



MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

FEBRUARY/MARCH
2017

NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

Welcome to 2017 at Mt Roskill Grammar School!

It has been a pleasure meeting families new to the school at the powhiri and families evening. Getting the mentoring partnerships underway in the senior school for 2017 has been a great opportunity to review achievements for 2016 and to shape goals and actions for this year.

NCEA

Our provisional NCEA results last year were our best ever at each of levels 1,2 and 3. Great achievement outcomes are so rewarding for teachers and families who work hard to support our students. The opportunities and self-belief that such success provides each student is tremendous. Standout successes were the 66 students who gained an excellence endorsement from NCEA Level 2 and the 50 scholarships gained across 12 different subjects. Congratulations to Kelly Liang, Anirudh Bhatnagar, Rithvick Murali and Aditi Ramalingam who gained three or more scholarships and will have their names added to the school's scholarship honours board.

School Dux

We have invited Holly Porter to join Deeksha Vijayakumar as co- Dux of the school for 2016. Their achievement was always close and a piece of achievement information that went missing made a difference. Congratulations to Holly and to Deeksha on their excellent achievement.

Leadership

This year we welcome three new members of the Senior Leadership Team. Associate Principals Terry Storer and Janine Tupaea, and Deputy Principal Desmond Pemerika bring outstanding leadership capability and experience to our school. They are all enjoying meeting students and families. Congratulations to Ojas Shukla and Emma Thompson who are our Head Prefects for 2017. They will be ably supported by deputies TJ Apulu, Siosaia Tuitupou, Meleana Puloka and Caera Judge.

We are a community of optimists, a family focused on the support and achievement of each student. Our students' sense of pride and purpose makes reaching the heights very obtainable.

Sursum!

Greg Watson

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

Phone: 621-0050

Website: www.mrgs.school.nz

Frost Road
Mount Roskill
Auckland 1041



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. In recent years parental donations have assisted the school in providing class sets of chrome books to enable a wider range of students to use these devices as part of their learning. We completed the upgrade of the hockey turf, installing drinking fountains and a practice turf facility. The senior common room was refurbished and re-branded as the Hodge Learning Commons and provides an excellent flexible learning space for lessons and for co-curricular groups. We installed further perimeter fencing and donations also helped with the running of our afterschool homework centres.

This year we are looking to begin a three year roll out of a new uniform for sports teams, complete the refurbishment of the swimming pool changing rooms and performing arts classrooms. We will install a new CCTV system to strengthen our monitoring of a safe and orderly environment. Maintaining a sufficient fleet of high quality chrome books in top condition to supplement 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> *This method is the preferred option
- via EFTPOS, VISA or MASTERCARD at the School Office by phone or in person.
- 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.

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New Staff Members At Roskill

At the start of this year we greeted a number of new staff at the Powhiri—we welcome them to our community of learners and look forward to the contributions they will make as they settle into their Roskill classrooms!

Mrs. Janine Tupaea	Associate Principal	Ms. Aileen Chen	Mathematics
Mr. Terry Storer	Associate Principal	Ms. Stephanie Fraser	Science
Mr. Desmond Pemerika	Deputy Principal	Mr. Chris McGirr	Science
Mr. Kyle Rika	Sports Director	Mr. Finnian Webber	Science
Ms. Fiatamalia Clark	International Office	Ms. Nandita Katira	Mathematics
Ms. Margaret Va'aelua	Languages	Ms. Helen Netshidzivhani	Design
Mr. George Wolken	Mathematics	Ms. Beatrice Schumacher	Community Education
Mr. Tyler Benson	Mathematics	Mrs. Gillys Miller	English
Ms. Alda Chan	International Office		

“Ship for World Youth Leaders” visits Mount Roskill Grammar School



On Valentine's day, 50 delegates from all over the world from the “Ship for World Youth Leaders” (SWY) visited MRGS to hear about MRGS's Peer Mediation Service and NZ's peace initiatives. This SWY programme is operated by the Japanese Government involving youth from Japan and many countries around the world.



“Ship for World Youth Leaders” visits Mt. Roskill Grammar (continued)

It was an honour for MRGS Mediators to host this visit where we had presentations from the Peace Foundation, SOUL (Save Our Unique Landscape campaign) and the MRGS Mediators past and present. The room was a buzz of conversations about peace, respect and social justice.

As one Advanced Mediator, Bhavisha Punja says:

“It was an amazing experience where we were encouraged to ‘BLOOM’ by Matt Renata, which stands for: “Be a Leader that Opens Others Minds”. That we can lead from the front, the back and the side. That we are today’s Leaders, and that everyone and anyone can make a change if you put your heart, mind and soul into it.... The event was like being with family where we all wanted the same things of peace and love for the world. It was also great hearing from the Ex MRGS Mediators as we learnt how mediation had changed their lives and how they still use the skills in their careers and life”.

Ajay Ravindran who was a MRGS mediator in 2010 brought the delegates to MRGS.

He states:

“The powhiri was beautiful, and definitely served as the perfect introduction to Aotearoa, to Tāmaki Makaurau, and to Mt Roskill Grammar. The mihi by Mr Watson on behalf of the school and by Matt Renata on behalf of the manuhiri and participants also set the tone for the rest of the visit... I think the biggest round of applause has to be given to the MRGS students. I loved how open and eager they were with





MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM



Principal, Greg Watson (2nd left) welcomes Ms Janine Tupaea (far left), Mr Terry Storer (2nd right) and Mr Desmond Pemerika (far right) to the MRGS senior leadership team.

