



MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2016

NEWSLETTER

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Nga mihi nui ki a koutou

The beginning of Term 4 has been filled with events celebrating the achievement and contribution of our senior students.

Our Senior Prizegiving was a celebration of excellent achievement and of leadership that exemplifies the values of the 'Roskill Way'. Congratulations in particular to our Dux Deeksha Vijayakumar and our Proxime Accessit Holly Porter. We have also enjoyed the Campus Maori Graduation and Diwali evenings, the Arts Awards evening and the Roskars celebrating student film making. Senior students are now on NCEA examination leave and Year 9 and 10 students are preparing for their school exams beginning on November 20th.

Congratulations to our boys and girls rugby sevens teams who are both in a select group of Auckland schools who have qualified for the national finals.

It has been tremendous meeting families of close to 400 talented and motivated Year 8 students at recent enrolment evenings for 2017. We look forward to formally welcoming them in the New Year.

Our junior students will be taking part in the Wider Education programme beginning on December 4th. There is something for everyone with both day trips and camps planned.

We look forward to seeing many of you at Junior Prizegiving on December 9th.

Ki nga taumata

Greg Watson
PRINCIPAL



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>SENIOR PRIZEGIVING</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>2017 PREFECTS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>ARTS AWARDS</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>SPORTS AWARDS</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>MAORI GRADUATION</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>ROSKARS</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>YEAR 13 CAMP</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>DIWALI</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>COMMUNITY AWARD FOR PELE TALAISI</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>WIDER EDUCATION UPDATE</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>BYOD EVENING</u>	<u>9</u>
<u>SCHOOL CONTACTS</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>DATES FOR YOUR DIARY</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>FAMILY AND FRIENDS GROUP</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>SPONSORS</u>	<u>13</u>

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Phone: 621-0050
Website: www.mrgs.school.nz

Frost Road
Mount Roskill
Auckland 1041



SENIOR PRIZEGIVING

The 2016 Senior Prizegiving was a memorable night of “Celebrating Excellence”.

We congratulate all prizewinners for their academic achievements and for epitomising our school values of responsibility, respect, whanaungatanga and manaakitanga. It is a wonderful reflection of the connections we make in our school that a number of our awards are given in memory of our alumni, and this year the tributes extended beyond cups and trophies to also include a beautiful operatic solo.

The evening was memorable for so many reasons and the acknowledgement of our year 13 students added another level of celebration and emotion. Our Head prefects Deeksha and Sanaj spoke articulately of the lessons learned between classes and the fact that we all have greatness within us.

Special mention must also be made of our top scholars. Dux - Deeksha Vijayakumar and Proxime Accessit - Holly Porter. Congratulations to you both.

We would like to thank family, friends, the Board of Trustees, Dr Parmjeet Parmar M.P, tertiary providers, Kiwanis, principals of our contributing schools, the Sursum Foundation, the Lionesses of Mount Roskill, Mary Lacy, Machinery House, Trade Tools, Whitecliffs, the Masons, the Lubeck family, and the musicians and staff at MRGS for their support of this event.

Top Academic Awards

Dux	Deeksha Vijayakumar
Proxime Accessit	Holly Porter
1st in Year 12 studying Level 2 and 3	Youfei Lei
1st in Year 12 studying Level 2	Ojas Shukla
2nd in Year 12 studying Level 2 and 3	Shrishti Toora
2nd in Year 12 studying Level 2	Yiu Yiu Chu
1st in Year 11 studying Level 1 and 2	Rebekah Yu
1st in Year 11 studying Level 1	Amanda Chow
2nd in year 11 studying Level 1 and 2	Tessa Brown
2nd in year 11 studying Level 1	Andy Mo

Special Awards

2016 House Shield	Sheppard House
International Student Award	Helin Wang
Fisher-Maher Peer Mentor of the Year Award	Mary Kate Fonua
Cup for Leadership in the Peer Sexuality Support Programme	Sanaj Deshpande





