

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

After the fantastic events of the last few weeks we are back on schedule. It has been a special time for New Zealand hosting the rugby world cup and it has been fantastic to see the enjoyment and goodwill amongst people in recognising the skill and commitment of players from so many nations. Our congratulations to the All Blacks! This is the last week for our senior students prior study leave for the NCEA exams which begin on November 10th. Families can help students by discussing approaches to revision. Planning a study programme that takes into account the date for each exam is an essential step. Studying in several shorter chunks of time is often more productive than one long session each day. At this stage it's important that students are doing lots of practice questions. After all questions are what students will be facing in the examinations. Doing practice questions helps identify gaps in learning and focuses students on providing the information in the manner required by each question. Practice questions can be found on the 'study it' web site, the school i-Learn site, or in class notes. Junior students have end of year exams starting on November 14th.



It was very good to see many students in at school during the term 3 break completing assessment work and participating in tutorials. About 150 students attended mathematics tutorials over each of four days! Well done to the students and thank you to our teachers who gave their time.

Also during the term 3 holidays the launch dinner of the Sursum Foundation, a group of past students and teachers was held in the school hall. The Foundation is raising funds to support education at the school. Over 200 guests hosted by our prefects and the under 15 boys rugby team dined together and enjoyed a speech from former Principal Colin Prentice and a fundraising auction led by Keith Dowdle, son of former Principal Charlie Dowdle. Congratulations to Nick Tuialii and the Foundation for their organisation of the evening and their enterprise in establishing the Foundation. Information about the Foundation is on the school web site.

School Donations

Thank you to everyone who has paid the 2011 school donation. The money is greatly needed and contributes towards support of our co-curricular allowing purchase of sporting, music and performing arts equipment. This year donations received are running behind recent years—understandably in the current difficult economic times. We would greatly appreciate any further donations (or part donations).

Greg Watson
PRINCIPAL

2011 LANGUAGE PERFECT WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

Well done to our amazing MRGS pupils!

80,000 pupils + 1,000 schools + 11 countries + 36 million questions answered!

Mt Roskill Grammar participated in this Worldwide Languages Competition by internet and gained the following impressive results:

- * 5th school in World overall (2nd in New Zealand)
- * 2nd school in World for French (Top in New Zealand)
- * 9th school in World for Japanese
- * 12th school in World for Maori
- * 1st school in World for schools entering between 251-500 pupils
- * 39 Gold Medallists (3,000+ points)
- * 12 Silver Medallists (2,000+ points)
- * 45 Bronze medallists (1,000+ points)
- * 42 Excellence Certificates (500+ points)

Ziwei Zhuang of 902 was not only a Gold Medallist for Japanese, but she won the **top prize in the whole competition** – a 32GB iPod Touch!!

Padmini Nunna of Y11 French gained 2nd place in the World for French, 13th place overall, with a staggering 16,802 points! Well done Padmini!

Next year's competition dates are out: **21-31 May 2012** – Cost = \$5, please see www.languageperfect.co.nz

MRGS Gold Medallists are: Padmini Nunna, Venkat Prakash, Emma Bos, Karen Dias, Ally Graves, Pauline Najooan, Pooja Patel, Jiantao Shen, Krithika Prahallad, Srishaa Iyer, Ilaisane Mafi, Miriam Albadrawi, Shilpan Patel, Jenny Lee, Vanessa Wang, Emman Rahimi, Anandita Umapathy, Alice Ng, Cindy Ou, Diane Qiu, Soo Ling Tran, Roza Ridwan, Pebble Varela, Rachel Fan, Gandhar Paranjape, Angie Sun, Rachel Sun, Abhay Vaidya, Ziwei Zhuang, Daniel Christev, Ishank Sharma, Benny Chun, Jordan Chen, Gary Zhang, Mildred Wong, Aimee Matthews, Linda Zhou, Rayner Rebello, Theodore Loretz.

2011 ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE FRENCH SPEAKING COMPETITION



Ayesha Nadat, Taina Puloka & Audrey Tay were Regional Finalists

Overall results are:

Year 11: Ayesha Nadat (Excellent), Hannah Yang (Bien), Meghna Shelke (Encouragement), Grace Wang (Assez Bien), Arnab Sen (Bien)Ç

Year 12: Taina Puloka (Excellent), Shilpan Patel (Très

Bien), Daniel Christev (Bien)

Year 13: Audrey Tay (Excellent), Roza Ridwan (Très Bien).

