# MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

# SURSUM

# NEWSLETTER

**JUNE 2013** 

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Congratulations to students who have achieved nationwide recognition for their achievements.

- Tom Yang was presented with the Top New Zealand Scholar in Chemistry Award by the Governor General.
- Cindy Ou has been selected for the New Zealand team of four to compete at the 2013 International Chemistry Olympiad in Moscow.

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- Hannah Yang has been selected to represent Mt Roskill in the New Zealand Youth Parliament.
- Sohail Abdulla gained 3<sup>rd</sup> place for his window cleaning robot at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair compe-

tition in Phoenix Arizona attended by 1700 students from around the world.

• *Madison Smith* has been selected for the New Zealand Trampoline Team.

Recent information released by the Ministry of Education shows that our learners are well prepared for the next steps beyond school.

- 81% of MRGS student leave with NCEA Level 2 or better compared with 75% nationwide.
- 52% of MRGS students leave with University Entrance compared with 39% nationwide. Our students continue to aspire and achieve.

A key initiative this year is to raise student attendance because it is so closely linked with achievement. School wide attendance for term 1 was 91.4%, a significant improvement on last year. Attendance in the first 5 weeks of term 2 has continued above 90%. We are closely monitoring the attendance of premier sports team with the expectation that attendance in class is a prerequisite for playing. It has been great to see team members exhorting each other to better attendance. Thank you to families who are using the parent portal to track attendance and responding to text messages to follow up absences.

[ Continued on next page ]

Principal: G. Watson, MSc (Hons), MEd Admin (Hons)

Phone: 621-0050

Website: www.mrgs.school.nz

Frost Road Mount Roskill Auckland 1041



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK—continued

In the consultation for the strategic plan you told us that the facilities at the school should be an area of focus. The Ministry has identified several buildings at the school in need of remediation and this presents an opportunity to crystallize how 21<sup>st</sup> century learning can best be supported by the facilities at MRGS. A plan for the development school site is being worked on for consultation later in the year. Further information about the Ministry findings is given below in the newsletter.

Thank you to everyone who voted in recent Board of Trustees Elections. We are fortunate to have experienced, committed and passionate trustees to govern our school.

#### **BUILDING REMEDIATION WORK**

The Ministry of Education has carried out testing on buildings at Mt Roskill Grammar School. Four buildings have been identified as needing remediation work to address weather tightness deficiencies. These buildings are

E Block containing English classrooms and the Deans Centre.

Gymnasium 3.

The gymnasium change facilities and fitness centre adjacent to gymnasium 1.

M Block containing music classrooms and teaching spaces.

Seven other buildings have been put on a 'weather tightness watch' and will be reviewed by the Ministry in two to five years' time.

These buildings are

The Administration Building

The Science Building

The extension to the School Library

The Physics Building

T Block

The MacLean Centre

H Block

All the buildings are 100% owned by the Ministry of Education who have given assurance to the Board of Trustees that the buildings are safe to occupy.

The Board is viewing the remediation project as an opportunity to review and improve the facilities at the school. The school is working with the architectural firm Archimedia to review the building development plan in the light of these findings. Following consultation with the school community, the Board will approve the development plan and work will begin to address building deficiencies. This is likely to commence in 2014. The Ministry will provide re-locatable classroom spaces where needed during the remediation work.

In the meantime the Ministry reports on the buildings can be viewed at the front desk in the Administration Building of the school.



# MRGS SCHOOL TRUSTEES ELECTIONS—RESULTS & BOARD COMPOSITION Declaration of Parent and Staff Election Results

# Parent representatives votes:

Irshad Ali	174	Rakesh Pandey	77
Vimmi Bhatnagar	98	Vijay Parulkar	104
Judith Bingham	228	Marjet Pot	161
Ella Kumar	189	Sarat Singamneni	58
Ewe Leong Lim	150	Kima Tuialii	196
Sue Mulrennan	182		



I hereby declare the following duly elected:

Irshad Ali Judith Bingham Ella Kumar Sue Mulrennan Kima Tuialii

Staff representative votes:

Mitch Cranch 31 Lorraine Vickery 47 Trevor Wilson 83

I hereby declare **Trevor Wilson** duly elected.