Mr Terry Storer joins Mount Roskill Grammar School as Associate Principal after over 25 years in education. His career has taken him all over the world and he has worked in some of the most prestigious International schools in South America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

Currently studying for a Doctoral degree, Terry is passionate about student leadership, providing opportunities and pathways for every student and holistic education.

In reflecting on his first few weeks at Mount Roskill Grammar School Terry said “Schools are often externally measured by exam results. These are already good at Mount Roskill Grammar and continue to improve. There is an underlying intangible for why students perform at these levels however; it is the heart and soul of the school – is the school a place where people want to come, are happy, feel safe and valued? Mount Roskill Grammar is all of those things and more. The diversity of the student body is a strength in a globalising world and is embraced and celebrated; it has become as much part of the fabric of the school as the buildings themselves. It is a fantastic place to come to every day and I am excited to get to know and understand the students, staff, parents and community even more over the coming weeks and months.”

Terry is married and has two sons in year 8 and 10.



MEET THE NEW MEMBERS OF THE SENIOR LEADERSHIP TEAM

Mrs Janine Tupaea moved with her husband, 10 year old daughter and six year old son from the Wairarapa to take up the Associate Principal position at Mount Roskill Grammar. Both of her children are now attending Mount Roskill Primary School and are enjoying living nearby the college in the suburb of Hillsborough.

Janine's teaching background is in Art and Design, and although this has predominantly been within secondary schools she spent some time working within an Intermediate School. Before transitioning into senior leadership Janine had been a Head of Department Art experience within three schools, including Tereora College in the Cook Islands. Her most recent position was Deputy Principal at Makoura College in Masterton, where she spent over 8 years.

Janine believes it is essential that we focus on teaching students how to think, as opposed to what to think, in order to prepare them for their future, and life long learning beyond their last day of secondary school. She commented "Education is student's passport to travel in any direction that they so wish. Any destination is possible, regardless of the place that they are departing from, providing that we can help them to envision that it is achievable".

When asked about her first impressions of MRGS Janine noted "I came to Mount Roskill Grammar School because I had been told about what a diverse and dynamic place it was. I have found this information accurate, and feel that our community is extremely fortunate to have such a passionate and dedicated team of staff who are continually reflecting on ways in which we can improve what we do, in order to maximise opportunities and achievement for every individual learner. Our students are a delight - and every student interaction that I come across thus far reaffirms what a unique and exciting place this is to be a part of. I am excited about what this chapter of my career involves and I look forward to working alongside students and caregivers to ensure that we are doing all that we possibly can, to ensure that every single learner succeeds to their potential".



Mr Desmond Pemerika comes to MRGS with a teaching background is in Biology and Science. Before transitioning into senior leadership Desmond was a Dean and had Head of Department Science experience within two schools. His most recent position was Deputy Principal at Michael Park School, where he spent over 9 years. When asked about what drives him as an educator Desmond listed the following things as keys to his beliefs.

1. Education is an opportunity not a hinderance.
2. We must provide an education that maintains student interest by helping them see how what they are learning prepares them for life in the real world.
3. We must instil curiosity which is fundamental to lifelong learning.
4. We must excite our students to become even more resourceful so that

they will continue to learn outside a normal school day.

Desmond grew up on Richardson Road. When asked about his first impressions of joining the school he remarked. "Mount Roskill Grammar School feels like I am coming back home. Our students are honest, positive and I have thoroughly enjoyed the interactions I have had since starting at the beginning of the year. The staff I have found to be committed and genuinely wanting what's best for our students. I am very fortunate to be in a school with passionate colleagues who are continually looking at what can be done to help the students in their class to succeed to their potential. I am very fortunate to be part of this wonderful school and wider community".

Desmond's wife is a secondary school teacher; they initially met 20 years ago when they were teaching together at Avondale College. They have been together for 18 years and have two daughters, Aria (16) and Rosa (9).



NEW POLYFEST GROUPS

This year Mt Roskill Grammar School is entering 2 new groups to the Diversity Stage, alongside the annually competing Indian Group. The Southern African group is a team of over a dozen students from years 9-13, led by Bostwana-native tutor, Phodiso Dintwe. Dintwe is a contemporary and traditional African dancer who has made practise so much fun for our very lucky students. Ex-MRGS student Randy Sjafrie has returned this year to choreograph for our new Jamaican group, expertly guided by Diane Dunchie-Coley from the ESOL



Dept who will be teaching students about the history and culture of the dances from the Caribbean nation. Chernade Prasad, also ex-MRGS, has returned to tutor the Indian group and we are excited to see her effective leadership style influence our students. So far, the engagement within the Indian, Jamaican and African groups has been very impressive, as well as the growing bond between the groups as a whole. Whilst performing on the Diversity Stage at Polyfest is not as competitive as the Pasifika and Maori stages, most of the students performing at Polyfest will be assessed against Dance and PE standards which is an exciting prospect for our learners, and they will definitely be having a lot of fun while doing it!





MRGS NCEA RESULTS: CONTINUED POWERFUL LEARNING

Once again Mount Roskill students demonstrated their powerful learning in the NCEA examinations. Some details and graphs are given below:-

Whole school

Pass rate for Level 1 was 83%.

