



MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

MAY 2018

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Kia ora tātou

This term is huge for our students in having their learning recognised through in-school assessment. Each senior student will have several projects, each with an assessment timeline 'on the go'. Achieving well now makes a big difference in developing momentum towards achievement goals and reduces the load later in the year. Planning around completing multiple projects, while maintaining enjoyment of things wider than 'work' is a great life skill and something the families can gently assist with. We look forward to the mentoring conferences to discuss with each learner, their planning, achievement successes and problem spots.

Congratulations to Associate Principal Terry Storer who has been appointed Principal at Michael Park School. His extensive leadership background, knowledge of project based learning and international education experiences will stand him in good stead as he takes up the role in term 3. Terry is the third MRGS senior leader to be appointed to a Principal role in the last two years.

Winter sports are well underway. It's great to see our students training hard and carrying out team plans in their games. Thank you to the volunteers who support our students through coaching or managing these teams. Your contribution makes a huge and positive difference to our school and students.

Over the next few weeks we have a wide range of events to enjoy including the campus Fiafia night, the Performing Arts show case, the campus music concert and the campus Matariki celebration. Well done to everyone working towards making each of these events very special. Also many of our students are currently observing Ramadan which began recently. Ramadan Mubarak – happy Ramadan to everyone involved!

We look forward to seeing you on the side-lines, at some of the coming events or in the mentoring conferences to come.

Ki ngā taumata!

Greg Watson, PRINCIPAL



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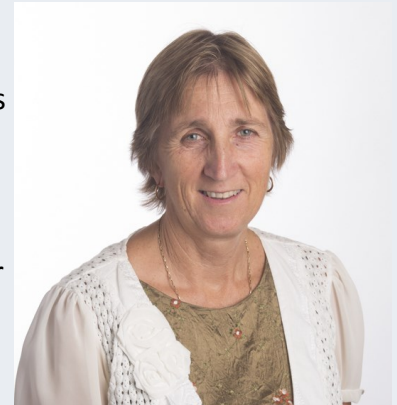
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A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD CHAIR— MARJET POT

Many of you will be familiar with the African proverb which says, “It takes a village to raise a child.” In the school context, this could be adapted to, “It takes a village to educate a child.”

The Government has over recent years been using the village approach to a child’s education by encouraging clusters of schools to work together to enhance children’s learning across all of their years at school, not just focussing on the school they are currently attending. These are called Communities of Learning (CoL.)



Six schools consisting of Dominion Rd School, Hillsborough Primary, Mt Roskill Grammar, Mt Roskill Intermediate, Mt Roskill Primary and Three Kings School have become the village which forms the Puketāpapa Community of Learning. The vision is to carve pathways of success for our ākonga. This CoL is also beginning to work with local early childhood centres to bring them into the Puketāpapa CoL.

You may ask what is happening in the CoL space? What does it look like to a parent at any of the schools? What will they notice that is different?

The Government has provided funding for some professional development for teachers and for some additional teaching staff. These additional teaching staff are leaders working across all of the schools. These teachers are working at many different levels in the 6 schools and parents may see or hear a focus of professional development being discussed across the 6 schools.

The CoL’s first task was to develop trust and confidence using a ‘work with’ approach. There has been a focus on developing middle leaders in each of the schools. These are leaders who understand what good teaching inquiry looks like across the schools. You may have noticed that some teachers have now taken on additional CoL duties.

Another of the CoL goals is to develop a common language across the Community, initially focussing on Maths. Over the next few years you may see some changes to the language of some subjects as they are aligned across the schools.

We know that children struggle with the transition from one school to another. The CoL is working on an agreed approach to transitioning students between schools for the 2019 year. One aim is for students to know that the learning in their new school will follow on from the learning at their previous school.

Targets have been set to lift student outcomes in areas where the data shows that they are not doing as well as they could. Collecting agreed data is another CoL goal as if you can’t measure it then you can’t change the practice.

The Puketāpapa CoL has been operational for just over a year and there has been a huge amount of growth and understanding in that time.

The village which is educating your child is the Puketāpapa CoL.

The MRGS Board of Trustees receives regular updates on the CoL through the principal reports. If you wish to read in more detail about what is happening in the CoL space, check out the minutes on the MRGS website.



