

NEWSLETTER – AUGUST 2012

It has been a typically busy start to term three at Mount Roskill. Students at all levels have quickly settled back into work with seniors engaging with their NCEA studies in this vital 11 week term of concentrated learning which will lead to their full practice examinations in week 9. Juniors are similarly focused with many starting new option subjects and fresh units of work.

In the co-curricular life of the school the Winter sports codes continue and teams are looking forward to the final stages of competitions. Our Premier teams particularly are preparing for Tournament week when they will have the opportunity to match their skills against schools from the whole of the North Island.



Other events have been part of our first three weeks at school. We were privileged to host the New Zealand Warriors for a training session and their presence provided valuable insights into professional training methods for our Sports Science and Applied Physical Education students as well as some treasured autographs.

In the first week of term it was pleasing to welcome so many parents to the Senior Report Evening – such occasions for feedback and next steps discussion are important elements of student learning. We also held our annual Open Day for the parents of future Roskill students and it was a great chance for teachers and students to display the wealth of opportunity and experiences in learning and citizenship which our school offers.

This week the school celebrates International Peace Week with a variety of events and special assembly presentations.

We are also looking forward to next week's Campus Concert when once again the musical talent and energy of the three school's Grammar, Primary and Intermediate will come together for a marvellous evening's entertainment.

Greg Watson
PRINCIPAL

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

INDOOR CRICKET NEW ZEALAND 16 AND UNDER REPRESENTATIVE

Shriya Naidu has been selected to represent New Zealand in the 2012 Indoor Cricket World Series. The series will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa at the start of October this year. Shriya was chosen after national trials and the school wishes her all the best in the event.

FIRST IN NEW ZEALAND IN THE ICAS SCIENCE COMPETITION

Richard Xu of year 12 took part earlier this year in the International Competition and Assessments for Schools Science examination. He gained first place in the New Zealand section of this huge international competition. The examination tests students' interpretation and application of data in addition to their employment of high order skills of investigation, reasoning and problem solving. Richard will receive his competition medal later this term.

MODEL UNITED NATIONS – MRGS YEAR 13 STUDENT TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND AT THE HAGUE.

In January next year Nirusha George, with 22 other nationally selected students, will represent New Zealand at the largest and most prestigious Model United Nations Conference in the world. She will be involved in a whirlwind 2 weeks of educational study visiting cultural sites and diplomatic missions before spending a third week based in Holland at the Hague where she will spend time immersed in conference issues with other youth leaders from around the globe. Nirusha has been involved in Model United Nations conferences in New Zealand since she was in year 10 at the school. This marvellous opportunity comes as a result of her debating skills and diplomatic presentation of issues at this year's Wellington conference. Her work impressed the directors of the conference and other delegates who were taking part in the youth leadership event and earned her a place in next year's high profile international level meetings.

BRAIN BEE COMPETITION SUCCESS

Mount Roskill Grammar Year 11 student Jiantao Shen became North island champion in the recent Brain Bee challenge at Auckland University. Jiantao will now go on to the Australia/New Zealand finals of the competition later this year in Melbourne. Three other students Savidurru Mohan, Puja Sharma, and Mildred Wong made up the Roskill team which, in competition with students from 56 other schools, came in third place overall. This contest, the only one of its kind for high school students in Australia and New Zealand, motivates young people to learn about the brain – and has been created to inspire students to pursue careers in neuroscience research. It presents students with a test of knowledge about important facts concerning intelligence, memory, emotions, sensations, movement, stress, aging, sleep, Alzheimer's disease and stroke.



CAMPUS CONCERT

The annual Roskill Campus Concert will be held in the Grammar school hall next week on Wednesday August 15th starting at 6.30pm. Students from the three schools will be taking part in what promises to be an entertaining evening. There will be performances from the Primary school Band, Choir and Ukulele group; the Intermediate Orchestra, Band and Choir; the Grammar school Pasifica Beats, Choir, Orchestra, Jazz Combo and Concert Band – there will also be combined items. Families are advised to take their seats early so that they do not miss any of the sparkling entertainment.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 3		
August	Thursday 9	School Cross Country
	Friday 31	School Holiday
September	Monday 3 – Friday 7	Tournament Week
	Monday 10 – Tuesday 18	Senior School Examinations
	Wednesday 12	Junior Progress Report Issued
	Friday 28	Senior Interim Report Issued
TERM DATES 2012		
Term 3	Monday 16 July	Friday 28 September
Term 4	Monday 15 October	Tuesday 11 December