SENIOR PRIZEGIVING — *continued from page 2.*

Special Awards—continued

Lions Community Spirit Award supported by Mt Roskill Lionesses
Transition Prize
The Mintram Cup for Academic Excellence
The Bowden Trophy for Strength with Dignity

Siosaia Tuitupou
Abdulfatah Mohamed
Nicholas Jose
Julian Oldenampsen

Year 13 Special Awards

The Lewis Cup for Dedication, Leadership and Humility
Mt Roskill Rotoract Cup for Integrity, Honesty & Service
Saththiananthan Cup for Inspirational Leadership
MRGS Trophy for Qualities of Character
Soma Family Award for Character & Excellence
Ross Hamilton Trophy for Pursuit of Excellence
Sursum Foundation - Keith Hall Scholarship
Sursum Foundation - Keith Hall Scholarship
Cruze Cup for Inspiration & Commitment
MRGS Enterprise Award
MRGS Enterprise Award
MRGS Enterprise Award
MRGS Enterprise Award
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in Commerce
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in Sciences
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in the Arts
Head Prefect Award
Head Prefect Award

Nancy Gafa
Hassaan Mirza
Deeksha Vijayakumar
Sanaj Deshpande
Joshua Simmons
Anirudh Bhatnagar
Chernade Prasad
Victor Chitando
Mary Kate Fonua
Kavish Dharan
Janita Fuller
Karishma Kumar
Samuel Langi
Helin Wang
Dhruvil Oza
Allanah Leerdam
Sanaj Deshpande
Deeksha Vijayakumar

Tertiary Scholarships

Unitec Secondary School Scholarship
Unitec Secondary School Scholarship
University of Otago Alumni Appeal Entrance Scholarship
University of Otago Alumni Appeal Entrance Scholarship
AUT New Horizons Scholarship
AUT New Horizons Scholarship
AUT Vice Chancellor's Significant Student Scholarship
University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship
University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship
University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship
University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship
University of Auckland Faculty of Arts Entry Level Undergraduate Scholarship
University of Auckland Faculty of Science Entry Level Undergraduate Scholarship
University of Auckland Maori Academic Excellence Scholarship
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship

Bedilu Belay
Alemnesh Desale
Tahsin Munir
Joel Roy Koshy
Jasleen Kaur
Nicholas Jose
Janita Fuller
Allanah Leerdam
Dhruvil Oza
Kelly Liang
Holly Porter
Deeksha Vijayakumar
Victor Chitando
Jordan Holmes
Het Patel
Anirudh Bhatnagar
Disha Gomathinayagam



2017 PREFECTS

Congratulations to the following students, who will be our Prefects for 2017.

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



ARTS AWARDS

The Arts and Cultural Awards evening was held on October 20, 2016. This was an opportunity to celebrate the success of our students and thank them formally for the valuable contribution they make to the school. Traditionally, 'Colours' are awarded at MRGS to show commitment at the highest level possible. 2016 has seen a number of outstanding achievements across the Arts; both the Barbershop Chorus and the Quartet travelled to Wellington to compete in the Nationals, where the Quartet gained 3rd place; our Tongan, Samoan, Indian and Kapahaka groups again represented MRGS at Polyfest, and it was our inaugural representation by our Niuean group; Beauty and the Beast (our school production) was performed to sold out crowds in Term 3; Concert Band gained a Silver and String Orchestra a Bronze award when they performed in the KBB Music Festival award; Dance groups competed in Stand Up Stand Out gaining a place in the finals as well as other Dance groups performing at numerous public festivals and events.

This year, due to the sheer numbers involved in reaching such incredible achievements and commitment in extra-curricular activities, we felt it was only right to acknowledge commitment across the Arts by way of a new "Commitment to the Arts" badge to be worn with pride.

PFA leadership and excellence in co-curricular awards and music trophies were also presented. Congratulations to all those who were recognised for all of their hard work.