OUTSTANDING SUCCESS

In March, Education Perfect ran a competition for Maths and Science. Once again MRGS did very well, finishing 5th out of 285 schools (98th percentile).



Outstanding results were obtained by:

Name		World Ranking	Score	Award
Ansh	Angurala	39th	6,745	Gold
Rachel	Huang	60th	4,670	Gold
Zoe	Fuller	69th	4,348	Gold
Ausaaf	Mohammed	89th	3,607	Gold
Haniyah	Zamora	117th	3,076	Gold
Lisa	Schumacher	123rd	3,021	Gold
Jordan	Fuller	162nd	2,441	Silver

Congratulations to all the students who participated and to those who gained awards.

SECONDARY SCHOOLS EQUESTRIAN CUP

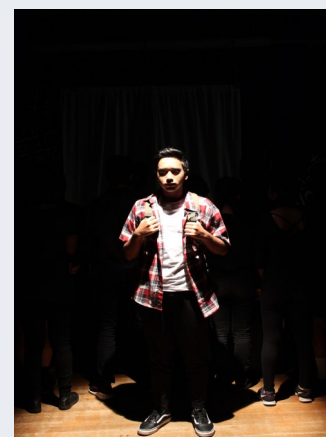


On the 12th April Emma Baker and her horse “Ronaldo” took part in the Secondary School Equestrian Cup. This was held at Woodhill Sands in West Auckland. The pair competed well and went round the jumps set at 80cm with ease. The second round at 90cm was more demanding as Ronaldo had not competed at that height before. Ronaldo had 3 rails down but behaved impeccably for Emma and was impressively calm despite the large number of other horses and riders around. Hopefully we will see the pair compete for the school in more competitions in the future.



NOUGHTS AND CROSSES

The Year 13 Drama whanau performed their production of 'Noughts and Crosses', a play by Dominic Cooke from the original novel by Malorie Blackman in early April to three sold out crowds. They performed professionally and with such ensemble and self awareness that all students gained a Merit and above in their assessment. A big thank you to the staff and students involved backstage, especially Ella Mavaega for her composition of the score for the show, and Rocky Parsons and Sam Halalilo for their accompaniment on the drums and double bass.



WIZARD OF OTAHUHU

Congratulations to the eight Mt Roskill members of The Wizard of Otahuhu; Nimeti Akatere, Justin and Tristin Katoa, 'Isope 'Akau'ola, Netane Taukiuvea, Ella Mavaega and ex students Josephine and Talia-Rae Mavaega. These students auditioned for the large-scale musical performed at Mangere Arts Centre and all made the final cut, performing beautifully over 17 shows! For many of them, it was their first public show, but the audience couldn't have known that; they performed with such energy, had killer dance moves, hilarious moments and facial expressions. The Performing Arts Dept. are so very proud of you all.





PEER MEDIATION SERVICE 2018

“Being a Mediator is about being with my chosen family. Being with a group of students from different religions, cultures and ages working together towards the important goal of world peace”. Year 12 Mediator.

The Peer Mediation Service is about supporting students to deal with conflict in a constructive way without violence. It is about standing up for fairness and respect for all, dealing with bullying and helping students get support when needed. It is about being an active bystander against all forms of bullying so that every student can feel free to be who they are at MRGS.

In March, 115 new Mediators were trained by the Peace Foundation which involves learning effective communication and conflict resolution skills. A further 50 Advanced Mediators received a whole days training from the Peace Foundation and other LEADR adult Mediators, many of them being lawyers. Other Advanced training was provided by Youthlaw (Youth Rights & Responsibilities) Julie Watson (Race relations), and SHINE (the effects of violence). A new training was provided by the awesome PSSP team on sexual and gender diversity which involved learning how to stand up against homophobic and transphobic harassment.

A big thank you to all our incredible providers of training for our Mediators, and a huge thank you to those Mediators who all work so hard to make MRGS a safer, kinder more respectful place to be.

If any student is experiencing conflict or bullying please come to Student Services for confidential support from the Peer Mediation Service.





TOP FLIGHT BADMINTON CHAMPION

Lucas Mitchell from Year 9, was crowned a triple champion at North Island/Auckland U15 Badminton Championship. Recently held at the Auckland Badminton Association. Lucas won the Boys Singles, Boys Doubles and Mixed Doubles titles.