Beverley Wong Returning Officer

# **Board Of Trustee Members**

Sue Mulrennan (chair) Ewe Leong Lim (co-opted)

Judith Bingham Marjet Pot (co-opted)

Ella Kumar Greg Watson ( Principal )

Kima Tuialii Trevor Wilson (staff trustee)

Irshad Ali Viliami Tutone (student trustee)

# **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

TERM TWO			
June 12	Junior Reports Issued	June 27	<b>Campus Music Concert</b>
June 12	<b>Campus Matariki Celebration</b>	July 2	NCEA Evening for Pasifika Parents
June 20	School Early Closure for Parent/	July 5	Senior Reports Issued
	Mentor/Mentee Conversations		
June 25	Pukekohe Sports Exchange	July 11	Senior Report Evening
June 25	Junior Report Evening	July 12	End of Term Two



# TOP NZ SCHOLAR AWARDS— TOM YANG MRGS STUDENT RECEIVES TOP IN CHEMISTRY AWARD

Last month at the Top Scholar Awards, our own student Tom Yang received his medallion as the Top Scholarship Chemistry Student in New Zealand. He was accompanied by his family and the Principal Greg Watson. Tom joined New Zealand's top secondary students at the ceremony hosted at Government House by His Excellency, Lieutenant General, The Right Honourable, Sir Jerry Mateparae on 15 May. The awards recognised the 41 elite students who make up the 2012 Premier Award and Top Subject Scholarship Award winners. The Honourable Hekia Parata,



Minister of Education co-presented the awards alongside His Excellency. Both posed for photos with the Scholars and offered congratulations on their achievements.

The Prime Minister, The Right Honourable John Key presented the Prime Minister's Award for academic excellence. The official presentations were followed by light refreshments and a tour of Government House for the Scholars. New Zealand Scholarship exams enable students to be assessed against challeng-

ing standards, and are demanding for the most able students in each subject.



# TOP SCHOLAR'S ANSWER BOOKLET—ON NZQA WEBSITE

You can view Tom Yang's award winning answers on the NZQA website by following this link

http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/scholarship/2012/93102-topscholar-2012.pdf





# INTERNATIONAL ACCLAIM FOR ROSKILL STUDENT



Y13 Student Sohail Abdullah achieved a 3rd place and a US\$1,000 prize recently at the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in Phoenix Arizona. This event brought together the world's top 1500 Technology and Science students from Science Fairs held last year in over 70 countries. A total of 900 judges all of them specialists in their own fields viewed demonstrations and project displays from each student and then awarded prizes in over 14 categories. Sohail gained his world ranking place in the Engineering Electrical and Mechanical section of the fair. The MRGS student's project—a robotic window cleaner, (inspired originally by socion his father labori

(inspired originally by seeing his father laboriously having to deal with large window washing at his home) was a highlight of the Fair.

Sohail was awarded a place at the International Event together with travel and accommodation

last December when his exhibit won the prestigious Ambassador's Award at the

Genesis Energy Realise the Dream awards function in Wellington.

The original event in New Zealand and the final Fair in the United States celebrate the most talented secondary school science students.



# CINDY OU - Y13—CHOSEN TO REPRESENT NEW ZEALAND IN CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD TEAM

After taking part in a squad selection process (together with two other Roskill Senior Students Victor Xie and Mark Yep) Cindy Ou has been named in the final team of four to represent New Zealand in the 45<sup>th</sup> Chemistry Olympiad in Moscow in July. Each year a group of around 30-35 secondary school students is brought together to form a Training Group, from which a team selection is made. The choice of the original training group is based upon performance in a test held at the end of October, or the beginning of November. The test assumes knowledge of only Year 12 (NCEA Level 2) Chemistry.