SPORT AWARDS

On Tuesday 18th October we held the annual Sports Awards Evening. Once again this evening gave our community the opportunity to celebrate sporting excellence and congratulate students and coaches for their achievements. The guest speaker was Dillon Boucher, a sportsman with an international pedigree of basketball performance which has taken him to the Olympics and currently management of the New Zealand Breakers team. His address set the tone for the evening, both congratulating and encouraging our students in their individual and team pursuits. Our Deputy Head Prefect Joshua Simmons followed this with a thank you to coaches and parents for their contribution to school success. During the ceremony Sports Colours, Academy Awards and Sport trophies for the range of codes were presented. The climax of the evening was the Major Sports Awards where performance and commitment at the highest levels were acknowledged. Fittingly our Boys Premier League Football team and the Girls' Rugby Squad were awarded the two top teams of the year. Two of our traditional community Roskill trophies were also awarded – Emma Thomson receiving the Robert Laing Trophy and Scott Lewis the Nattrass family trophy – both well-deserved with their contributions of the highest standard. Sportswoman of the Year was Leilani Fuikefu – her inspiring play in the record breaking girls' rugby team and representative honours being features of her achievement. Sportsman of the Year was Jordan Tahana – a senior softball player who has represented New Zealand this year and led his own school team to their division title.



Emma Thompson



Breearna Johnson



Leilani Fuikefu



Scott Lewis

CAMPUS MĀORI GRADUATION

On Thursday 20th October we celebrated the success of our Māori students with our annual Māori Graduation. Over 60 students across the Campus were recognised and acknowledged, it was truly a memorable evening. This event captures a unique element of our Campus, where the Year 6 students from MRPS are farewelled by the principal Mike O'Reilly and welcomed to MRI by the principal Kristen Walsham, and then the Year 8 students are farewelled and welcomed to MRGS by our principal Greg Watson, and then our Year 13's are farewelled and welcomed back to the Whānau. Each graduate is awarded a certificate and gifted a Taonga (Bone Carved Necklace).

This year several Year 13 students were recipients of trophies: Daeton Potaka-Hogg and Maia Morgan-Hampson were jointly awarded the 'Mana Taiohi Taonga' for their 'Leadership in Kapa Haka', Michele Taku-Bedwell was awarded the 'Marilyn Toi Taonga' for 'Karanga', Wyntre Peita was awarded the 'Mana Wairua Taonga' for 'Spiritual Strength', Keegan Campbell-Davis was awarded the 'Manawa Titi Taonga' for 'Perseverance' and Jordan Holmes was awarded the 'Te Iwi Ngaro Taonga' for 'Best All Round Senior Māori Student'. We wish all our graduates transitioning through the Campus and our Year 13's the best for their future endeavours.



THE ROSKARS

On October 11th the Media department held our annual Roskars. This is the event where we celebrate and screen the crème de la crème of MRGS student filmmaking. This year's Roskars took place in the comfort of the Hodge Learning Commons with its newly-decked out projector and big screen. While we munched on an abundance of movie snacks, our panel of exceptional judges made the ever difficult decision of which films were the most deserving of an award.

The following students' films were judged best in their category, winning certificates and movie passes:

Viran Ranaweera - Best Year 11 Music Video for "Faded."

Tayla Dawson, Theshalia Pillay and Morgan Watson - Best Year 12 Television Title Sequence and the People's Choice Award for "Sirens."

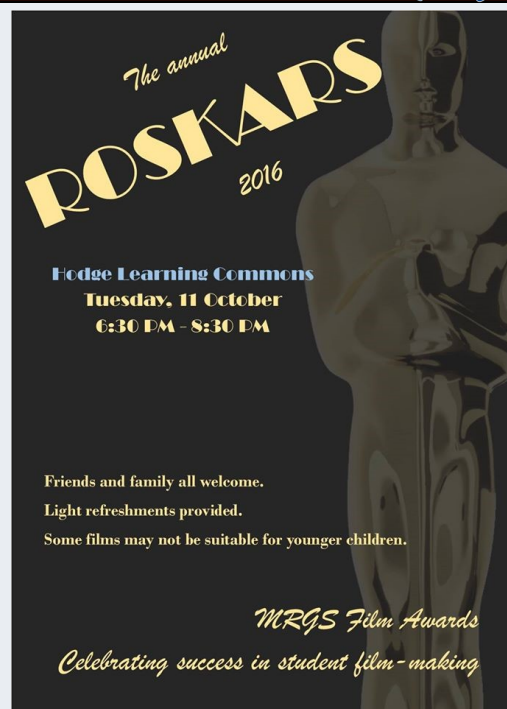
Bo Zhong - Best Year 13 Documentary for "Colourful Soul."

