best for the remainder of the season and know that they will continue to strive for excellence each time they run out onto the pitch.







## LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – 18-28 MAY 2015

Mount Roskill Grammar School gained very good results in this International Languages competition. MRGS pupils answered over 767,000 questions, gaining 302,969 points, which represents 2,301 hours spent learning.

### Special student achievements:

\* **Tessa Brown – in the top 60 in the world with 21,720 points!**

\* ELITE award + badge (10,000+ points) gained by 9 students: **Tessa Brown, Zoe Fuller, Persia Gharekhanian, Taruki Gunawardana, Naman Gupta, Steffanie Kobayashi-Cox, Nathan McDougall, Ellen Peng and Alex Wichman**

\* GOLD medal certificate (3,000+ points) = 24 students: **Esther Ayoade, Andy Cao, Kiana Damu, Cathy Fan, Aiden Fang, Rebecca Ferguson, Sannan Hafeez, Chloe Haigh, Selena He, Srishaa Iyer, Wooyoung Jang, Radhika Lal, Sarah McKenzie, Holly Porter, Meleana Puloka, Lovely Puloka, Shriram Raveendran, Aman Rawat, Halym Smith, Lance Stubbings, Kirushni Suthakaran, Alice Wang, Sheng-Ya Wang, Sarah Yan**

\* **SILVER** medal certificate (2,000+ points) = 15 students

\* **BRONZE** medal certificate (1,000+ points) = 28 students

\* **CREDIT** award certificate (500+ points) = 32 students



## CLASSICAL STUDIES ARCHITECTURAL TRIP

This term Year 12 Classics students went on a trip into the CBD to look at the influences of ancient architecture on public buildings in Auckland. This trip was to help them to complete their internal assessment and also ties in with their current unit, Ancient Athenian Art and Architecture, which looks in particular into the incredible buildings of 5th century BC Athens, as well as ancient sculpture. A fun day was had by all; Mrs Carruthers, Ms Mason and Ms Cranch thoroughly enjoyed taking such a great group of interested students to the city.





## 2015 MRGS FRANCE HOMESTAY TOUR – VISIT OF MR HERB FARRANT



The France Homestay Tour pupils are having regular Thursday preparation sessions and tutorials so that they will be able to make the most of their trip to France this year. This year's Tour coincides with the centenary commemorations in France of

World War 1. MRGS is part of the Shared Histories programme and we are extremely grateful to have received some funding from the **New Zealand-France Friendship Fund** towards our Tour.



As part of these tutorials, we were honoured to welcome to the school Mr. Herb Farrant, **President of the NZ Military Historical Society**. As well as being a passionate historian, Mr Farrant takes guided tours through parts of France to do with WW1 and WW2 battlefields, historical sites, cemeteries and museums. He is extremely knowledgeable and it was a thrill to listen to him as he made history come alive. The Tour is visiting a number of WW1 sites, including the **“Carrière Wellington”** built by the **NZ Tunnelling Company** during WW1 in preparation for the Battle of Arras. Mr Farrant was able to share a detailed history of the NZTC, and speak about the exploits of this Company and of some of its men. We all gathered round as he showed us maps, books and war medals.



We would also like to thank Mr David Lett for organising this meeting for us and for the tutorial sessions he is running.

For further information about the NZ Tunnelling Company and the Carrière Wellington in Arras as well as the NZMHS, see these websites:

New Zealand Tunnelling Company – [www.nzetc.co.nz](http://www.nzetc.co.nz)

Carrière Wellington (Arras) = [www.explorearra.com/en/remembrance.html](http://www.explorearra.com/en/remembrance.html)

New Zealand Military Historical Society – [www.nzmhs.org.nz](http://www.nzmhs.org.nz)

New Zealand-France Friendship Fund – [www.nz-franceff.com](http://www.nz-franceff.com)







### BARBERSHOP GROUP SUCCESS

This year the school has once again been extending its involvement in barbershop and boys chorus competitions. At the recent Auckland regional 'Young Singers in Harmony' event held at Macleans College our Boys' Chorus came 3rd in the competition and the Boys' Quartet, consisting of Sione Leakehe, David Siu, Sateki Pelesikoti and Paula Ilaua were 2nd and won the right to perform at the National Finals held in Hamilton later in the year. Our singing groups are tutored by Mr. Pita Tuiaki and directed/managed by staff member Mr Chan.



### FOOD AND HOSPITALITY DEPARTMENT MEDAL WINNERS

The Auckland Secondary School Salon 2015 was held at the Manukau Institute of Technology on Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

We are delighted that both Food/Catering and Hospitality students who were entered in this competition were rewarded with medals for their hard work.