Pass rate for Level 2 at 80% and shows a steady increase on previous years to record the best ever results at MRGS.

Pass rate for Level 3 at 64% is the best ever and is matching national trends.

The percentage of year 13 students gaining at least level 2 is now 93%

Level 1 Numeracy and Numeracy achievement rates remain over 95%.

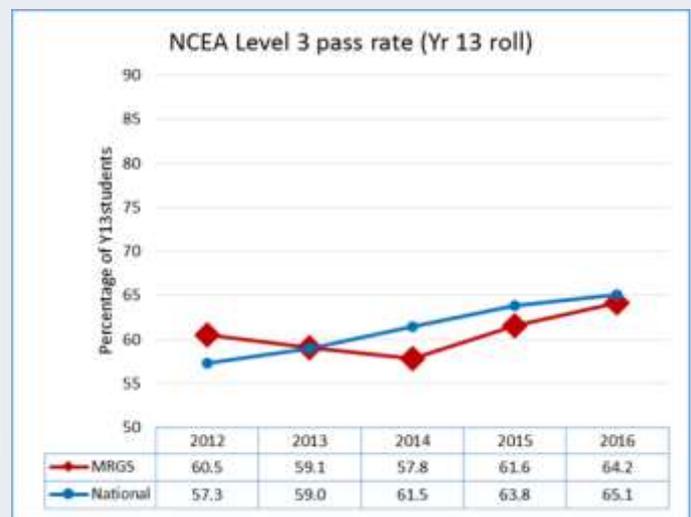
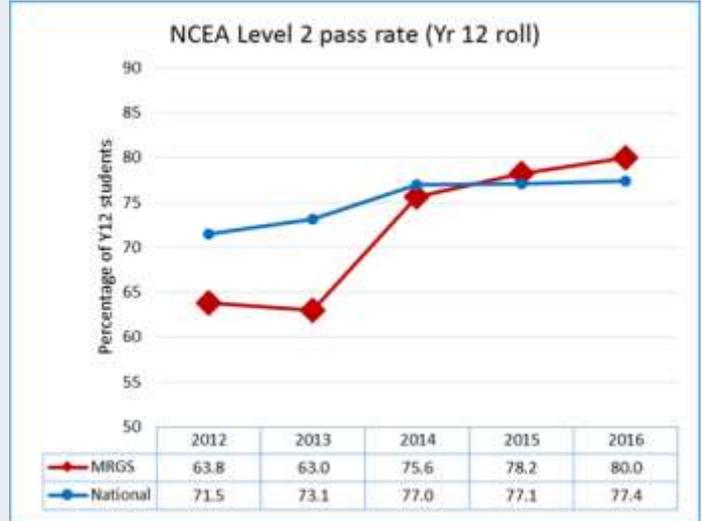
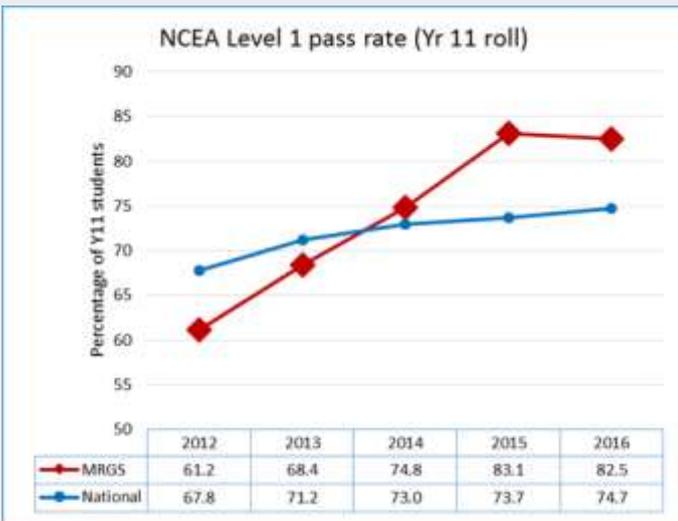
Excellence and Merit endorsement achievement rates are very good. The number of excellence endorsements at level 2 are the highest ever with an increase of 50% on the number awarded compared to last year.

Key points

There is a sustained trend of improvement in Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 pass rates.

Maori and Pasifika students showed significant gains in Level 3 and University Entrance.

Endorsement rates at all levels continue at high levels.



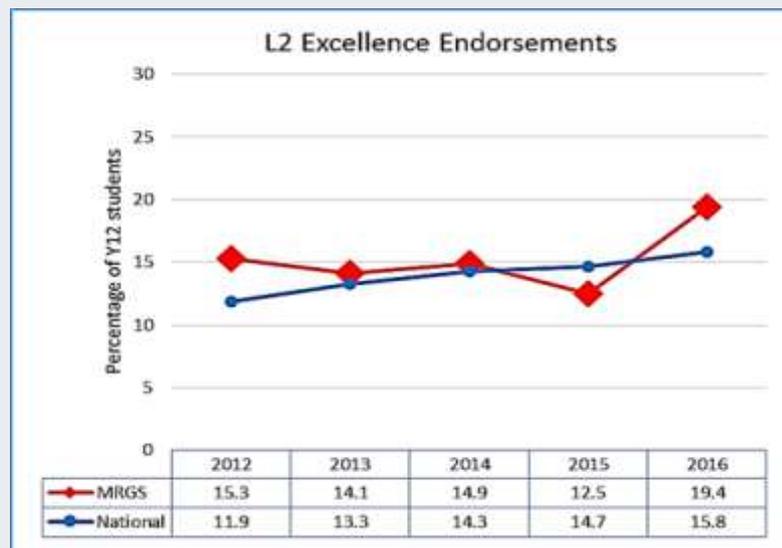


MRGS EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS FOR 2016 EXAMINATIONS

Once again the school achieved high numbers of Excellence endorsements and continued the outstanding achievement across a range of subjects that the endorsements represent. A student's NCEA will be endorsed with Excellence if they gain 50 credits at Excellence. This year a total of 189 MRGS students achieved at this highest level across NCEA 1, 2 and 3. In addition another 303 students had their NCEA endorsed with Merit after achieving at least 50 credits at this level.