He joins Ian Busby (year 10) as an Auckland U17 representative player.



GATEWAY TO SUCCESS

Vea and Marlin and Glorielle and Natasha are loving a work placement opportunity through Gateway at Countdown.

They are attending the Three Kings and Mt Roskill branches and are enjoying understanding what happens behind the scenes of their local supermarkets. Through opportunities such as these students learn reliability, the importance of being on time, and how work places function.

They complete comprehensive work books and unit standards. As a result, at Countdown 19 credits level 2 are achievable.



ANZ work experience is more of an observing situation where students observe customer service and administration skills in five work placement days. Combined with this, is a holiday 4 day course about customer service, sales, presentation and legal and health and safety issues at the International Travel College. This work experience is fabulous on the students CV, and can lead to part time work at head office at ANZ in the city when at University.



YOUNG FREE PASIFIKA ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Brown, Brainy, Beautiful and Be who you are.



Young Free Pasifika Annual conference was hosted by Affirming Works Organisation. The theme was to encourage young Pasifika Girls to explore, empower and embrace who they are through workshops and inspirational speakers, in order to empower themselves and fulfil their potential through innovative mentoring and education, to develop into influential leaders who will contribute positively towards their communities.

The girls came away really excited by what they learned and motivated by the success of speakers to persevere and challenge themselves and others.

The legends of Nafanua (Samoan) and Talamasina (Tongan) were female warriors who paved the way for all Pasifika women to be leaders.



The GirlBoss NZ workshop was aimed at Year 11-13 Maori and Pasifika girls who have an interest in STEAM Subjects (Science, Tech, Engineering, Arts, and Maths) and wanted to learn about and explore the impact they can have in these fields. It was an inspiring workshop for those who want to make positive change in their communities, and maximise their impact through science and technology. All 30 girls from MRGS who participated received merchandise and free membership of GirlBoss NZ. It was a wonderful fun day and the girls left inspired and ready to tackle the world. It's important to note that before the programme 38 % of attendees were interested in a STEAM pathway but after they had completed it 91 % said they were more likely to follow a STEAM Pathway.

Some of the reflections from the girls included:

"That I have the potential and power to make a change (and help others) in the world today".

"That we as women are strong and we all have the power to be whatever we want to be. We have girl power and we can all strive and succeed"



JAPANESE RESTAURANT TRIP

On Wednesday 4th of April, 14 senior students studying Japanese were able to have the amazing opportunity to have a set dinner meal at an authentic Japanese restaurant named Nishiki, located in Freemans Bay. It was a great experience tasting the wide variety of Japanese cuisine such as, teriyaki chicken, sushi, tempura, tofu, dumplings, and much more. It was interesting seeing the students struggle with their chopstick skills, however everyone did fairly well. The meal was nicely finished off with a scoop of ice-cream with a range of flavours that students could choose from, the green tea and sesame flavoured ice cream is a must-try! Many thanks to Miss Kojima and Mrs Cave for organising this event.

-Julie Yi



GETTING BETTER WITH AGE

The wonderful old lady of the music department has recently undergone a complete refurbishment.

With a total refit of all the internal workings, the richness that comes from the age of the wood is now echoing round the music department.

Students and staff are thrilled to be able to play such a fabulous instrument and are planning to share the experience with our wider community in a series of concerts and recitals in the coming months.

Thanks to the Board of Trustees and the school leadership for supporting this project.





AUCKLAND REGIONAL DEBATING TOURNAMENT 2018

Three teams representing MRGS took part in the annual Auckland regional debating tournament towards the end of Term 2. The day started at 8 30am at Diocesan school for Girls. Teams were formally welcomed by the **Hon** Nikki Kaye. She gave an inspirational speech about the importance of understanding a diverse range of viewpoints.

MRGS teams competed in four debates with topics including whether artists (e.g. pop stars) should not perform in countries which commit significant human rights abuses to whether the feminist movement should encourage women to wear makeup.

The tournament was great for the development of MRGS Debating and our teams thoroughly enjoyed their day.



DEBATING @ MRGS

We are at the mid-way point of our Debating season. MRGS has received great interest and enthusiasm for debating this year. Competing in the Auckland Schools Debating competition are four teams competing at Junior Open grade, three at Senior Open grade and one team at Advanced Open grade.