Rachel Fan 13HFIO won a Bronze medal in the Barista Competition. Within a short time frame she had to prepare and present 2 x single espresso, 2 x single shot latte and 2 x single flat white. There were no gold medals

awarded this year in the Barista Competition.

Chelsea Ellis 11NBRT entered the Cake Decorating. Using a prepared cake she had to decorate it within 30 minutes. Chelsea's beautifully decorated and colourful design of a 'Spring Garden' **was the only Gold medal winner.**

Well done to them both. We are proud of them and would like to commend them on the effort and time that was put into preparing for this competition.





## DIWALI CELEBRATION

### PUKETAPAPA (Mt Roskill) DIWALI CELEBRATION 30th October 2015



Diwali is a significant celebration amongst the Indian population and celebrated by the wider community all over New Zealand with all ethnicities.

This year the Diwali celebration in Puketapapa (Mt Roskill) will be held on: **Friday 30 October 2015 at the Mt Roskill Grammar School Hall, Butler Hall**

6.30pm onwards food stalls, cultural stalls will open,  
7.00pm performances,  
8.00pm Garba begins.

If you would like to participate in a performance, have a food stall, arts and crafts stall, sponsor prizes or help organise 2015 Diwali in Puketapapa (Mt Roskill) please contact Ella Kumar on 09 629 0660 or 021 0477642. This is an opportunity to be part of a great annual local event and help with fundraising for a great community project. The funds raised from this event will go towards the Mt Roskill Water base Hockey Turf project.

## SENIOR COMPUTING STUDENTS VISIT TECHTORIUM

Nine Year 12 Computing students had the opportunity to attend Techtorium this term to learn more about computer hardware and the inner workings of a computer. The students loved the experience of pulling a computer apart and reassembling it into a working computer. They also learnt about networking and how to set up a small network. The students sat two Standards and all nine passed both, gaining 10 credits at Level 3.



Techtorium commented on the positive attitude to learning and the enthusiasm these students had for the tasks they undertook. Everyone approached each challenge with a willingness to learn and develop new skills and knowledge. These students represented our school in a commendable way, and showed real appreciation in being given this opportunity. Thanks to Ms Hodge for organising the course with Techntorium and to Mrs Insull for taking the students and filling out all the paperwork.





## COMPUTING ACHIEVEMENTS

### HIGH DISTINCTION IN AUSTRALASIAN EXAMINATION

Jonathan Khoo has gained High Distinction in the Computational and Algorithmic Thinking Australasian exam. This means he is in the top 2% from the 2300 schools (involving 7000 students) who entered for the examination. Jonathan made only one error in his entire paper. This is the first year that Roskill students have entered this test. It is a problem-solving competition which seeks to identify computer programming potential. Some questions test the ability to accurately perform procedures; others require logical thought, while the more challenging problems require the identification and application of algorithms.

Jonathan has already been picked to represent New Zealand in the Infomatics Olympiad which takes place in Kazakhstan on the 20th of July.



### FOUR ROSKILL TEAMS QUALIFY FOR FINALS OF COMPUTER PROGRAMMING COMPETITION

Our students have also been performing at a high level in business and MIT sponsored computing competitions. In the forthcoming JHack finals 4 teams from MRGS have qualified amongst the 40 from schools in the Auckland region. This competition gives students the opportunity to experience challenges

and 'real-life' computer programming tasks. IT Companies such as Orion and Xero are sponsoring the event and working in partnership with Manukau Institute of Technology to foster computing experience in secondary schools. We wish all our teams the best for the finals on 4th July.

The JHack qualifying teams will compete as part of the 3 day GovHack event which will bring together our best and brightest around the country to innovate and create.

GovHack is about encouraging and celebrating technical and creative capacity. This is the inaugural year

for GovHack taking place from 3rd to 5th July at various locations around New Zealand. Details can be found at <http://jhack.co.nz/>



### TOP TEN PERFORMANCE IN ADOBE SOFTWARE DESIGN COMPETITION

Junjie Yang (Year 12) took part in the **National Round of the Adobe** Certified Associate(ACA) Championship and was placed in the top 10 of the competition. Junjie enjoyed the experience and the chance to compete with students from all around New Zealand who have a special interest/talent in Photoshop and Design. The National Championship round consisted of a round of project based testing on Adobe software. Students received a campaign brief from this year's Charity Partner, The Heart Foundation, and were given six hours to complete the brief, at which point judges decided on the winning material.