The selection of Cindy in this year's New Zealand team continues a tradition of MRGS national representation over the years

Previous Roskill students selected for the final team:-

2011	Aaron Li (Reserve )	2004	Tony Chiu, Aritra Ray
2008	Tim Vogel, Wenyi Yi	2003	Aritra Ray
2007	Chuan-Zheng Lee	2002	Peter Lam
2005	Daniel Chan	2000	Dony Wong



# **MENTORING OUR YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS**

Update from the Mentoring Lead Team

After a strong start to our mentoring programme in term 1 we have already had our first mentoring conversation with our Year 11 and 12 students. The conversation teachers (mentors) held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2013 in period 5 was designed to identify the progress your child has already made since the previous conversation and to help your child prepare a study timetable for the exams. Students were given a calendar to place their revision topics into so that they could be assured of studying all of their subjects in a way that would ensure greater success in the examinations.

The next mentoring conversation between your child's teacher (mentor) and your child will be held on the 11<sup>th</sup> June 2013 during period 5. All students report to their form teacher for roll check and then meet their mentor for this conversation at the start of period 5 (1.55pm). Some students will receive mentoring support in groups and others individually as we are aiming to meet student needs with this programme. Period 5 is a **LEARNING TIME FOR ALL YEAR 11 AND 12 STUDENTS** and this time has been

provided by our school to ensure all students are well supported to achieve the best results that they can. The research supports mentoring as a tool to lift student performance. During this meeting students will be asked about their exam performance/study habits and overall progress. While not all of the exam results will be available to students we believe that students will be well-positioned to identify the goals they need to set for the rest of the term in order to progress their achievement.



PARENT INVITATION: We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to join us for the Parent/ Mentor/Mentee conference on THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2013. This is an important meeting where you will have an opportunity to discuss your child's tracking sheet showing their achievement so far and assist in setting learning goals for term 3. The teacher (mentor) who mentors your child will phone you/ email you to set up an appropriate time for this conference meeting. We will be closing school early on this day to ensure our teachers have the time available that they need to lead this important work for our students and their families. School will close at 12.55pm and appointment conferences will begin from this time. If your child's mentor (teacher) has not contacted you by the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2013 please ring our school office and leave a message with Bonnie Wills-our receptionist.

We look forward to seeing you on the **20<sup>th</sup> June 2013**. (from Julie Small on behalf of the Mentoring Lead Team )



# AN OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE YOUR CHILD'S NCEA RESULTS

Our school has been given the opportunity to partner with a project called NCEA Campus. This is a not-for-profit organisation which supports students with additional learning tuition for a minimal cost. This system builds on what already happens in the classroom by offering revision courses in the JULY and OCTOBER holidays in Level 1, 2 and 3 subjects. A two day course for each subject is offered and the programme is delivered by academically able tutors who have recently graduated from NCEA themselves. The classes are streamed with 5 students per tutor and students will receive revision notes. The course is \$20 per subject. (Students who do not enrol in July will still be able to enrol in October). In 2013 NCEA Campus supported 700 NCEA students from NCEA Level 1, 2 and 3 and overall students who attended improved their results by 51.67%.

The website for students to enrol is <a href="www.nceacampus.org.nz/index.php?page=howToEnrol">www.nceacampus.org.nz/index.php?page=howToEnrol</a>. Our school supports this programme and encourages you to support your child with their learning and achievement. If the \$20 is a barrier please contact Julie Small-Deputy Principal through the school office.

# **GATE WAY PROGRAMME**

The MRGS Gateway programme is well underway for 2013. Six of our students earned a placement on the Red Shirts in Schools programme at the brand new Mt Roskill branch of the Warehouse. Samuel Love is completing his placement at PJ Automotive in Mt Roskill. If you have a business and would like to support the Gateway programme please contact

gateway@mrgs.school.nz or phone 621 0050 xt 826



# YEAR 13 BUILDING, CONSTRUCTION AND ALLIED TRADES SKILLS (BCATS)

Mr Davis' Year 13 BCATS students, have just completed their first practical project for the year, constructing a picnic table. Whilst building the table each student learnt how to read plan drawings, apply construction and joining techniques and how to produce a fine finish. On completion of their tables the students put them to the test with a cooked lunch of Corned Beef, onions and noodles, a one pot meal and a great way to finish the project.