These results once again attest to the committed, resilient and engaged learning within our student community. These young men and women will be celebrated at our forthcoming Excellence Awards Evening in the school hall on March 9th.

Graphs below give the **Level 2 Excellence Endorsements in comparison with National figures**



STUDENTS WITH EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENT AT LEVEL 3

Aditi	Ramalingam	Kelly	Liang	Kungeng	Wu
Dhruvil	Oza	Jordan	Holmes	Jenny	Ung
Holly	Porter	Albert	Ou	Victor	Chitando
Disha	Gomathinayagam	Aishwarya	Balasubramanian	Helin	Wang
Rithvick	Murali	Jonathan	Khoo	Aashna	Saxena
Deeksha	Vijayakumar	Qingqing	Lei	Elham	Sheikh
Anirudh	Bhatnagar	Lily	Li	Aryaman	Mishra
Allanah	Leerdam	Apoorva	Singh	Grace	Ya Wen
Het	Patel	McGregor	Small	Mohana	Kolli
Oyishik	Chakraborty	Anshita	Kapoor	Naman	Gupta
Sai Krupa	Narayana	Christina Kexin	Yuan	Larissa	Bird
Joshua	Simmons	Qi	Zhu	Amie	Lee
Athulya	Rathnayake	Yathursan	Mohanathas	Shirley	Wang
Pawan	Withana	Celine	Chan	Elisa	Yansun
Kavish	Dharan	Nicholas	Jose		



MRGS EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENTS FOR 2016 EXAMINATIONS

STUDENTS WITH EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENT AT LEVEL 1

Natalie Tan	Dilsha Sudu Dewage	Radhika Gandadal	Eisley Brown
Tessa Brown	Tania Tribhuvan	Gunjan Soeny	Meghna Patel
Rebekah Yu	Matthew Carey	Rohan Bhonsle	Julie Yi
Syed Kazmi	George Zhou	Rebecca Ferguson	Stephaan Jacques
Khushi Sehaipal	Rae Cruz	Davis Wu	Jamie Gibson
Anna Greaves	Pansy Ou	Kiana Damu	Sam Agrawal
Ayla Hawthorne	Maha-lakshmi	Sidharth Singh	Saba Kal-yanasundaram
Rocky Parsons	Amanda Chow	Jenny Chung	Viresh Oberoi
Jill Shukla	Vakho Mestvirishvili	Alexander Nicholson	Rohan Patel
Sachi Yamamoto	Sarah Yan	Yilong Wu	Amri Arshad
Miguel Mitra	Andy Cao	Elizabeth Qian	Ann Maria Tomy
Liam Liang	Adam King	Aiden Fang	Kelly Duong
Ellen Peng	Bethany Harris	Aashna Rahi	Axl Rada
Selena He	Dua Rashid	Tevita Tonga	Sudipta Sarkar
Thea Dickson	Michael Dang	Hana Galea	Charles Hartmann
Aaron Huo	Dion Fonseca	Janna Rana	Yusuf Guessous
Emily Power	Isabella Fong	Annie Ng	Tamayul Zamani
Zara Deverell	Jacky Chen	Alison Huanzhu Dong	Jennifer Halafa'u
Carmen Chen	Andy Mo	Amrutha Manchineela	Ainsley Lim
Chantal Deverell	Mahir Chand	Cathy Chen	

STUDENTS WITH EXCELLENCE ENDORSEMENT AT LEVEL 2

Jahnvi Trivedi	Shristi Anand	Sheldon Desa	Amit Patel
Felix Yang	Sharon Mathew	David Lin	Jelisa Rana
Youfei Lei	Yiu Yiu Chu	Bethany Low	Elvin Zhang
Cathy Fan	Cindy Ko	Sara Shah	Vaishnavi Thayaparan
Jaime Wu	Thulusiga Shan-thinathan	Yasmin Bell	Anna Sin
Tushar Thakur	Peiyang Du	Sam Anhad Paul	Johnson Zhuang
Srishti Toora	Ellen Bingham	Naomi Inoue-Rajapaksa	Breearna Johnson
Madhulika Ravuri	Lucky Chen	Siosaia Tuitupou	Pooja Patel
Shuen Shuen Chu	Pranavan Kailainathan	Jay Kuang-Yi	Michael Li
Josette Xu	Mihika Mehta	Kevin Yang	Arshiya Arif
Karen Zhang	Vyshni Ishwaran	Vibhasrita Kasha	Mohamed Catherine Benny
Alan Thomas	Andrew Wang	Sakhsham Arora	Myles James
Caleb Baptista	Ojas Shukla	Daniel Ching	Priya Prakash
Alice Wang	Shaineel Reddy	Shivam Kapoor	Winnie Chen
David Wong	Karthik Menon	Dhanada Dave	Chelsea Huang
Annie Huang	Shania Amolik	Sannan Hafeez	Elizabeth Tan
Emma Thompson	Grace Mascarenhas		