### CORNER OF CHINESE CULTURE

On 5<sup>th</sup> of June, 2015, some students came to R3 to take part in free Taichi training. Taichi is a kind of Chinese martial art that brings you skills in defence and benefits in health: it is also a performance art. Liu Lao Shi is an ACC certified Taichi instructor. She provided students with demonstrations, verbal guidance, and explanation of the benefits of certain movements. There were two sets of movements being taught and students were required to follow and later show Liu Lao Shi their movements step by step. These students have the potential of interpreting the essence of Taichi through practice because they were fast learners. All ages and year levels are welcome.



### DAY OF SILENCE—ROSKILL JOINS WORLDWIDE STAND

Last year the Peer Sexuality Support Programme Team in conjunction with the student services department initiated the Day of Silence at Mt Roskill Grammar School. Tracing its roots back to the University of Virginia in 1996, the Day of Silence began as a day of silent protest in retaliation to the discrimination and indifference that lesbian, gay, transgender, bisexual and intersex people face. Since its inaugural year, the Day of Silence has gained worldwide traction, with schools and communities across all continents taking part in the stand against prejudice and discrimination.

The Day of Silence on 12 June was highly successful, attracting support and participation from over 100 other students who brought themselves along to participate. The day showcased the strong spirit of social justice we have at Mt Roskill Grammar School.

### CHESS SUCCESS IN AUCKLAND CHAMPIONSHIP

The success of chess teams of recent years is continuing with high attainment in the Auckland Girls Chess Championship. Sarah and Caroline Yan were joint winners of the championship and Thea Dickson took third place in the U16 competition.



**Caroline and Sarah Yan joint winners of the Girls championship**





## TERM 2 SPORTS UPDATE

As always term 2 has been hectic as our busiest season gets underway. All teams put a huge effort into their pre-season training and this showed with great results.

Thank you to the coaches, managers, parents, caregivers and supporters for enabling sport to happen for our students. They might not always thank you for your involvement, but the connections and memories they make during their sporting conquests will be one of the long standing things they take away from MRGS.

In light of recent events around New Zealand on the sporting sidelines, it is important to ensure that all teams are supported positively. We welcome support from parents, caregivers, family and friends – however all communication from the sidelines needs to support both teams, celebrate your child's success and be used to encourage them to continue giving their best when they are challenged with difficult situations.

We have launched a MRGS Sport Facebook page that keeps our community updated with what is happening with our sports teams, recent photos, team successes and individual accomplishments. To keep in the loop with all things sport 'like' the page. Go to [www.facebook.com/mrgssport](http://www.facebook.com/mrgssport)

Thank you to the kind generosity of our sponsors this year, please support them with your custom. Our sponsors are Fletcher Living, Libelle Group – Champion Tuck Shops, Barfoot and Thompson, Pak N Save Royal Oak, McDonalds.

### BADMINTON

This season we have had 12 teams competing with great results across the board and a 60% win ratio. The Open A and B teams are into finals of their competitions. The Tuesday C girls and Thursday C girls both finished second in their grades. The Thursday D2 team won their grade. Our top teams playing on Friday nights have been outstanding. The A1 Open team are currently unbeaten after 6 pool games and are playing off for 1<sup>st</sup> place against Macleans next term. Thank you to all of the staff members involved with these teams and all the best to Mr Dix who takes a well earned sabbatical next term.

### BASKETBALL

The Under 19 Open Boys team has had their work cut out for them this term. Facing a number of injuries and the absences of key players representing NZ overseas in other codes, their depth has been tested. The team has managed to win four from seven and have two matchups against opponents placed lower in the current standings to finish the season. With a full squad returning next term the team hopes to achieve the top four placing required to advance to the next round.

The Under 19A Boys team have found this grade challenging losing 6 of its 7 games although many games have been close losses. The U19B Boys are competing well in this grade winning 3 of their 7 games.

The Under 17 Boys are currently playing in the top U17 grade and doing well. All of this team except one will be able to return next year. They have played 6 and won 3.

The Under 15 Boys are undefeated after 7 games and have an average winning margin of just over 40 points per game. Parental support for this team has been great as too have the improvements in skill and tactical awareness from all players.