Grateful thanks to our Roskars judges for 2016:

Eliza Brown, Roskill alumna, former Roskar winner and Bachelor of Communications, AUT.

Tom Hawker, Television New Zealand.

Emma Gillies, HOD Performing Arts.



YEAR 13 CAMP 2017

In 2017 students will be provided with the opportunity to attend the Year 13 Camp at the Motutapu Outdoor Education Centre. This camp will run from Monday 20th February to Friday 24th February, week 4 of Term One.

Motutapu Outdoor Education Centre (MOEC) is on Motutapu Island in the Hauraki Gulf and incorporates activities such as kayaking, sailing, climbing, confidence course and problem solving. The camp is a highlight of the Year 13 calendar. In previous years students have always enjoyed this camp because of its situation and the facilities it offers.

We have managed to keep the cost of the camp at only \$300. This includes transportation, accommodation, food and instructor fees. Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. Payment will need to be paid by Friday 10th February. Medical forms and further information regarding the year 13 Camp will be made available at the start of 2017.

This notice is to give all Parents/Guardians advanced warning of the financial requirements for this camp.



DIWALI

On Friday 28 October we held a wonderful night celebrating the Festival of Light "Diwali" with our school and wider community. Our talented students and community showcased wonderful dance performances, celebrated with traditional Indian food and opportunities for Heena application Rangoli art. Thank you to Mr Mander and Mr Hall for your extra efforts to help run the night so smoothly. We look forward to another exciting event in 2017.

We would like to thank our sponsors for their support:

Future Print

0800Mandap

Humm FM 106.2

Dominoes Mt Roskill South

Precious Beauty Parlour Stoddard Road - Heena artist

India Gate Restaurant

Roop Darshan

DJ Dave event hire

Tony Martine Sports Connection

The Red Warehouse Stoddard Road

YMCA Cameron Pools

Usha Patel Rangoli artist

And the many volunteers.





COMMUNITY AWARD FOR PELE TALAI SI

Senior student Pelenatita Talaisi has received a Quota Community Champion Award. The award honours young women in the community who have succeeded despite of their own difficulties and become an inspiration to others. Pele is a deserving recipient of this award as she has maintained her positive outlook and been a role model to fellow students - at all times striving to support those around her.

WIDER EDUCATION UPDATE

Over 70% of students have now signed up for the compulsory Wider Education activities from December 5th-7th. All Year 9 students take part in three day trips that rotate each day. These are an Amazing Race, Day Tramp and Sports Day and Swim. Year 10 students have the option of a camp at Marsden Bay (30 minutes south of Whangarei) or Day Trips. The camp is almost full, meaning those who miss out will have to participate in the Day Trips.

There are always a significant number of families who go on holiday during this period. A note from home signed by a parent/caregiver detailing when and where the student will be on holiday is required to be given to the Attendance Officer in the Deans Centre.

All staff are really looking forward to the trips in December and they are a great way of ending the year on a high.

If you have any questions or concern regarding the Wider Education programme please get in touch with Mr Horne via email (ben.horne@mr.gs.school.nz) or phone (621 0050 extension 891).

Buzzthepeople School Fundraiser

If you are happy to complete the occasional on-line survey this would be a great way to help the school fundraise. Founded in 2004, Buzzthepeople is an Auckland based Research Company. To date over \$448,000 has been raised for charities, schools and other groups registered with them.

Parents, students, ex-students and supporters of the school living anywhere in New Zealand are able to register. You would receive on average one or two roughly 10 minute surveys per month to fill in on-line, and the school gets \$1 or \$2 for each completed survey. Essentially you are giving a gold coin donation to the school every time you do a survey. There is no compulsion to fill in all the surveys you receive, and you can withdraw from the programme at any time.