Teams have been working hard at preparing their cases and competing across all the grades.



ANZAC DAY PARADE

Prefects gathered at May Road War Memorial on ANZAC Day, April 25th, to honour the New Zealanders and Australians which served during the 1915 Gallipoli War. Our head boy, Zane Chaudry, and deputy head girl, Hana Galea, laid a wreath in honour whilst prefects stood in respect. The morning continued with various hymns, speeches and a moment of silence before being dismissed to enjoy the rest of the sunny day.



NZDC AUTUMN SCHOOL

During the Autumn school break Maree Gasvleisch (Yr 13), Sheida Tavita (Yr 11) and Una van Dalen (Yr 10) were awarded scholarships to take part in the NZ Dance Company's Autumn School intensive. This was a week of gruelling training where they learnt four pieces in varying styles. Two of these dances were originally choreographed for the company's professional dancers - so were very technically challenging. They took this in their stride and although bruised and sore performed the works they learnt at the end of the week on Friday 27 April. Well done girls - you were incredible!



INDIAN DANCER RECOGNIZED

Congratulations to Abhishek Ravi (Year 10) who just finished competing in the international Cleveland Thyagaraja Festival Dance Competition 2018. He placed 2nd in the Sub Junior Traditional category (13-14 y/os) and placed 3rd in the Sub Junior Invocation category (13-14 y/os). Abhishek is well known in Auckland Indian Dance scene for his beautiful performances and it is fabulous to see him representing Mt Roskill and wider New Zealand at this international festival.





GIRLS VOLLEYBALL—OUTSTANDING ON AND OFF THE COURT

The following letter was received after the girls volleyball team returned from the National Championships.

Hi there,

I just wanted to take the time to write to you to say what a wonderful experience we had with your Senior Girls Volleyball team and coaching staff at the National Championships last week in Palmerston North.

We initially had them as a duty team in which they conducted themselves very professionally and always with smiles on their faces.

Over the next couple of days we found ourselves on similar court/times as the team and they were always friendly, positive and encouraging.

When we were playing our final game, they came over to our game after theirs had finished and supported and cheered our team on (which resulted in quite a come back in the set from our team).

I am sure you know this about your team already, but I know it is always nice to receive emails where the general public and other schools are witnessing first-hand what great girls you have and how well they conduct themselves, and represent your school when away at tournaments.

We look forward to seeing them at Nationals again next year

Kind regards,

Paula Rule



MEAR LEADERSHIP GROUP

" On Monday 19th of March, ME.A.R. leadership group attended World Vision's Youth Conference 2018. The day outlined to ignite passion for justice and equality in young New Zealand Students. We learnt the benefit of working together with gratitude. We became more open minded of our world and the conference taught us to not only come together as humanity but as a family. It was a life changing experience to witness others who have inspiring stories and express them in a unique way." - Marwa Slaimankhel.





SUCCESS AT MRGS AND BEYOND

Congratulations to Jiordyn Hoeft (current Yr 12 MRGS Dance student) and his crew Yung ID for placing First at NZ Hip Hop Nationals in the mega crew division and will now be representing NZ at the Hip Hop World champs!!! In PFA Dept graduate news, on 21st April Avneil Mohan (2016) and Myke Hoeft (2013) competed together at Street Talk 2v2 battles and placed second. Neil also competed at Hip Hop National Championships with Happy Feet and came second.

PFA OUT AND ABOUT

The PFA students have been on many trips so far this year. Year 11-13 Drama went to the Pop Up Globe in Ellerslie to see 'A Midsummer Nights Dream' which was very funny and kept the students engaged the whole way through. The Year 13 Drama class also saw the international touring production of '1984'. A range of senior Dance students went to see Side B, work by Trip the Light Dance Company. Our own teacher Caitlin Thompson stage managed the show which was interesting for our learners to see. Orpheus by New Zealand Dance Company at The Civic Theatre was also attended by our senior Dance students and was a fabulous evening out. All trips that our Performing Arts students go on benefit them in many ways - they help the students to think of new ideas and approaches in their practical internal work, but some classes also use this knowledge in their externals.