### BOYS FOOTBALL

The 1<sup>st</sup> XI Boys are unbeaten in the league still and sit top of the table. Highlights were the boys dispatching rivals Kelston 4-2 and St Peters 4-0. They need to keep collecting 3 points as the championship will no doubt go down to the wire. The Year 13 leadership group have been outstanding, ably supported by the handful of Year 12's and Year 11's.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XI and 3<sup>rd</sup> XI Boys teams have qualified to play in the same grade on Saturday mornings. The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI are currently 1<sup>st</sup> with 3 wins from as many games and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI are 4<sup>th</sup>. The 4<sup>th</sup> XI Boys are enjoying playing in a very competitive grade and improving their skills as they go.

Developing individual players to break into the 1st XI as early as possible is one of the key goals of the **Boys Football Academy**. Two players, Mustafa Sheikh and Fardeen Faheem, have already made their debuts for the 1st XI despite being only 13 years old. Team development is also progressing, with some good results against Premier League schools. The boys had a 3-2 win over Sacred Heart College and drew with Mt Albert and Saint Kentigern. The players are highly motivated and are developing their literacy skills alongside their football.

We have two Boys 13<sup>th</sup> grade teams playing on Saturday mornings. The 13B2 team is currently 4<sup>th</sup> equal and the 13B1 team are 7<sup>th</sup>.

### GIRLS FOOTBALL

The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> XI Girls have had a very good term, with both teams sitting in the top 3 of their pool going into playoffs. Both teams have scored a number of goals to date; the 1<sup>st</sup> XI having scored 18 from 7 games, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> XI scoring 37 goals from 8 games with one highlight being a 12-0 win against Onehunga. The 3<sup>rd</sup> XI have had fun, scored some goals and improved their football skills greatly.

### HOCKEY

The Girls 1<sup>st</sup> XI team have continued their success in 2015. The team is currently in a good position in the Supercity 2 grade after narrowly missing out on a place in Supercity 1, (beaten by Kings on penalty strokes). With a mix of experience and inexperience, the girls are growing from strength to strength each and every week. Highlights of the season so far have been the inclusion of Virginia Payne in the Auckland Under 18 team and a 6<sup>th</sup> place finish in the Auckland competition.

The Boys 1<sup>st</sup> XI has had a rocky start to the season with many of the team not having played in the 1<sup>st</sup> XI grade before. After being dealt two 10-0 losses from power houses Kings and Auckland Grammar, the team have come to the realisation of what is required of top level hockey. They have come together to form greater connections and stronger bonds that have been portrayed both on and off the turf. A few highlights of the year have been the selection of Anirudh Bhatnagar and Parneet Kohli into the Auckland Under 18 team and a 3-1 team win over Kings 2<sup>nd</sup> XI.

Both Hockey Academy teams are doing well this season. The Boys team, coached by Mr Hays are currently in 1<sup>st</sup> equal place in their grade. The Girls Academy, coached by Roskill Eden Hockey Club player Josefina Maratea is in 1<sup>st</sup> place in their grade. They have scored a whopping 39 goals in 5 games.







## LACROSSE

The Girls Lacrosse season has been fantastic! The Gold team is currently the top of their pool, while the Blue team are third. Semi finals are early next term, and if the girls continue to play as they have been we hopefully will take out the Division. Thank you to JC and Nikita for coaching, and Cameron Bell and Ben Deverell for refereeing. The girls have created a terrific culture and are determined to win.

## NETBALL



After a very gruelling preseason and multiple trials a team of 11 was named in the 2015 Premier team: Sapphire Sami Kareroa (co captain) Anna Laufoli (co captain), Helen Meni Soka, Tania Bryan, Rheon Maiava, Vanessa Thong, Muna Taunga, Talalei Tualima, Katana Fruean, Jolynne Kaleopa and Tabitha Kilisimasi - a late addition due to injury.

The team started strong and held their own during grading for a spot in the Premier grade with a highlight being a convincing win over King's College after previously losing to them in a practice game the week before.

Unfortunately we just missed out on a spot in the Premier grade after losing our last grading game to One Tree Hill. Despite this the team set their goal high aiming to take out Senior A grade and with consistency, structure and grit this is definitely achievable. Onwards and upwards!

The development of all players has been the focus for the other four Netball teams. Regardless of the results the girls never give up and that is promising for the future. Thank you to our student coaches that are taking junior teams. We are grateful for the sacrifice of their time to share the knowledge and passion they have for the game. A big thank you to Ms Ma for her involvement in Netball this year and all the best in your new school.

## RUGBY

The 1<sup>st</sup> XV are currently playing for the 1B Plate after a tough first half of the season. Highlights have been recent wins over Pukekohe High School and Edgewater College.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> XV continue to play quality rugby under the coaching of Michael Smith and Sagele Palaamo, they currently have 4 wins with the most recent a 27-5 win over top of the table Dilworth.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> XV have entered the competition late and continue to improve week by week and are adding strength to the senior numbers playing rugby.