If you can help us with this fundraiser just click on this link to register. <http://www.buzzthepeople.co.nz/helpfundraise.aspx?s=0609B55C>



Check out the new MRGS Sport website

sport.mr.gs.school.nz

Information about sport at MRGS, photo galleries, draws & results, and lots more!





BYOD

Information

Evening

WHEN

November 15th
6-7.30pm

WHERE

Hodge Learning Commons

**Come and learn more about how BYOD will
benefit your child's learning**





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@mrgrs.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 R Cornes
Year 10	Mr K Hays		Mr C Buckley
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 = Ms F Leigh)			
Cooper House (Blue)	Miss T Mackinlay Mrs D Pringle	Ngata House (Orange)	Ms F Leigh Mr A Ferguson
Rutherford House (Red)	Ms M Cranch Mr C McGibbon	Sheppard House (Yellow)	Mr C Chellew Ms N Dekker
Hillary House (Green)	Mr C Overton Mr D Garraway		
Your child's attendance			
Attendance Officers	Mrs L Mohenoa		
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 K Hall		
Rutherford House	Mr J Wilkinson		
Hillary House	Mrs K Collins		
Ngata House	Mrs N Peterson		
Sheppard House	Mrs N Fell		

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have a new address, phone number, cellphone number or email address please pass this information through to the school: admin@mrgrs.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 2016

Term 4	Monday 10th October	Friday 9th December
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TERM FOUR EVENTS

15th November	BYOD evening — 6pm in the Hodge Learning Commons	21 –22nd November	Junior Exams
5-7th December	Wider Education	9th December	Junior Prizegiving End of Term 4

Term Dates 2017

Term 1	Tuesday 31st January	Thursday 13th April
Term 2	Monday 1st May	Friday 7th July
Term 3	Monday 24th July	Friday 29th September
Term 4	Monday 16th October	Friday 8th December

TERM ONE EVENTS—2017

31st Jan	Start of Term 1 Staff Professional Learning Day	1st Feb	Staff Professional Learning Day
2nd Feb	All Year 9, 13, and new students	3rd Feb	Whole school starts
20-24th Feb	Year 13 Camp	28th Feb	NCEA evening Athletics Carnival
7th March	Year 9 and 10 swimming carnival	9th March	Excellence Awards
15-17th March	Polyfest	13th April	End of Term 1

WE'RE AN ANZ OLYMPIC SCHOOL

We have registered as an ANZ Olympic School which provides us with resources and rewards to inspire our school community.

If you're looking to take out a home or business loan, simply provide the name of our school when speaking with an ANZ representative. When your loan is drawn down, we will receive credits to spend at the ANZ Awards Centre on items like sporting equipment and computers.

To discuss an ANZ home or business loan, visit your local ANZ branch, or call a Home Loan Specialist on 0800 269 4663 or a Business Specialist on 0800 269 249.



Olympic Schools





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 _____



SCHOOL SPONSORS

The school is pleased to have the financial sponsorship of a number of local businesses. Their financial support enables students at Roskill to take part in the full co-curricular life of the school. Sponsorship in many cases is directed at particular teams and/or certain events – it provides support for kit, equipment and also on occasion's expenses for attendance at tournament events.

Gold

**Kip
McGrath™**
EDUCATIONCENTRES

Silver



FUJI xerox



Proudly Supported by

Barfoot & Thompson
Licensed REAA 2008

Mt Roskill, 09 621 0912

Bronze



Proudly Supported by
Sam & Angela Maharaj
McDonalds®
Balmoral, Royal Oak, St Lukes, Church Street,
Stoddard Road & Onehunga
McCafé® available at Balmoral, Royal Oak, Church Street & Stoddard Road
www.mcrsja.com

PAK'nSAVE

Royal Oak

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

We greatly value the commitment our sponsors show and their willingness to enable Excellence at Roskill.

Any business or organisation wishing to offer sponsorship to the school - please contact Mr [Ben Horne](#) - Director of Sports.