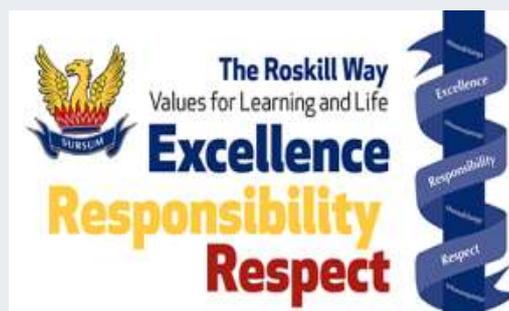


NEW ZEALAND SCHOLARSHIP EXAMINATION SUCCESSES

Our school's record of achievement in the premier national examination continued with students gaining **50 scholarships**. Three students, **Jamie Wu, Helen Wang and Aishwarya Kochhar** will receive New Zealand Outstanding Scholar Awards. Scholarships were gained across 12 different subjects with 10 scholarships and 2 outstanding scholarships achieved in Accounting. In addition students achieved one outstanding and seven scholarships in Chemistry plus seven scholarships in Physical education and six in statistics. There were also 33 students gained at least one scholarship and 4 students gained 3 or more scholarships.

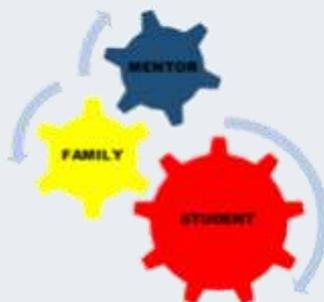
SCHOLARSHIP RESULTS (* = OUTSTANDING SCHOLARSHIP)

Aishwarya Kochhar	Accounting *	Apoorva Singh	Accounting
Helin Wang	Accounting *	Apoorva Singh	Physical Education
Phoebe Chau	Accounting	Kelly Liang	Biology
Samita Dossa	Accounting	Kelly Liang	Chemistry
Jordan Holmes	English	Kelly Liang	Chinese
Jerin James	Technology	Kelly Liang	Physical Education
Jasleen Kaur	Physical Education	Kelly Liang	Statistics
Prajay Lal	Accounting	Anirudh Bhatnagar	Chemistry
Yitong Li	Economics	Anirudh Bhatnagar	Design
Yuanzhou Liang	Technology	Anirudh Bhatnagar	Physical Education
Mohammad Mirza	English	Rithvick Murali	Accounting
Yathursan Mohanathas	Technology	Rithvick Murali	Biology
Aashna Saxena	Accounting	Rithvick Murali	Statistics
Joshua Simmons	Accounting	Aditi Ramalingam	Biology
Colin Ung	Physical Education	Aditi Ramalingam	Statistics
Deeksha Vijayakumar	Statistics	Aditi Ramalingam	Chemistry
Kungeng Wu	Statistics	Oyishik Chakraborty	Accounting
Josette Xu	Chemistry	Oyishik Chakraborty	Statistics
Felix Yang	Chemistry	Jahnvi Trivedi	Calculus
Karen Zhang	Biology	Jahnvi Trivedi	Physics
Ying Zhong	Chinese	Holly Porter	Chemistry
Qi Zhu	Accounting	Holly Porter	Statistics
Christina Yuan	Chinese	Apoorva Singh	Accounting
Christina Yuan	Physical Education	Apoorva Singh	Physical Education
Disha Gomathi-nayagam	Biology	Disha Gomathi-nayagam	Statistics
		Jaime Wu	Chemistry *





MENTORING



Thank you to the large majority of families who attended our first conference on the 16th of February. Mentors will meet with the students twice a term in addition to family conferences (June and August dates tbc).

Our mentoring programme for year 11, 12 and 13 students involves conversations between mentors, students and the students' families establishing and monitoring goal-setting. The goals set this month relate to academic achievement, attendance and co-curricular involvement.

To support students' goal setting for 2017 we will be sending information about homework centres and assessment information, including deadlines for internal assessments, shortly.

The mentoring programme is a powerful context within which we can work together, with students and their families, to set SMART goals and for our students to strive to achieve them.





PREFECT TEAM AND HEAD PREFECTS FOR 2017

Prefects 2017

Safiya	Alamin	Haukinima	Mafi
Corinthian	Apikotoa	Sharon	Mathew
T J	Apulu	Josephine	Mavaega
Caleb	Baptista	Callum	McKenzie
Ellen	Bingham	Karthik	Menon
Tania	Bryan	Ravi	Patel
Lucky	Chen	Meleana	Puloka
Elisa	Chow	'Aisea	Pulotu
Michelle	De Silva	Charlotte	Shirreffs
Portia	Devonshire	Ojas	Shukla
Jaxxon	Douglas	Lance	Stubbings
Peiyang	Du	Thorneton	Taufelila
Cathy	Fan	Emma	Thompson
Sam	Fihaki	Melody	Ting
Leilani	Fuikefu	Srishti	Toora
Paula	Ilaua	Siosaia	Tuitupou
Hiroimi	Inoue-Rajapaksa	Ben	van der Loeff
Vyshni	Ishwaran	Josett	Xu
Breearna	Johnson	Felix	Yang
Caera	Judge	Anna	Laufoli
Zara	Lane	Bethany	Low

In an early assembly this term the 2017 School Prefects were formally introduced to the school and presented with their badges. These 42 young men and women strengthen the student leaders of the school bringing their particular service, commitment and energy to their new roles. We look forward to their ongoing demonstration of excellence, respect and responsibility.