The Under 15 team are currently top of their pool with a 24-0 resounding victory over One Tree Hill College showing their commitment to playing great rugby.

### Under 14/Rugby Academy

We have just completed the first semester and it has been quite successful in terms of sustainability, progress and achievement. We have managed to hold onto 41 out of 42 players since the start of the year. The skill level has certainly improved quite noticeably and the boys U14 Boys Rugby team has won 5 out of 7 competition games so far, putting them in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in their grade.





### RUGBY ( CONTINUED)

Girls' rugby has undoubtedly proved to be the true highlight so far this year. Under the guidance of parent-coach Tillam Kapsin along with Ms Ma the Girls 10 a-side team are undefeated whilst the U15 Sevens team have produced outstanding results in their competition.

It is with great sadness that we farewell Ms Ma and also Mrs McNaughton who are both leaving to further their careers. They have contributed a lot to Roskill Rugby over the years and their contribution to our students will not be forgotten and the entire Rugby community wishes them all the very best.



We are very pleased with the support that we are getting from our parents. It is a culture that we hope to continue with in the future as the role parents do play is most valuable in terms of motivational, supportive, and promotes our school values of whanaungatanga and manaakitanga.

We look forward to a strong second half of the season for all of our teams.

### SQUASH

The Senior Boys Squash team has played in the A grade this year and has learned a great deal from the quality opponents we have played. Team unity has been very important to the players. The team is made up of Rahul Patel, Jonathan Khoo, Naman Gupta and Ash Chaudhary.

### TRAMPOLINING SUCCESS



Madison Smith—our accomplished national trampolinist competed in the Australian National Gymsports placing 1st with her set routine and 4th overall in the U17 women's event. Her Next big competition will be the New Zealand nationals in October when she will be representing Auckland at junior international level.



### RHYTHMIC GYMNASTICS ACHIEVEMENT

On Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> June Kate Bonnici completed in the Open B Grade Rhythmic Gymnastics Auckland Championships at Sacred Heart College and was placed third in the event.





### MRGS OPEN DAY—THURSDAY JULY 23RD

In the first week of term 3 we will hold our annual Open Day - a showcase event which gives prospective 2016 Roskill students and their families an opportunity to visit the school and find out about the opportunities for learning which we offer.



## MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

### OPEN DAY

Thursday 23rd July  
3-30 to 6.30pm

All welcome  
Tours start regularly from  
School Main Office

***Successful Learners***

***Active Citizens***

### WORLD REFUGEE DAY 2015

This year World Refugee Day was the 20<sup>th</sup> of June, so on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> of June a celebration was held at Owairaka Primary School for school students with a refugee background. This is an annual event with students from all over Auckland, as far south as Manurewa to as far north as Whangaparaoa, coming along to participate in the celebrations. The day was filled with entertainment including singing, dancing, poetry and a speech by Dame Susan Devoy, New Zealand's Human Rights Commissioner. There were also a number of guest speakers who talked about their personal journeys and the challenges that they and their families faced resettling in a new country. The day ended with an array of beautiful ethnic food and drink. We had 14 students representing Mount Roskill Grammar and we had such a great day we are looking forward to next year!





MOUNT ROSKILL  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

## MT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL COMMUNITY EDUCATION

### Term 3: August – September 2015

Phone (09) 621 0051 Fax: (09) 620 9467 Email: [Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz)

Office Hours: Mon-Thu: 9.30am-2.30pm | Fri: 9.30am-12pm

Extra Enrolment Night: Wed 29 July 6-8pm

#### MONDAY – starts 3 August 7-9 pm unless stated

Alexander Technique *6.45-8.15pm	5 wks	\$80
Ballroom & Latin Dancing – Begs * 7-8pm	6 wks	\$57
Basic Car Maintenance & Repairs	6 wks	\$90
Computer Repairs & Maintenance: Intro	4 wks	\$79
Computer R & M: Advanced *starts 31 Aug	4 wks	\$79
Furniture Making & Design *6-9pm	7 wks	\$145+
Painting With Oils *materials needed	7 wks	\$95+
Pattern Making (Drafting) – Advanced	7 wks	\$110+
Sign Language (NZSL) – Beginners 1B	7 wks	\$70
Thai Cooking	4 wks	\$59+
Toastmasters (Public Speaking) * 6.30-9pm	5 wks	\$195
Welding for Beginners *6.30-8.30pm	6 wks	\$207+
Yoga – Prenatal *6.45-8.15pm (bring mat)	7 wks	\$67
Yoga *6.45-8.15pm (bring mat)	8 wks	\$76

