# Weekly Newsletter



February 2019: Term 1 Week 5

### Leadership

Last week 200 students and staff enjoyed a stimulating time at the annual Year 13 camp on Motutapu Island. Students enjoyed activities facilitated by specialist outdoor educators ranging from sailing and kayaking, through the high ropes courses to raft building, archery and Ms Te Whiu's legendary SEAL challenge.

It was a pleasure to have former staff members Mr Hall and Mr Green join us, and to be able to show visiting French Principal Monsieur Sourice the New Zealand outdoor experience. Evenings included the quiz night and the camp concert.

Our students were exceptional in participating fully, helping each other out in the activities and with the dishes, making the camp enjoyable for everyone. This week everyone is back in class with new friendships and a sense of achievement to enjoy.

Thank you to Mr Ferguson who keeps a watchful on health and safety for everyone and to Mr Cornes who expertly led the camp organisation and atmosphere.

Greg Watson, Principal





Photo credits: Falaviena Fau'ese, Mrs Bennett, Mr Cornes

### Leadership cont...

There is a great energy around the school as our Polyfest groups practice after school and on Saturdays. The Kapa Haka, Niuean, Samoan, Tongan and Indian groups work beyond the choreography being perfect to something more – a sense of a team.

Thank you to the tutors, teachers, support staff, alumni, families and of course the students who are helping to lead these groups towards competing against other schools on  $13^{th} - 16^{th}$  March at the Manukau Sports Bowl, 1 Boundary Rd, Clover Park, Auckland.

Students in these groups are each leading in their own way; reaching to the heights, individually and together.



Marjet Pot, BOT chairperson

### NCEA Information Evening

#### NCEA Information evening February 26<sup>th</sup> 7pm

Parents and Caregivers of Year 11 students and students new to MRGS are warmly invited to the NCEA Information Evening to be held in the school hall.

There will be a brief overview of NCEA, careers and mentoring followed by an opportunity to meet key staff and ask questions. Tea and coffee will be served. Please be seated by 7pm.

### **Excellence Awards**

All students who gained Excellence Endorsement in NCEA Levels 1, 2 and 3 and those who gained an individual subject Scholarship in 2018 will be celebrated in a ceremony this coming Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February in the Butler Hall at 7pm.

For an NCEA certificate to be endorsed with Excellence a student must gain 50 credits at Excellence at the level of the certificate or above.

For those who have received an invitation please reply to your invitation by Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> February to admin@mrgs.school.nz for catering purposes.

We look forward to celebrating our students' success with our students and their families.

### 2019 Mentoring



Mentoring at Mount Roskill Grammar School is our way of reporting face to face with our families. Mentors, students and families work together in partnership to set goals and support students to be successful with their academic achievement, co-curricular activities and career pathways.

The mentoring conference in Term One is on **Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>** with appointments between 3:30pm to 7.30pm.

Book online at www.schoolinterviews.co.nz using Event code: qzhxf

You can book a time online if you have your student's mentor code. Each student will receive a booking notice to bring home with instructions on how to book and their mentor's details. Please endeavour to book a time by Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Mentors, students and families will reflect on the first 5 weeks of learning and work together to set goals for the year. You will also learn how to access the online **Parent Portal** to get up-to-date information about your student's attendance, results and reports as well as school notices. The session will be 15 minutes.

We look forward to working with you and your child, supporting them to achieve their goals in 2019.

### **Learning Support**

Every **Wednesday from 3.20pm-5.30pm** in Learning Extension (L3) we are running a **homework centre** that we are calling **"Catch Up"**.

"Catch Up" can be used when it suits for students to drop in and get the help they need in an array of subjects with teacher support. This is a great way to get one on one help from teachers or work with friends to help each other in a friendly environment. Come with questions!

We have computers and chrome books to support assessments and examination preparation. If students want certain subjects covered we will also support them to make this happen.

It would be great to see your child there so we can further support them to reach their full potential.

"Kai Time" (Breakfast Club) is up and running Monday- Friday in Learning Extension (L3) 7.50am-8.50am to support our students/your children to have the energy to get the most out of their learning.

We would like to acknowledge Sanitarium, Fonterra and the Ministry of Social Development who provide us with the kai for "Kai Time".

### Alumni News



[2007] Abby Erceg is heading to Australia with the Football Ferns for the inaugural Cup of Nations ahead of the Ferns heading to the World Cup, which kicks off in June!

[2013] Myke Davis Hoeft (left) and [2017] Avneil Mohan (centre) are to be congratulated on their 3<sup>rd</sup> placing in the Mini Crew Division at the Auckland Regional Hip Hop Championships.



Share your alumni news! <u>alumni@mrgs.school.nz</u>

MRGS Facebook Page – LIKE US for regular news updates

## MRGS School APP for mobile devices



www.mrgs.school.nz

#### **Smart Phone APP**

MRGS has launched a Smartphone App which is called Schoolstream. The app is free and can be downloaded on your phone. Once you have downloaded the App you will be connected with us by selecting the school from their selection menu. This app enables you to have regular news updates, in addition to access to attendance etc.

## New School Lunch Service