# SCHOOL PRODUCTION—WIZARD OF OZ PLAYS TO PACKED HOUSES

From Wednesday the 15th to Saturday the 18th of May the school production of 'The Wizard of Oz' played to packed houses, showcasing the amazing talent of our students. The show opened with a matinee performance for students from the Primary and Intermediate schools. The audience of over 350



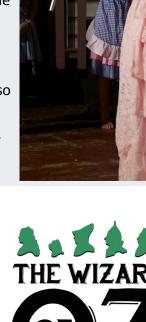
were totally captivated by the adventures of Dorothy and her friends in the land of Oz. The appreciative clapping of the younger students was a foretaste of the audience responses for the following three shows each taking full audiences through the enthralling songs and scenes of the marvellous musical. Each night members of the audience commented on the professionalism of the whole show - the flawless casting and the confident portrayals of the principals and the ensemble cast. In addition to 10 principal roles over 60 students filled the stage with their presence and

singing/dancing/acting ability. The show was supported by an equally expert and enthusiastic backstage crew of over 35 members of



the teaching staff. By the final matinee performance on Saturday tickets were hard to get and the audience stayed well after the last song to celebrate the success as members of the cast took their bows. The school is grateful to all

those who took part, students and staff but particular thanks are due to the HOD Performing Arts - **Brenda Meyer** who carried out so much of the administration of the event and the Director of the show **Emma Gillies** whose creativity and endeavour fashioned this brilliant display of student talent.







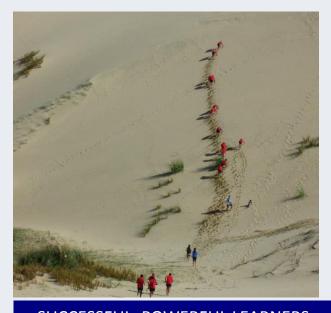


# **1STXV TEAM BUILDING TRIP TO THE FAR NORTH**



Players from the 1stXV squad, coaches and support staff had a successful team building trip to the Far North over the end of term 1 holiday. Their accommodation, travel expenses and arrangements were supported by a variety of individuals and groups so that this excellent team of young Roskill sportsmen could strengthen their sporting relationships and build momentum for the coming rugby season. At all times they were a credit to the school by their behaviour

and the respect they accorded their hosts and the venues they visited both sporting and recreational. Highlights were a dynamic training session at Kaitaia College , visits from Daniel Faleolo (ex Auckland Rugby) to give encouragement and support, and a hangi at Ngawha Springs. On their visit to the Kauri Gum Museum at Dargaville the group was given a guided tour by one of the veteran staff of the museum and she thanked the boys (and 5 girls) for their attentiveness. One of our students Otumaka Mausia then started to sing the hymn "E Otua" . The acoustics of that place brilliantly lifted the voices of the boys. The Manager of the facility sought out our group leader later and thanked him as a number of Tourists had remarked on the beautiful singing of the group. Other highspots were runs up the Te Paki Giant Sand Dunes and a visit to Waipoua Forest. At this venue the students were able to view the 2,000 year old Tane Mahuta – the largest Kauri tree left standing in New Zealand. This was an unforgettable experience and made all the more so by their response to it – the boys performed a Haka to Tane Mahuta and as Mr Nick Tuialii ( organiser of the trip ) commented "the voices of the boys echoed through the forest .. a tourist cried at the emotion of the performance and the setting." Throughout their trip the students enjoyed the aroha of the people of the Manukau valley.





SUCCESSFUL, POWERFUL LEARNERS .... ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS



# **SPORTS ACADEMIES**

The academy teams are now fully immersed in their seasons. After long pre seasons build ups, the teams are now all having good success. Both the Hockey Boys and Girls teams have qualified for their U15A grade competitions. The Football team is currently mid table in their quest to play A grade. Both Netball teams are playing well in their competitions. A special mention must go to Netball Intermediate 1 team who won the North Harbour Pre-season Tournament B grade competition.