HEALTHY SANDWICH DAY

SUCCESSFUL, POWERFUL LEARNERS ACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE CITIZENS

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YEAR 10 FRENCH—RESTAURANT TRIP

The Year 10 French Café Trip to Eiffel en Eden was a marvellous experience and about 50 Year 10 French pupils were there, I'm pretty sure it made everyone excited. I really loved the fact that we all ordered things in French and the decorative look like the French street lamps and the salt and pepper shakers in the form of an Eiffel Tower.

There was a variety of food to choose from that made the trip spectacular. I found it fun when we had to communicate and order in French. Some names of food items were new to us but it was fun giving it a go and it made us laugh. I loved the food, especially the "religieuse" pastries because of the chocolate mousse custard inside. We could also order snails "escargots" and it was exciting when the first person ordered because everyone seemed tense when they watched the snails being eaten. Other things ordered included: Un pain au chocolat, une tarte aux pommes, un éclair au chocolat, un croissant aux amandes, etc.

We were lucky enough to have a French waitress sing songs for us including "Aux Champs-Élysées". It was such an awesome trip and I look forward to going to a French Restaurant in Year 11. Thank you to the teachers who were there: Mr McAlpine, Miss Robertson and Mr Lett.

- Rachel Ogbuze



HEALTHY SANDWICH DAY

The Health Committee organised their annual 'Healthy Sandwich Day' towards the end of term 1. The event aims not only to provide a healthy lunchtime snack to the hard-working MRGS students but also to give them ideas about ways they can be more healthy in their daily lives.

The huge turnout means the message was well received,. Our thanks to all the staff and sponsors who supported the event,





NZJS HAIKU AND SHODO (CALLIGRAPHY) COMPETITION

At the end of last year I entered the Haiku and Shodo (calligraphy) competition. My Haiku was 'True beauty lies beyond visible masks'. I got short listed and was selected to go to an interview with the people hosting the competition, NZ Japan Society. I was interviewed by 3 officials and my interview was very long because I was talking so much! They began with testing my Japanese speaking abilities and they also asked some questions in English. They questioned me about how I wrote my Haiku, why I wrote it, if I had been to Japan before and what I have learnt and more. After a few weeks they notified me that I got the Highly Commended award and I attended the prize giving ceremony at the Consulate General of Japan in Auckland.

Bhavya Jasti



JAPANESE TRADITIONAL COSTUME

On the 15th of March, Students taking Japanese this year were fortunate enough to get a visit from two Japanese Embassy representatives led by Mr Hayasaka. We received an insightful introduction to the traditional clothing of Japan; the Yukata and the Kimono. After this, we were told that we were going to be trying on the Yukata which is only worn during the summer in Japan. We went through the complicated process of putting on the "obi" sash with which a majority of us struggled with but luckily, Mr Hayasaka's assistant, Fumiko supported us and we were done in a jiffy!

We then went to show off our Yukatas to our peers and received a booklet regarding the beautiful and interesting history of Japan. It was a very memorable experience and I am sure many of us can definitely say that it was the first time trying on such an elegant yet complicated piece of clothing!

Jackie Lu





NZIIU—EDUCATION PERFECT FRANCE EXCHANGE 2018

In January this year I was lucky enough to experience life in France for 3 months, as one of the recipients of the NZIIU and Education Perfect scholarship! I stayed at a small village called Felling, in a valley surrounded by mountains. Felling belongs to the region of Alsace, situated in the North-East of France, with both French and German heritage.

One of the biggest highlights of my exchange was definitely being a high school student at Lycée Scheurer-Kestner. I made valuable connections with my classmates who are now some of my closest friends, even though we are currently 18,435km away from each other. School started at 8am and finished at 4 or 5.30pm, with 7 to 8 periods each day! It was pretty full on since most subjects were in 2-hour blocks, with some taking up 3 hours in one day. Another difference was that you can't choose every subject, but you have to choose a pathway from Science, Economics, or Literature.

Every moment in France was a great learning experience. Being immersed in a French environment is a really effective way to learn the language. Through interactions at school and with my host family, I made a lot of progress in my French speaking and comprehension. Every day there would be new, thought-provoking things that kept popping up. Aside from learning about the language, culture, and lifestyle, I also learnt how to be more independent and to manage myself better.