JAPANESE SPEECH FESTIVAL



Congratulations to **Veronica Lumauig** who took part in the recent Japanese Speech Festival. Veronica gave a dynamic and humorous speech about her life in the Philippines and the huge adjustments she had to make upon her arrival in New Zealand. Her speech won over the judges and she was awarded second prize in the Year 11 category.

SCIENCE FAIR



Congratulations to our young scientists for putting so much work into some great **Science Fair 2011** projects.

Finalists in the Mt Roskill Grammar competition were:

Korine Rosarine, Alfred Reuben, Hugh Huang, Vilia Li, Chloe Haigh, Vanessa Thong, Jairaj Modak, Abin Thomas, Ayushi Pillai, Joel Raichur, Scott Caldwell, Balu Mallela.



Winners in the Auckland wide science competition were:

Jairaj Modak, Year 9, "The Most Aerodynamic Building" 1st place Physical World Y9-10

Shreya Handa, Year 13, "Cosmetic Controversies" 3rd place Senior Science

Shreya's project also won the following prizes: Silver Award, Dairy NZ Excellence in Biological Science Silver Award, University of Auckland Faculty of Science, Junior Scientist Award. Nomination to Royal Society of New Zealand "Realise the Dream" competition.

BOT INFORMATION

Congratulations to **Daniel Christev** of **BAFL**. Daniel was voted as the new student representative for the Board of Trustees.

SPORT AWARDS 2012

In October we held our annual Colours ceremony and presented awards to our top sports people and teams.

The Richardson Trophy for overall contribution to girl's sport:

Swatna Lal
Mr Martin Windsor
Squash Senior A Boys
Volleyball Premier Girls
Oshan Malifa
Lizzie Apisala
Metia Lisati
Mr Ciaran Overton
Sarah Deverell
Hayden Ng

The Nattrass Family Trophy for Spirit of Sport:

MRGS Boys team of the Year:

MRGS Girls team of the Year:

Gold award:

Best all-round sportswoman:

Best all-round sportsman:

Coach of the Year:

Sportswoman of the Year and Dux Ludorum:

Sportsman of the Year:

PEACE WEEK



Last term was full of many highlights. One of them was Peace Week. This is run by the School Mediators with the support of the Body Image Leaders and the Peer Sexuality Support People. This year along with the usual activities of face painting, peace ribbons, peace quotes competition, peace assembly presentation, peace T-shirts and Peace with Your Body Day, the Mediators included four new initiatives. Instead of the Mediators creating the Peace

Banner students and staff were given the opportunity to create a School Peace Banner by writing their own messages of love and peace. Two Random Acts of Kindness boxes were set up, one for staff and one for students. Many students and staff acknowledged each other for their acts of kindness and these were in turn rewarded by the Mediators. The Mediators also held a sausage sizzle and raised \$140 for Amnesty International. The final event of the week was our Peace Walk into the Roskill community. This was an amazing celebration of love, peace, positivity and unity.

WIDER EDUCATION YEARS 9 & 10

Wider education this year runs in the last week of school from the 5th, 6th and 7th of December. It is an opportunity for all to be involved in valuable learning activities that are based outside of the classroom. Students will be challenged via a range of media, tasks and learning intentions designed to develop problem solving and social skills. Students will get the opportunity to make new friends, see new places and interact with other students, all while having fun completing a wide range of activities.

Year 9

Year 9 Wider Education comprises day trips that are based around the Auckland area. They are designed to be activities that you might not normally be involved with but are fun and designed to challenge students.

Year 10

As a Year 10 student your son/daughter will be required to attend a camp or three day trips.

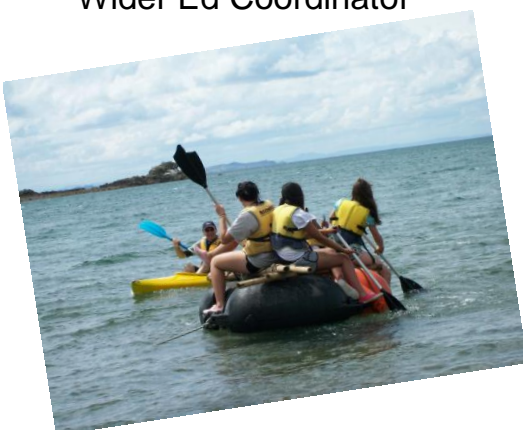
This programme has been developed to enable all students to participate in a learning experience that takes them away from their familiar home comforts. Students will have the opportunity to develop their life and social interaction skills through learning activities based outside the classroom.

Most camps are based outside of the Auckland area and students will be travelling to these destinations by bus or mini bus. Risk appraisal and management plans will be completed for each camp to ensure your child's safety.