# **Results to Date:**

**Hockey Boys:** Versus Sacred Heart 3 – 1 win

Versus Auckland Grammar 7 – 1 win

**Hockey Girls:** Versus Avondale 15 – 0 win

Versus MAGS 4-0 win

Football: Versus MAGS 0 – 6 loss

Versus Avondale 1 0 – 0 draw Versus Avondale 2 9 – 0 win

Netball Y10: Saturday Grading Rounds 2 wins / 1 draw

NH Pre-season tournament 4 wins / 1 draw

**Netball Y9:** Saturday Grading Rounds 3 wins

NH Pre-season tournament 3 wins / 1 loss

Other notable highlights from the academy results — The Girls Hockey Academy team beat Avondale 15-0 in their first game to sound out a warning to the other teams. The Boys team had a competitive match against Sacred Heart with MRGS eventually winning 3-1. In their next game against Auckland Grammar they comfortably won 7-1 with Mayur Ram scoring 3 goals. The Boys Football Academy team had a tough start to the season losing 0-6 to MAGS, however they bounced back with a gutsy draw and win over two Avondale teams. Lance Stubbings, Jordan Tahana, and Muhammad Hakim have been starring for the team. The two Netball Academy teams have competed well in their grading games and are on track to be playing in a high grade this year. Well done to all of the players and coaches for making the hard work done in preseason training count during their first few games.

At this stage we would like to thank all the coaches of our Academy teams as well as **the Libbell Group** who are proud sponsors of our Sports Academies for 2013.

# 8M8's

As mentioned in the previous newsletter, 8M8's is a new sports programme at MRGS aimed to give students an opportunity to play a range of sports on a Monday after school. The aim is for students to have fun and exercise without the pressure of winning or having to wear a uniform. So far we have met our estimated numbers of participants, however, we are looking for more Junior students and Girls to take part. If you think your son/daughter would enjoy being involved and get involved please encourage them to read the student notices on a Monday morning to find out what's on that afternoon and bring some friends along with them.



# **10 PIN BOWLING CHAMPIONS!**

On Monday 20 May 2013 the MacLean Centre competed in the Special Olympics Central Zone Championships. They were fierce competitors and placed 1<sup>st</sup> in Division One.

The team members were Scott Welch, Jessie Woods, Bart Uy, Shaheen Khan and Shuaib Khan.

The team will now go through to compete in the Northern Regional Championship.



# ROSKILL JUNIOR STUDENT IN NEW ZEALAND

#### **TRAMPOLINE TEAM**

**Madison Smith** Year 9 has recently qualified for the New Zealand Trampoline team. She will be competing in the Australian Nationals in Sydney from 7<sup>th</sup> July to the 18<sup>th</sup>

July. We wish her all the best in her training and build up to this event.





# SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCES IN BRASS BAND COMPETITION

On May 18th, five of our students participated in the Auckland Brass Band Association Solo & Ensemble Contest.

Three of our Y11 students - Mark Bingham, David Tuitupou and Sione Longopoa, did particularly well. Between them they received three 1st placings, two second placings, and one 3rd place.



# **SCHOOL OPEN DAY 2013 AUGUST 1ST**

The school will be holding its annual Open Day on Thursday August 1st ( week 1 of term 3). Parents of prospective students for 2014 will be able to visit the school from 3.30 to 6.30 pm. There will be tours of the school and the chance to meet with staff and students. Displays and demonstrations will highlight opportunities and courses at MRGS and Senior leaders will be available to answer questions about enrolment and any other aspects of learning at the school.

Further information and advertising about the event will be available in the next Newsletter, on the school website and in community newspapers. If you have any enquiries please contact Deputy Principal, Mr J. Wilkinson john.wilkinson@mrgs.school.nz



# FAREWELL EVENING FOR MR BAS BARRIBALL, PRINCIPAL OF MT ROSKILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Mr Barriball will be retiring at the end of this term after nearly 18 years leadership as Principal of Mt Roskill Primary School.