Learning another language really does help you understand different cultures and perspectives, and opens up a whole new world of opportunities. If you're thinking of doing an exchange, don't be indecisive about it! It truly is a part of your life that you will never forget since it impacts you in so many ways.

I would like to say a big thank you to NZIIU, Education Perfect, CEI, my French teachers Mr. McAlpine and Miss Robertson, and my family for supporting me from before the exchange, throughout, and after.

For more information about student exchanges, you're welcome to ask me or visit the NZIIU website: <http://www.student-exchange.co.nz/>

For more details about my exchange, here's my blog: <https://thatpenguininfrance.wordpress.com/>

Ellen Peng





WATER POLO ON THE RISE

The MRGS junior water polo team competed in two one day tournaments during term one. The overall results were outstanding with the team winning four games drawing one game and losing one game. It was a great effort overall by all players involved things are looking very promising for the rest of the junior season commencing in term 4.

The MRGS Senior A team finished middle of the table in the Auckland Senior B Boys competition. Overall this was a very pleasing result as the team had moved up into this grade this year. The team improved greatly over the season. This was shown with the team easily winning their playoff game with no subs comfortably beat Auckland Grammar 8 -2.

The MRGS Senior B team finished middle of the table in the Auckland Senior C Boys competition. Considering this is a development squad and the majority of the team are juniors there were some very pleasing results. The team was often playing teams much larger and older than them but this didn't stop there being some great games. The last game of their season they thrashed Waitakere College 14 - 1 in a very physical game. There were several great individual contributions by Oscar Mackenzie scoring 4 goals, Josie Noller scoring 3 goals and Josh Lyon scoring 3 goals. Great effort from a predominantly junior mixed team playing in a senior boys competition.

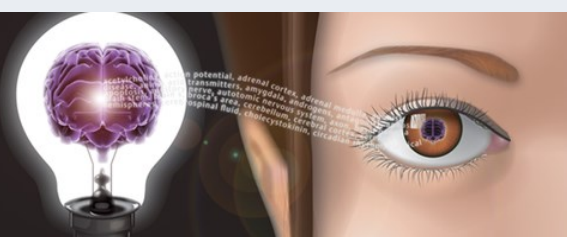


BRAIN BEE 2018

16 students competed in in Brain Bee Challenge 2018 Round 1 on the 16th March. The Round 1 multiple-choice quiz challenged students to recall knowledge and expertise in Neuroscience. 5 students, Vinayak Joshi, Rishi Shukla, Bhavya Jasti, Mizanur Miah and Matthew Mitra qualified to compete in the North Island Finals on the 5th July 2018 to be held in the Faculty of Medical and Health Sciences, the University of Auckland. There they will visit neuroscientists in their laboratories and see some science in action and attend lectures from University professors.

Mount Roskill Grammar has previous won the New Zealand Brain Bee Challenge team competition in 2015 and we are looking forward to some great results from these students this year.

New Zealand
Brain Bee Challenge





TAHI—A PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

The Performing Arts Whanau showcased their current academic work in a Term 1 performance called Tahi: A Showcase. This included students from 10PFA, 11-13Dance and 11-12Drama. We called the performance Tahi to celebrate the first term, as well as a number of other 'firsts'... For many it was their first time on stage, and this was a celebration of their bravery. We showcased Commedia dell'Arte (Italian masked comedy pieces) as well as a range of teacher and student choreographed Dance and a few passion-projects. The performance went very well... Thanks to the students for managing themselves so well and a big thanks to the backstage and Front of House team for supporting us.



PERFORMING ARTS UNCOVERING NEW TALENT

The PFA Department has been trying to recruit new members to their whanau. We have so much natural talent in our school and we want to have that talent in front of us in the classroom! One way we have tried to do this so far this year, is having taster sessions where kids can learn from professional dancers in lunch time sessions. We have had Elvin Wong from Identity Dance Company who took a Hip Hop set, as well as Xavier Breed (University of Auckland Pasifika Contemporary Choreographer) and Elijah Kennar (Atamira Dance Company) and Logan Collis (Vogue and Waacking performer) who have taught a range of styles. Thanks to those students who took advantage of this free exciting opportunity!