This year the trips and camps cover a wide range of activities and venues, and although there is a cost associated with each camp we have endeavoured to keep these to a minimum. A deposit of \$25 for day trips and \$50 for residential trips is needed to secure placement as soon as possible and final payment is due by 11 November. A reminder that Wider Education is a compulsory three days of school covering components of the Education Outside the Classroom curriculum here at Mt Roskill Grammar.

For further information please refer to the handout given to students by form teachers.

A Ferguson
Wider Ed Coordinator



UNIFORM REMINDERS

- Year 11 students change to senior uniform next year as Year 12s –shirt/blouse with grey crest and collar and red jersey or vest.
- Senior students are entitled to wear a regulation blazer (optional) which must be paid for at the Accounts office at Admin at the time of order.
- Uniform items that need to be custom made (larger than women's size 24 and men's size 3XL) will cost a minimum of \$10 per item if ordered in 2012 conditions apply. Please speak to uniform shop staff. Items ordered and paid for in 2011 will not incur the extra cost. Students ordering made-to-measure items can pay at the Accounts Office at MRGS while the uniform shop is being relocated. Please note: made to measure items take at least 4 weeks to be made at this busy time of the year.
- Orders for blazers and made-to-measure items require a student to collect an order form then take it to the manufacturer: Elizabeth Michael, 357 New North Rd, Kingsland, for a fitting. Custom made items and blazers are then delivered to MRGS for collection by students.
- Donations of Uniform are always welcome – even socks! Please drop them to reception in either the main office or the Deans' Centre.
- Ties are for Year 13 students only.

The uniform shop has moved. The new location is at the MRGS Gate 3 car park, Frost Road. The shop will reopen on Friday 25th November 8 – 9am, 3 – 4pm, Monday 5th December 8 – 10am, 2.30 – 4pm, then Tuesday 6th and Wednesday 7th December 8.00 – 9.00am and 3.00 - 4.00pm. The shop will reopen in the New Year on Tuesday 17th January. Check the MRGS website for 2012 opening days and times. This information will also be published in the Central Leader.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THE BEGINNING OF 2012

Wednesday 25th January: Testing of new students

Thursday 26th January

10.00 am	Year 13 course confirmation in the top of H Block	THK ADs HDs
11.30 am	Year 12 course confirmation in the top of H Block	THK ADs HDs
1.00-3.00 pm	Peer support training	RNY HDs

Thursday 2 February

Powhiri for new students: Years 9, 13 and all new students must attend.

Friday 3 February

All students – classes begin.

REVISION FOR NCEA EXAMINATIONS

By now students sitting NCEA exams should be revising seriously for their exams. They should also be practising answering exam questions within the time limit that they should allow for each question in the exam. There are two websites that students would find particularly useful: www.studyit.org.nz has tips for study as well as past examination papers and exemplars. www.nzqa.govt.nz has exam papers and exemplars for the past 5 years. Students should go into the section Helpful tips for students where they will find a link which takes them to a list of subjects they can choose from.

LOCAL SANTA PARADE

Mt Roskill Town Centre, Saturday 26 November 2011

Puketapapa (Mt Roskill) Local Board are looking for ways of bringing our communities together and one way is through local events. If you would like to be a part of the organising group, have a float and/or a performance for this event please contact: Ella Kumar on 021 0477 642 ella.kumar@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz or Sue Blainey on 09 624 4941 sue.blainey@aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

TRADE ME WANTS TO HELP OUR SCHOOL

Trade Me will donate \$5 to our school every time someone lists their service in the Services category on [Trade Me](http://www.trademe.co.nz) (for the first time) before 31 December 2011, then emails 5bucks@trademe.co.nz with the following information:

- the email address they use on Trade Me;
- the name of the school they wish to support (please state our school's name!); and
- the school's location.

All sorts of people advertise their services on Trade Me's Services section, including tutors, babysitters, builders, gardeners, lawyers, hairdressers and others.

It's a great place to let the 2.8 million Trade Me members know what you can do and it only costs \$19 for a 90 day listing. You can find the Services section of Trade Me at www.trademe.co.nz/services

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

TERM 2		
November	Wednesday 2	SENIOR PRIZEGIVING
	Thursday 10 – Wednesday 30	NCEA EXAMS
	Wednesday 16-Friday 18	JUNIOR EXAMS
	Friday 25	TEACHER ONLY DAY
December	Friday 9	JUNIOR PRIZEGIVING
TERM DATES 2011		
Term 4	Tuesday 25 October	Friday 9 December