To mark this occasion, and to thank and farewell Mr Barriball, we would like to invite our families, both past and present, to a Community Farewell to be held on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July 7 p.m. at the Mt Roskill Primary School Quad.

If you would like to deliver a personal message to Mr Barriball, please email the message to the Primary School Office or drop off a written message to the Primary School Office <u>before Friday 5th July</u>. We will be compiling these personal messages into a book to be presented to Mr Barriball at the Community Farewell on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

Email: office2@mrps.school.nz .

Janet Moyle and Veronica van der Straaten ,Deputy Principals, Mt Roskill Primary School

# **JUNIOR HEALTH CURRICULUM COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

Every two years, Mount Roskill Grammar School conducts a community consultation on our Health Curriculum. Health is compulsory in the NZ Curriculum for Years 9 and 10 and can now be chosen as an NCEA subject in Year 11, 12 and 13. Health has an important role in the New Zealand Curriculum, teaching our students lifelong skills and knowledge.

The MRGS Community Health Consultation will take place later this term. The consultation consists of an online survey that will only take a few minutes of your time. An email will be sent to all parents and caregivers on our email database with a link to the survey. A link will also be available on the school website and paper copies available from the school office. We value your input and look forward to receiving your feedback.

A copy of the MRGS Junior Health Curriculum outline is available on the school website. If you have any further questions regarding the Health programme at MRGS, please contact Kim Thomas, HOD Health, 621 0050 ext 741, <a href="mailto:kim.thomas@mrgs.school.nz">kim.thomas@mrgs.school.nz</a>





# JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS—UPDATE ON EVENTS AND REGISTRATION DETAILS -17TH AUGUST 2013

# **Daytime Events:**

# **Tours of the School**

Visit your favourite school space.

Meet fellow students/staff.

Morning Tea Share tea and talk.
Sport Support our teams.

Leave your mark

Sign the canvas for your decade to commemorate our jubilee

**Displays** 

History as you made it. Static + video

**Photographs** Opportunity for group photos class, year, decade, friends; plus can-

did shots taken as you visit old haunts

# **Evening Event:**

Celebration Diamond Jubilee Dinner

At Alexandra Park ("Top of the Park')

At 6:45pm

Share:

Memories

Performances by school groups

**Entertaining speakers** 

Conviviality



Register now at: <a href="https://www.mrgs.school.nz/jubilee-registration-form/">www.mrgs.school.nz/jubilee-registration-form/</a>





# **HIP HOP DANCE SUCCESSES**

Three MRGS students were successful while taking part in the recent Street Dance New Zealand regional and national competitions. Louann Campos, as part of M.I.A crew placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the varsity division (13-17yrs) in the Auckland region, and then 5<sup>th</sup> in the National comp. Mykey Davis-Hoeft and Ray Campos, as part of DZIAH Academy, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the national comp, which allows them to compete for NZ in the World Hip Hop Championships in August. Congratulations to all three students. These preliminary events are held yearly as part of a selection process for the World Hip Hop Competition.

# MUSIC CREDITABLE PERFORMANCES IN COMPETITIONS AND THE COMMUNITY

Six Mount Roskill Groups performed in the recent Chamber Music Competition and our brass quartet gave a notable performance. Also Ellen and Mark Bingham - as part of a combined schools Brass Sextet which played a specially commissioned composition were singled out to win an award—The Most Engaging group - and performed again in the subsequent District Finals.

In the Rockquest competition heats 'Vertigo' a school group, presented some great song structure and technical music playing but were unsuccessful on the night.

Our chamber Music groups have also been active in our community performing for the Hillsborough Heights Retirement Village residents on 24 May where they were very well received. Later in the month a few chamber groups, an 11PFM girls' vocal group and the Ilaua Quartet performed at the Mt Roskill Library as part of NZ Music month - many favourable comments were made about the standard of these performances.