#### TUESDAY – starts 4 August 7-9 pm unless stated

Badminton *6.30-8.30pm	7 wks	\$86
Bollywood Dancing *7.35-8.35pm	7 wks	\$70
Building a Website with Weebly *7-8.30pm	2 wks	\$40
Dressmaking for Beginners	8 wks	\$89+
Floristry - Beginners to Intermediate	7 wks	\$95+
French – Intermediate	7 wks	\$98
Google Docs, Sheets & Slides *starts 18 Aug	1 wk	\$28
Home Renovations *6.30-8.30pm	3 wks	\$59
Intro to Social Media *starts 25 Aug	3 wks	\$70
Indoor Soccer: Mixed *6.45-8.15pm	8 wks	\$76
Picture Framing	7 wks	\$98+
Sign Language (NZSL) – Beginners 1A	7 wks	\$70
Spin Bikes *6.30-7.30pm	7 wks	\$60
Welding-Beginners *6.30-8.30pm	6 wks	\$207+
Woodwork & Furniture Restoration *6.45-9pm	7 wks	\$97+
Yoga *6.45-8.15pm (Bring mat)	8 wks	\$76

#### WEDNESDAY – starts 5 August 7-9 pm unless stated

Adv Car Maintenance & Repairs	6 wks	\$117
Aerobics – Pump *7-8pm	7 wks	\$52
Cake Decorating: Novelty & Cup Cakes	7 wks	\$95+
Dressmaking - Intermediate	8 wks	\$89+
French for Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
Indoor Soccer *starts 29 July *7.30-9pm	8 wks	\$76
Italian Cooking *starts 2 Sept	3 wks	\$59+
Mandarin-Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
Mediterranean Cooking *starts 12 Aug	3 wks	\$59+
Pilates *6.30-7.30pm	7 wks	\$67
SpeechWorks (Public Speaking) * 6.30-9pm	5 wks	\$195
Spanish for Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
Stencil Art & Screen Printing - Intro	2 wks	\$66+
Stencil Art – Advanced *starts 19 Aug	3 wks	\$92+
Woodwork-Beg (new students) *6.45-9pm	8 wks	\$107+
Woodwork (return students) *12 Aug 6.45-9pm	7 wks	\$97+
Yoga *starts 29 July 6.45-8.15pm	9 wks	\$86

#### GUITAR LESSONS – start Thurs 6 August & Fri 7 August Own guitar needed. Limited 8 per class.

Beginners (Thursday) *6-7pm	7 wks	\$77+
Intermediate (Thursday) *7-8pm	7 wks	\$77+
Intermediate (Friday) *6-7pm	7 wks	\$77+
Advanced (Friday) *7-8pm	7 wks	\$77+

#### SATURDAY CLASSES start 12 September unless stated

Sushi Making starts 5 Sept 9.30am-12.30pm	1 day	\$35+20
MYOB: Intro *9am-4.30pm	2 wks	\$137
Breadmaking: Breads & Dips 10am-2pm	1 day	\$45+10
Making Sourdough Breads 19 Sept 10-2pm	1 day	\$55+10

#### ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Non-residents pay 30% extra on advertised fee.

##### DAY TIME CLASSES:

##### \*Conversational English & Grammar Starts 20 July

3 days per wk: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.15am -12.15pm. 10 wks, \$395

Level 1: Beginner/ Elementary

Level 2: Pre-Intermediate

Level 3: Intermediate/ High Intermediate

##### \*Speaking & Pronunciation: Pre-Int Plus Starts – 27 July

2 days per week: Mon & Wed, 12.30-2pm. 8 wks, \$95

##### \*IELTS Exam Preparation– Academic & General Starts 21 July

2 days per week: Tues & Thurs, 9.15-11.15am. 10 wks, \$270

##### EVENING CLASSES:

##### \*General English Classes – ESOL Starts 3 August

2 days per week: Mon & Wed, 6.40-9pm. 7 weeks, \$99

Level 1: Beginners/ Elementary

Level 2: Pre-Intermediate

Level 2: Intermediate/High Intermediate

##### \*Advanced English Starts 4 August

Tuesdays, 6.40-9pm, 7 weeks, \$50

##### \*Speaking and Pronunciation Starts 4 August

Tuesdays, 6.40-9pm, 7 weeks, \$50

##### \*Speaking in Public Starts 9 September

Wednesdays, 6.30-9pm, 3 weeks, \$120

##### \*Writing Skills Starts 3 August

Mondays, 6.40-9pm, 7 weeks, \$85

##### \*IELTS Preparation Starts 4 August

2 days per week: Tues & Wed. 6.40-9pm, 7 weeks, \$170

##### PLEASE NOTE:

- 1) "\*" after a price indicates further materials / costs involved.
- 2) You must be a minimum of 16 years to enrol in all classes.