Mr Watson also announced the Head Prefects for this year:

Emma Watson and **Ojas Shukla** are the Head Prefects for 2017 and **Meleana Puloka**, **Siosaia Tuitupou**, **Caera Judge** and **TJ Apulu** are the





ON BEING HEAD PREFECTS FOR 2017, BY EMMA THOMPSON



Over my four and a bit years at Mount Roskill Grammar, I've been involved in a lot of co-curricular activities, making the most of what the school has to offer. I started off playing Netball in the junior academies, but really found my passion for sport in Lacrosse in Year 10. Through this, I've been able to compete in Australia and around New Zealand for Auckland and the National Team. I've also been privileged to represent MRGS by coaching and playing in the Senior Girls Team. Lacrosse has been a stepping stone for me to become more of a leader. It has taught me how to interact and co-operate with other people, no matter of their abilities, age or culture.

From Year 9 it has been my goal to become a prefect, and along the way, my parents developed a code "T.P.P", standing for "The Prefect Project" which they would refer to whenever they needed to pick me up from out of school practises or go with me to get end of year presents for teachers.

In the last few days of this school year, a group of about 40 of us were called into the office and were announced as the prefects for 2017. This announcement had been much awaited on my behalf, and so I was very relieved and happy when I found out that I had been offered the role. Next came the Prefect Camp. Three hot days in the beginning of December, spent at Ambury Farm just over in Mangere Bridge. For me, this was a time to detox from all the stress of the year and have fun with my mates. Throughout the camp, we really bonded as a unit, doing an Amazing Race, leadership workshops and team building activities. This camp was also the time where the students got to vote for who they thought would be good Head Prefects, though this did make situations quite tense at times. However, we all still came out of the camp knowing more people and being more sunburnt.

From that, five girls and five boys met with a group of the Senior Management Team just before school started where we had group interviews for the Head Prefect positions. I had heard about this from previous years and had always been hesitant about the thought of us being in the same room, answering the same questions. Luckily, it was not as bad as I had originally thought, with the four other girls, the senior leadership team and I all being at ease.

After the long Waitangi weekend, we were greeted back into school with another slip calling us into the conference room. The days leading up to this had been filled with anxious thoughts and so, to say the least, I was pleased to just know they had reached a decision. Mr Watson congratulated us and said that we would be the Head Prefect team for this year. The next few minutes for me were a complete rollercoaster of emotions, going from being so nervous my heart was about to blow out of my chest, to absolutely tingling with joy. This was where he said that Ojas and I would be the Head Girl and Boy for this year. The rest of the day was a blur of congratulations and hugs and then once I got home, off to training where there were more congratulations and hugs. That night, after telling my parents, they came to the conclusion that now "The Prefect Project" was officially closing and it was time to use all the things I'd learnt throughout that project in my Head Girl duties this year.



SCHOOL POWHIRI FOR 2017 NEW STUDENTS AND STAFF

Once again the school proudly welcomed its new members in the school hall. The class of 2017 were called into the school hall with a Karanga and given a rousing haka powhiri by existing staff, prefects and year 13s before being formally acknowledged by a Whaikorero from the Principal Greg Watson. After the ceremony students joined their House groups for an orientation day.



NZQA Fess Collection 2017

All Year 10 accelerated students and all senior students must pay their NZQA Fees (compulsory) to the accounts office between Wednesday 10th May – Friday 12th May . These fees must be paid so that any credits a student achieves through either Unit or Achievement Standard assessments will be recorded on a student's record of learning. If not paid, the credits will not be released to the student.

The Fee for the majority of students will be \$76.70. However financial assistance is available to students whose parents/guardians receive a Work and Income Benefit or have a Community Services Card.

Financial assistance forms can be collected from the front office, accounts office or from Mr. Parratt in the Commerce Department next to H6.





ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

The house competition got off to a great start this year with the Athletics Carnival. Students from Hillary, Sheppard, Ngata, Cooper and Rutherford House competed in tug of war, shot put and 4X100m relay events to try to secure an early lead in the House competition. The level of competition, support and camaraderie matched the superb weather for the event.





ATTENDANCE

Important Information for Families about Attendance

In order for students to be successful, powerful learners they need to be in class on time in every lesson.

If a student misses two periods they are recorded as having missed half a day of lessons and this is reported to the Ministry of Education.

Teachers mark their roll on the computer every period. This allows us to monitor attendance statistics for both individual and groups of students more frequently and closely. If you have any concerns about attendance or want to report an absence, please phone Mrs Hyland, Attendance Officer, on 621 0069 or email attendance@mrgs.school.nz Please phone on the morning of your child's first day of absence. When we do not receive a call from the family a text message is sent out. Students are expected to be in every class on time in order to be successful powerful learners. Parents/caregivers have been sent their password to access the **parent portal** in order to view attendance.