# YWCA FUTURE LEADERS—LEADERSHIP WEEK EVENTS 6TH JULY

YWCA Future Leaders is a four year transformative mentoring programme that provides resources, opportunities and events for 22 students at Mt Roskill Grammar School. There are currently two groups of Future Leaders in school -a Year 12 group in their third year of the programme and our new Year 10 group.



This year we are opening **Leadership Week on 6th July** with our event **10 out of 10** - a 10km fun walk, celebrating 10 years of Future Leaders, and raising \$10,000 to support the programme.

We would love you to join in the festivities and support the school's Future Leaders – as a walker/fundraiser, volunteer or entertainer!

There will be refreshments and celebrity appearances on the day.

Join us and walk for the future of young women.

For more info go to <a href="www.akywca.org.nz">www.akywca.org.nz</a>, email <a href="admin@akywca.org.nz">admin@akywca.org.nz</a> or call us on 370 0075.



#### 2013 LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS RESULTS FOR MRGS

# Another excellent year for World Language Competition results

2013 was another amazing year for MRGS results in the Language Perfect World
Championships (LPWC) from 20-30 May. Our students of French, Japanese and Maori
spent over 3,000 hours on computers learning and earning points in various languages. Over 1.3 million
questions were answered by our pupils, earning us a total of 477,000 points, putting us in 10<sup>th</sup> place
worldwide out of 1,054 schools, and 3<sup>rd</sup> overall in New Zealand. During the competition, there were
many eager pupils rushing to B10 and other computer rooms to logon, especially before school, at interval and during lunchtime. There was always a good supply of lollipops during these sessions.

Overall, MRGS gained 8 Elite awards (10,000+ points), 35 Gold Medal certificates (3,000+ points), 27 Silver Medal certificates (2,000+ points), 67 Bronze Medal certificates (1,000+ points) and 67 Credit certificates (500+ points). The school was 6<sup>th</sup> globally in both French & Japanese and 2<sup>nd</sup> in New Zealand in both languages.

There were many impressive individual performances, and the "Elite" pupils are especially worthy of praise for their effort, commitment and stamina. These 8 pupils are: Sephie Liu, Bryan Busby, Stephen Njoto, Yong Shi Lin, Elisa Yansun, Dan Li, Nathan McDougall and Qi Zhu.

Sephie Liu, with 31,120 points, was 1<sup>st</sup> in MRGS, 4<sup>th</sup> in the World for Japanese, and had the 15<sup>th</sup> best score out of more than 230,000 participants worldwide. WOW!!

Congratulations to all our pupils and thanks to the wonderful Language Perfect staff who do a superb job organising such a positive and worthwhile competition and learning experience.

Feedback from our pupils during the competition included:

- \* wooooo this has been brilliant! Loved being able to strengthen my knowledge about languages!"
- \* "Oh Yeah! 50/50!"
- \*"I...am...STUNNED at how amazing Language Perfect is. Thanks to the creators of Language Perfect and, of course, to the teachers that first introduced it to us!"
- \* "Language Perfect is always fun (every year)..."
- \*"I want to continue using Language Perfect because...I love to go on Language Perfect because it is sooo fun."

Certificates will arrive shortly for all those who gained 500+ points.

Students pay \$5 for the competition and \$15 for the full year experience which includes a lot of material added to Language Perfect by MRGS teachers for each chapter of work.

Next year's LPWC competition dates are: 19-29 May 2014



# **CAMPUS MUSIC CONCERT**

The annual Roskill Campus Music Concert will be held later this month on the 27th June This marvellous showcase of the three schools' musical talent will feature a range of performance groups, bands, choirs and combos. Staff and students are busy rehearsing their pieces for the event which will take place in the grammar school hall. Entry is by gold coin donation and performers are asked to bring a plate to provide a joint supper at the close of the evening.