##### HOW TO ENROL:

- At our office: Eftpos is available
- Phone on 621 0051 with your credit card details
- Email [Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz)
- Download an enrolment form from [www.mrgs.school.nz](http://www.mrgs.school.nz) and click on "Community Education"

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE SEE OUR WEBSITE:

[www.mrgs.school.nz](http://www.mrgs.school.nz)





## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term Dates 2015

Term	First Day of term	Last Day of term
Term 3	Tuesday 21st July	Friday 25th September
Term 4	Monday 12th October	Tuesday 8th December

## TERM THREE EVENTS

July 20	Teacher Only Day	Aug 26	Campus Fia Fia Night
July 21	First day of term 3 for students	Aug 27	Year 13 Drama Assessment Performance Evening
July 23	Open Day—3.30-6.30pm [Early School Closure at 2.30pm]	Aug 28	School Holiday
July 29 - 31	Arts Week Events	Aug 31 - Sept 4	Tournament Week
Aug 3 - 7	International Peace Week	Sept 8 - 16	School senior Examinations
Aug 13	School Cross-Country	Sept 17	BYOD Evening meeting
Aug 13	Year 10 Subject Choice Evening	Sept 22	Senior Subject Report Evening
Aug 17 - 21	Health Week	Sept 24	Sports Awards Evening
Aug 19	Year 12 Drama Assessment Performance Evening	Sept 25	End of Term Three
Aug 20	Parent mentoring Conference Day—Years 11 & 12		

## DETAILS OF COMING EVENTS..

### Open Day—Thursday July 23rd

The school is open from mid –afternoon to early evening and welcomes prospective 2016 students and their parents to tour our facilities and hear about the opportunities available at MRGS. There is a short presentation by the Principal, Mr Watson which gives particular detail of the successful environment for development of our learners and citizens offered at Roskill.

### Arts Week Events—July 29-31

There will be a series of events, activities and performances showcasing the thriving Arts at our school. Music, Performing Arts and Visual Arts students will be involved and all students are encouraged to enjoy the experience of the week.



### KEEPING IN TOUCH—IMPORTANT CONTACTS AT SCHOOL

Talking with Parents/Caregivers about their child's learning and wellbeing is important to us—we have listed below some of the contacts /names to help you in the event of any concerns or enquiries: All staff can be reached by phoning the school main number 09-621-0050 to request a contact or by e-mailing to [admin@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:admin@mrgs.school.nz) detailing the person you wish to contact in your subject line.

Your child's <b>Academic Programme</b>			
<b>Academic Deans</b>			
Year 9	Mrs F. Burns	Year 13	Mr A. Gipps
Year 10	Mr K Hays		Mr R Cornes
Years 11 and 12	Mrs S Singh Mrs A Gosai		
Your child's relationships with students and staff— <b>Pastoral welfare</b>			
<b>House Deans— (Head of Deans = Mr D. Williams)</b>			
<b>Cooper House</b> <b>( Blue )</b>	Mrs N Fell Ms T Mackinlay	<b>Ngata House</b> <b>( Orange )</b>	Ms F Leigh Mr A Ferguson
<b>Rutherford House</b> <b>( Red )</b>	Ms M Cranch Mr C McGibbon	<b>Sheppard House</b> <b>( Yellow )</b>	Mr C Chellew Ms N Dekker
<b>Hillary House</b> <b>( Green )</b>	Mr D Williams Mr C Overton		
Your child's <b>attendance</b>			
Attendance Officers	Mrs E. Hyland	Mrs Nisha Bhana	
Your child's <b>emotional welfare</b>	<b>Guidance Team</b>	Head of Guidance	Mrs M Hoogendoorn
Your child's <b>health</b>	<b>Nursing Team</b>	Receptionist Student Services	Ms J Pace
<b>Wider Issues of Concern</b>	<b>Deputy Principals</b>		
Cooper House	Mr K Hall		
Rutherford House	Ms J Small		
Hillary House	Ms K Collins		
Ngata House	Mr T Pune		
Sheppard House	Mrs X Sulzberger		

### CONTACT DETAILS

If you have a new address, phone number, cellphone number or email address please pass this information through to the school: [admin@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:admin@mrgs.school.nz)

Emergency contact details should also be kept current so please update the school when either the person or their contact details change.