Punctuality strategy

If a student has a valid reason for absence or lateness please contact attendance@mrgs.school.nz

If a student is more than 4 minutes late to period 1 they will have a 10 minute make-up session after school. If they do not attend that session the dean will

contact you regarding the need to make up 1 hour of time on a Wednesday or Friday after school. Learning time lost is learning time that we expect to work with your child to catch up.





SPORTS UPDATE

The year of sport has well and truly started for our summer sports. This year at MRGS we have Athletics, Archery, Cricket, Cross country, Dragon boat, Lawn bowls, Orienteering, Rowing, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Touch, Tag, Volleyball.

Teams that have played in Auckland wide competitions so far include Cricket, Orienteering, Rowing, Touch and Volleyball

The boys 1st XI Cricket team have played two games to date with two losses. Some very promising touches shown throughout both of these games and the team are looking forward to that first W. The girls 1st XI have had a great start to their season with two wins from two games. Strong showings with the ball have made it difficult for their opposition to score runs and the batters have been able to chase with ease. The junior boys have their first game this weekend, a team mainly made up of year 9 students so looking forward to seeing how they go.

The senior girls volleyball team have made an exceptional start to their season having played six games and coming away with five solid wins. Their only loss coming at the hands of the league favourites EGGs. Great team work shown early on in the season by all the girls.

The mixed touch have started their season with a win and a loss. The win came over Avondale and the team will be looking to secure a few more wins as the season goes on.

The first round of the orienteering got underway with a strong showing from all involved. Interest in this sport is growing with some good talent coming through.

In Rowing we had four representatives at the College sport head of the Harbour regatta. For such a small team they all did remarkably well placing in finals or just out of. These students row for local clubs so we are very fortunate to have them representing the school.

On the representative front we had two students representing Auckland at the touch nationals recently. Bianca Bryan and Fritz Tuiavii Solomona placed 3rd and 5th in their respective grades.

I would like to thank the many coaches and teachers who dedicate their time to making it possible for all the students to participate in the various sports on offer here at MRGS.

Nga mihi

Kyle Rika
Director of Sport.





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.

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



MT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Term 1 2016: February – April

Phone (09) 621 0051

Email: Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz

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

Extra Enrolment Night: Wed, 10 February 6-8pm

MONDAY – starts 15 February 7-9pm unless stated

Alexander Technique *6.45-8.15pm	5 wks	\$80
Ballroom & Latin Dancing – Begg *630-730pm	6 wks	\$59
Basic Car Maintenance & Repairs	6 wks	\$95
Furniture Making & Design *6-9pm	7 wks	\$145+
Indian Curries	4 wks	\$72+
MSExcel:Essentials *21 Mar, M-W, 630-830pm	3 days	\$42
MSWord:Essentials *14 Mar, M-W, 630-830pm	3 days	\$42
Painting With Oils, *6.30-8.30pm	7 wks	\$95+
Pattern Making (Drafting) – Beginners	15wks	\$245+
Rock n Roll, Waltz & Swing *730-830pm	6 wks	\$59
Sign Language (NZSL) – Beginners 1B	7 wks	\$70
SpeechWorks (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	\$69
Yoga *6.45-8.15pm (bring mat)	7 wks	\$68
Zumba *7-8pm	7 wks	\$50

TUESDAY – starts 16 February 7-9pm unless stated

Badminton *6.30-8.30pm	7 wks	\$86
Bollywood Dancing *8-9pm	7 wks	\$70
Computer Networking: intro	4 wks	\$80
Dressmaking for Beginners *23 Feb 630-9pm	7 wks	\$99+
Floristry - Beginners to Intermediate	7 wks	\$95+
Home Renovations *6.30-8.30pm	3 wks	\$59
Picture Framing	7 wks	\$98+
Salsa, Merengue & Bachata *630-730pm	6 wks	\$59
Sign Language (NZSL) – Beginners 1A	7 wks	\$70
SpeechWorks (Public Speaking) * 6.30-9pm	5 wks	\$195
Spin Bikes *6-7pm	7 wks	\$62
Step *7-8pm	7 wks	\$60
Tennis (bring racquet) *6-8pm	6 wks	\$78
Thai Cooking *8 Mar	4 wks	\$69+
Welding-Beginners *6.30-8.30pm	6 wks	\$207+
Woodwork & Furniture Restoration *645-9pm	7 wks	\$97+
Yoga *6.45-8.15pm (Bring mat)	8 wks	\$76

WEDNESDAY – starts 17 February 7-9pm unless stated

Aerobics – Pump *7-8pm	7 wks	\$52
Cake Decorating: Novelty & Cup Cakes	7 wks	\$95+
Dressmaking-Intermediate *24 Feb 630-9pm	7 wks	\$99+
Fantastic Italian Starters *16 Mar 6-9pm	1 day	\$40
Floristry Workshop *starts 30 March 6-9pm	1 day	\$39+
French for Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
German for Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
Indoor Soccer *3 Feb 7.30-9pm	10wks	\$95
Italian Cooking	3 wks	\$69+
Mandarin-Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
MS Office:Intro *starts 10 Feb 630-830pm	5 wks	\$70
Multi-media Print *starts 2 Mar	3 wks	\$92+
Pasta Making Workshop *9 Mar 6-9pm	1 day	\$40
Pilates *6.30-7.30pm	7 wks	\$67
Small Engine Repairs	6 wks	\$95+
Spanish for Beginners & Travellers	7 wks	\$98
SpeechWorks (Public Speaking) * 6.30-9pm	5 wks	\$195
Stencil Art & Screen Printing - Intro	2 wks	\$68+
Woodwork (return students) *24 Feb 645-9pm	7 wks	\$97+
Woodwork-Beg (new students) *645-9pm	8 wks	\$107+
Yoga *3 Feb 6.45-8.15pm	10wks	\$95