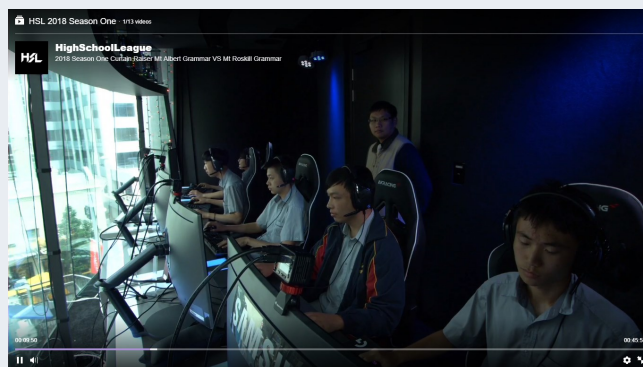




MRGS E-SPORTS STILL STRONG

Coming from our success as the two times defending champ, the MRGS Premier Team overshadowed every other school with their perfect score throughout the pool matches in the HSL tournament. In the first split of HSL 2018, the team made their way into the national semi-finals and was placed 3rd equal in the country.

The success of MRGS Esports is not limited at the premier level, the MRGS Challenger Team quietly climbed their way up the competition and also 3rd equal in the challenger division with a perfect score in their pool matches to match our top team.



YEAR 11 PE TRAMP

As a part of the 11 PE Tramping Unit Standard, 30 MRGS students planned to tramp through the Okura Bush on Tuesday 10th April. Leaving for the Okura Bush Walkway in the morning we were prepared to face some incoming stormy weather on our journey. The first hour to the Dacre Cottage was dry and we felt we might be getting lucky. Twenty minutes into our lunch break we were hit with heavy rain, hail, thunder and lightning! We all managed to huddle under a shelter but eventually made a run for it. The final hour was a sodden trek through heavy bush but the students showed good resolve and made light of the situation to finally reach the bus soaked from head to toe. A character-building experience for both staff and students!





THEATRE WORKSHOP

On May 18th Tama Jarman of the very successful 'White Face Theatre Crew' came to visit Mt Roskill Grammar School to work with the Year 11 and 12 Drama classes. Tama has been working with The Basement Theatre Company in order to bring this free energising workshop to our students which taught them about working together and giving your energy and focus to the performance. The students loved working with Tama and left energised and excited to take this learning into their own work. Thanks to Tama and The Basement for their continued support of Mt Roskill Grammar School Performing Arts.



EN GARDE

Fencing at Mount Roskill Grammar School has begun. It is an Olympic sport requiring balance and good reflexes. The team meets in gym one on Mondays from 3.15 and we have space for more keen and dedicated fencers to join us (no experience required).

Please see Mr Thompson (HOD Physics, in P6) for more details or email

Jonathan.Thompson@MRGS.School.NZ





YEAR 12 BIOLOGY TRIP

150 students visited the Waitakere Ranges to collect data for their Ecology internal assessment. They were taught and assisted by rangers from Arataki Visitors Centre and learned about the ecological relationships between plants and trees in the forest, focussing on the stratification of the forest in response to the availability of light from the top down.



WELCOMING THE COMMUNITY

"On the 19th of February a lively, diverse group of 18 refugee students from the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre came to visit Mt Roskill Grammar School (MRGS) hoping to get a glimpse of what this "new life" would have in store. The students were from Afghanistan, Palestine, Syria, Iran, Myanmar and Columbia. A group of MRGS refugee background students were buddies with a refugee student. The aim was to be an example an opportunity to experience what being a school student in New Zealand was like. We showed them that through perseverance, language would no longer be a barrier but a challenge that we can overcome. The day consisted of showing the visitors around our school and exploring the extracurricular activities available and the experience of class room settings. We all had an enjoyable and successful day. This not only benefited the newly arrived refugee students but us too, as we have made life-long friends and our ties will forever be connected. A special thanks to Mrs Dunchie-Coley, Miss Ali and the Mangere Refugee Resettlement Centre for the opportunity." - Ammynah Kezo





SKY HIGH CAREER?

Gateway students recently attended a Flight Attendant 2 day course through Gateway, This course was held at International Travel College.

An excellent introduction to the industry and a place students can do a fuller 6 month course when they leave school. These specialist places that Gateway opportunities give students a real taste of working life.



GAINING EXPERIENCE IS KEY