**Please ensure that you have given the school a current email address which enables us to keep you up to date with information and newsletters.**





## MRGS FAMILY AND FRIENDS GROUP



The MRGS Family and Friends are working together to help the school in whatever way we can. The on-going input that we provide is for the benefit of the students and to provide the best learning environment possible. We organise fundraising events and are available to assist the school in any way that they may require.

Take a look at the Fundraising page on the school website to see the fundraising events and opportunities currently underway <http://www.mrgs.school.nz/ourschool/fundraising.aspx>

If you are willing to assist us please return the completed form to the School Office or e-mail a copy to Judith Bingham: [jcl.air@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jcl.air@xtra.co.nz).

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number day \_\_\_\_\_ evening \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a child/children at the School

Students Name \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_ Form Class: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_ Form Class: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have another connection to the School eg Past pupil: \_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help as a volunteer (tick those that interest you):

.....Run a Fundraising Event eg \_\_\_\_\_

.....Help at a Fundraising Event

.....Provide Baking/Food for an Event, or for Fundraising

.....Assist a student as a reader/writer in an exam

.....Join the Family & Friends Group

.....Utilise your fundraising experience eg \_\_\_\_\_

.....In Other Ways \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to help financially (tick those that interest you):

.....Donate a book needed by the Library

.....My business may be able to provide goods or services to assist with fundraising eg

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_



## MRGS—FUNDRAISING

To keep up to date with all aspects of our fundraising—follow the website link

<http://www.mrgs.school.nz/ourschool/fundraising.aspx>

## ENTERTAINMENT BOOK MEMBERSHIP SCHEME TO SUPPORT MRGS

As part of our fundraising scheme MRGS is offering the community the opportunity to order Auckland Entertainment Books . These popular membership books offer purchasers a wide range of discounts on restaurants, shopping and entertainment. There are also a limited number of digital memberships available which offer extra benefits. By purchasing one of these books you support our school's fundraising

If you would like to order and pay for an Entertainment Book on line please follow this link <https://www.entertainmentbook.co.nz/orderbooks/957q50>

Or scan the QR image with your smartphone



## Buzzthepeople School Fundraiser

If you are happy to complete the occasional on-line survey this would be a great way to help the school fundraise. Founded in 2004, Buzzthepeople is an Auckland based Research Company. To date over \$437,000 has been raised for charities, schools and other groups registered with them.

Parents, students and friends of the School are able to register. You would receive on average one or two roughly 5 minute surveys per month to fill in on-line, and the school gets \$1 or \$2 for each completed survey. Essentially you are giving a gold coin donation every time you do a survey. There is no compulsion to fill in all the surveys you receive, and you can withdraw from the programme at any time.

*If you can help us with this fundraiser just click on the link below to register*

<http://www.buzzthepeople.co.nz/helpfundraise.aspx?s=0609B55C>

## From Days Gone By:

1972:

This year the highlight was undoubtedly the Prefect's Ball. Attended by 400 including 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> formers, staff, and Board of Governors. Butler Hall took on a Spanish theme designed by Christine Klinenberg with help from Tony Lovell, Hamina van der Goes, Aletis Wolfram, Tony Ratapu, Keith Jellard and Julie Lester who did a staggering amount of preparation. This year the Ball was enhanced with special lighting effects. The band was Spectrum which played great music from start to finish. Mention must be made to those parents who put on one of the biggest spreads ever, and of staff members who went out of their way to make for a wonderful evening. -By Bystander

From 1972 MRGS Magazine



### SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

Mount Roskill Grammar School would like to thank the following businesses for their ongoing generous financial sponsorship and support ;

Libelle, Barfoot & Thompson – Mt Roskill, Mc Donalds ,Three Kings Dental and Fletcher Living.

Proudly Supported by

**Barfoot & Thompson**  
Established 1838

**Mt Roskill, 09 621 0912**



# Fletcher Living

### SPONSORSHIP OF GIRLS 1ST XI FOOTBALL TEAM

Mount Roskill Grammar School also would like to thank Pak' n Save Royal Oak for their sponsorship of the Girls 1st XI Football Team this year



Any business or organisation wishing to offer sponsorship to the school—please contact Mr Ben Horne—  
 Director of Sports Ben Horne [Ben.Horne@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:Ben.Horne@mrgs.school.nz)