# WIDER EDUCATION FOR JUNIOR STUDENTS —TERM 4

Wider Education (4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> December) is a tradition at MRGS. It is an opportunity for Year 9 and 10 students to take their learning outside the classroom. They will learn new skills, make new friends and develop as individuals while having fun! Year 9's will have a series of day trips and activities to choose from, while Year 10's are encouraged to attend an overnight excursion or camp. Our main activity for Year 10 students is the opportunity to attend a camp at <u>Totara Springs</u> in Matamata. More information about all activities and camps will be sent out early Term Three.







# SCHOOL BALL—2013



In a glittering occasion last weekend at the Hotel Pullman in Central Auckland our seniors attended the annual school ball. Over 300 students and many staff spent a marvellous evening with a buffet dinner followed by dancing until midnight. Every one there was dressed in their best and mingled with their peers celebrating the year at Roskill. The Ball Committee had done a wonderful job in organising the event through the months leading up to the evening. The theme of the ball—in keeping with our Jubilee year—was 'Like a

Diamond' and the idea was certainly evident in the venue decoration and the sparkle'n bling that everyone attending brought to the night.





A special thank you to <u>Jeremy Hill photography</u>—official photographers for the night —for allowing us to use some of the photos they took of the occasion

Students are able to view and order any of the photos at the photographer's website at

www.jeremyhill.co.nz

# **INDIAN DANCE GROUP SUCCESS**

The Indian Dance group participated in the recent *Rocerz* competition for secondary schools dance groups. Their performance was highly appreciated and the team gained a trophy and a cheque for \$300.





#### SPONSORSHIP FOR ROSKILL SPORTS TEAM

The MRGS Girls 1st XI Football team is proudly sponsored by the following businesses :-













# **ASB Sponsorship Referral Scheme**

ASB is again running its scheme which will give the school a \$250 donation for every school staff member/parent/family/friend associated with the school who draws a new home loan with the ASB bank. The details are in the flyer below.

# Make a good move. For you and your school.

If you're looking to move house or re-think your home loan, talk to the team at your local ASB branch. We can happily help with an easy, competitive home loan package. Better yet, ask about our School Banking offer. It could mean that if you draw down a loan of \$150,000 or more, we'll make a \$250 donation to your school.

asb.co.nz



Terms and conditions apply. See voucher for details.

ASB Bank Limited PPU38737

# WIN UP TO \$500 FOR MRGS AND FOR YOU

Shop, save money, save time and raise funds for the school.

Simply go to <a href="https://www.yourfastshop.co.nz">www.yourfastshop.co.nz</a>, select Mt Roskill Grammar School and start browsing your favourite stores.

No queues, No parking problems, No aching feet!

Save on petrol costs.

Over 50 online stores to choose from including electronics at Apple, fashion at Ezibuy, books at The Nile, toys at Mighty Ape and so many other gifts.

Your shopping is dealt with directly by your chosen online store.

Please go to <a href="www.yourfastshop.co.nz">www.yourfastshop.co.nz</a> to see how you could win up to \$500 for you and MRGS. We also automatically provide extra funds to your school.

Treat yourself to easy shopping and help your school fundraise.

# SPONSOR'S SPECIAL OFFER

Cameron Pools one of the proud sponsors of our 1stXI girls Football Team are offering this special for Mount Roskill Grammar Students.





# **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**



# Mt Roskill Early Childhood Centre

60 Somerset Road, Mt Roskill

PH: 629 0732 www.mountroskillearlychildhood.co.nz

Our Centre caters for children aged birth to five years in a purpose built Centre. We have separate environments for children aged under two and over two. We currently have vacancies for children aged under one with immediate starts available. Please contact the Centre directly for more information.

# **BEING ROSKILL—SEASON TWO**

Season Two of Being Roskill - the documentary mini-series which follows the fortunes of the 1st XI soccer/football team on and off the field - is currently in production. Episode One will be released on Tuesday July 2nd. It will be available to view on YouTube. The first trailer for Season Two is also now out. You can find the trailer by searching on YouTube for 'Being Roskill Season Two Trailer'. Season Two takes the series in a new direction by chronicling the unique bond the team have forged with 916, and also the mentoring and academic program the team is embarking on.