GUITAR – starts Thursday & Friday 18 & 19 February

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

SATURDAY

Basic Home Maintenance *12 Mar 930-130pm	1 day	\$50
Inspiring Salads *12 Mar 10am-1pm	1 day	\$45
MSPowerpt: Essentials *12 Mar, 930am-430pm	1 day	\$50
MSPublisher: Essentials *19 Mar, 930am-430pm	1 day	\$50
MYOB: Intro *12 Mar, 9am-4.30pm	2 days	\$137
Sushi Making *19 Mar 930am-12.30pm	1 day	\$35+20
Watercolour Painting *12 Mar 10am-3pm	1 day	\$55+

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

Non-residents pay 30% extra on advertised fee.

DAY TIME CLASSES:

Beginners Kick Start Class Starts Mon 25 January

Monday to Friday (5 days) 9am -1pm. 1 week, \$120

Conversational English & Grammar Starts Wed 3 February

3 days per week: Mon, Wed, Fri 9.15am-12.15pm. 10 weeks, \$395+

Level 1: Beginner/ Elementary

Level 2: Pre-Intermediate

Level 3: Intermediate/ High Intermediate

*Textbook: There is a prescribed textbook for each level. Students can buy their own or borrow (for small fee + refundable deposit). Details on request.

Speaking & Pronunciation: Pre-Int Plus Starts Mon 10 February

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

IELTS Exam Preparation: Academic & General Starts Mon 2 Feb

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

EVENING CLASSES:

General English Classes – ESOL Starts 15 February

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

Level 1: Beginners/ Elementary

Level 2: Pre-Intermediate

Level 3: Intermediate/High Intermediate

Writing Skills Starts 15 February

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

Speaking and Pronunciation Starts 16 February

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

Advanced English Starts 16 February

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

IELTS Preparation Starts 16 February

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

Speaking in Public Starts 23 March

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

Enjoying Modern Fiction Starts 15 February

Mondays, 7-9pm, 6 weeks, \$65

PLEASE NOTE: 1) You must be a minimum of 16 years to enrol in classes.

2) "+" indicates further materials / costs involved.

HOW TO ENROL: - Email Com.Ed@mrgs.school.nz

- Phone on 621 0051 with your credit card details

- At our office: Eftpos is available

- Complete enrolment form overleaf (PTO)

(FOR MORE INFORMATION... PLEASE CHECK OUR WEBSITE!)



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 detailing the person you wish to contact in your subject line.

Your child's Academic Programme			
Academic Deans			
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 Ms A Gosai		
Your child's relationships with students and staff— Pastoral welfare			
House Deans— (Head of Deans = Mr D. Williams)			
Cooper House (Blue)	Miss T Mackinlay Ms. H Reweti	Ngata House (Orange)	Ms F Leigh Mr A Ferguson
Rutherford House (Red)	Mr C McGibbon Ms. P Afele	Sheppard House (Yellow)	Mr C Chellew Ms N Dekker
Hillary House (Green)	Mr C Overton Mr D Garraway		
Your child's attendance			
Attendance Officers	Ms. A King		
Your child's emotional welfare	Guidance Team	Head of Guidance	Mrs M Hoogendoorn
Your child's health	Nursing Team	Receptionist Student Services	Ms J Pace
Wider Issues of Concern	Senior Leaders		
Cooper House	Mr D Pemerika		
Rutherford House	Ms J Tupaea		
Hillary House	Ms K Collins		
Ngata House	Mr N Peterson		
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

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.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Term Dates 2017

Term	First Day of term	Last Day of term
Term 1		Friday 14th April
Term 2	Monday 1st May	Friday 7th July
Term 3	Tuesday 25th July	Friday 29th September
Term 4	Monday 16th October	Friday 8th December

TERM ONE EVENTS

March 9	Excellence Awards Evening	March 15-17	Polyfest Competition
March 9	Swimming Carnival	March 20	School Holiday

NEW ASB BANK SPONSORSHIP OFFER

ASB has maintained its sponsorship for the school community offer on home loan applications.

Supporting success in your school.

If you are a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you draw down a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate \$500 to your chosen participating school. Visit asb.co.nz/schoolbanking for full details.

ASB lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. To be eligible for this donation your new home loan application must be received, approved and then documented in a facility agreement, along with the completion of a school donation voucher, between 1 January 2017 and 30 June 2017. A minimum of 20% equity is required in the security property provided to ASB. This home loan offer is only available on loans secured by an owner-occupied residential property. Only one donation will be given per customer. Donations will be made by ASB on behalf of the customer to the chosen school upon full draw down of the new home loan. This offer excludes loans for business purposes and bridging.



SCHOOL SPONSORSHIP

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

Fuji Xerox, Libelle, Barfoot & Thompson – Mt Roskill, Mc Donalds ,and Fletcher Living.



Proudly Supported by

Barfoot & Thompson
ESTABLISHED 1838

Mt Roskill, 09 621 0912



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 Kyle Rika, Director of Sports at Kyle.Rika@mr.gs.school.nz