

July 2019: Week 1, Term 3



From the Principal



Returning from sabbatical leave I have been so impressed with the huge range of individual and team achievements during term 2. It's great to see such a wide range of students joining in, participating strongly, and competing with the best over a wide range of sporting, social and cultural events.

Recently we have congratulated our girls' 1st XI football team as they won the Auckland Senior A Championship and our girls' chess team as they won individual Auckland titles, including Sylvia McDougall who won a national chess title.

Our boys' basketball team leads the Auckland Senior A competition, our premier girls' lacrosse team finished third overall in Auckland and a number of our boys' lacrosse players have been named in NZ teams for their age group. We have had students representing us at Youth Parliament, and this week we look forward to the Rua Performing Arts Showcase with close to 100 students performing.

Our senior students are preparing for their school exams, which are held in week 8 and 9 of this term. Students are not only revising subject content, they are building 'learning muscles' or learning power to enable them to manage examinations successfully. We are talking with students about the day by day actions that contribute to a growth mind-set, exemplified in our value of Tūmanakotanga – aspiring to the heights.

Students are practicing organising their time, prioritising just what is studied when, while meeting social and family commitments. They are learning to be clear about exactly what it is that they should be learning. The 'success criteria' given to each student for each topic are a good starting

point going forward in assessment and exam preparation. Students are also learning to find their rhythm and way of learning. A resilient student knows how to work through difficulties when the pressure mounts, how to recognise and reduce distractions, and when to take a break. A resilient student keeps going in the face of difficulties knowing that learning is often a slow and uncertain process. Strengthening these capabilities is the key to long-term learning success. Families can help students during exam time by supporting development in all of these areas – something everyone can do.

I'm looking forward to a fantastic term in our standout learning community as we help each student prepare for learning success.

Ki ngā taumata

Greg Watson, Principal

Board of Trustees

One of the many things that heartens me about Mount Roskill Grammar is that the students of Roskill remain connected to our community, even after they have left school. We are grateful to the past pupils who return to support our co-curricular activities in a range of ways; as coaches, managers, sponsors, instructors and mentors – on the sports field and in the classroom.

The connections we have feel strongest at times of both sadness and joy. I would like to acknowledge the alumni we commend in each newsletter in these moments of joy. Special mention in this newsletter of alumni “walking the talk” of Sursum, representing their respective countries at an international level, truly reaching “to the heights”.

It is exciting to know that many of our current students also represent us on a national or world stage, and do so with dignity. Thank you to all of our students who represent us, and themselves, with pride.

In addition to the high profile events and successes I believe we also see successes closer to home. How you represent our school and yourself is best viewed when you think no-one is looking. Sursum is about reaching to the heights and we not only reach to the heights at an international sporting level, we also reach to the heights in our empathy for others. To the student who helped at a car accident scene before school, to those whose voices were heard at Youth Parliament and to the student who gave his pizza to a homeless man - the connections with our community run deep and I am proud to be a part of your community.



Marjet Pot, BOT chairperson

Dates for your diary

Term 3	
Wednesday 14 August	Community of Learning Conference – school finishes at 1:30pm
Thursday 15 August	School Cross Country - compulsory for all year 9 and 10 students
Thursday 22 August	Report Evening – 4:00-7:30pm

2020 Course Selection

2020 course selection closed on **Friday 26 July 2019** and all students should have completed their selections by this date. If you have not done this yet, please see your academic dean.

Subject details can be found in the Academic Programme booklets on the website

<https://www.mrgs.school.nz/academic-programmes>

Want to be a Host Family?

If anyone would like to be a host family for our international students, please contact **Fia Clark**:

fia.clark@mrgs.school.nz or ring the school office and ask for **Fia**. Please note that there is a 21-day police vetting process for anyone who has not been vetted. This will be organised by the school.



Celebrating Arts



Millie Deabill performed as part of a Youth Workshop series at “The Pop Up Globe” in Ellerslie over the Term 2 holidays. Her performance as Banquo in Macbeth was brave, convincing and engaging. Millie’s artwork was also chosen to be added into the painting above the stage – her orange piwakawaka bird looks stunning amongst the heavens painted at “The Pop Up Globe.”

Millie continues to take opportunities to perform in workshops and performances in order to upskill herself in Drama; as a Year 11 student this is a great approach to learning and if any other students at MRGS would like to perform at The Pop Up Globe or in other shows, they can come and see Miss Gillies in the PFA room for advice about workshops and auditions.

Rua Showcase

MT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS

RUA

A PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE

Thursday 1st and Friday 2nd August, 7pm – Butler Hall
Tickets \$5 from Accounts



British High Commissioner Visit

At the end of last term we were privileged to receive a visit from Laura Clark, the British High Commissioner. She was accompanied by Labour's MP for Mt. Roskill, Michael Wood.



Laura and Michael were welcomed by our kapa haka and enjoyed visiting some dynamic classes.



Youth Parliament 2019

Saakshi Hegde presented a General Debate Speech (<https://youtu.be/tC6LijPYvL4>) and Ala Vailala presented the Environment Select Committee Report (https://youtu.be/jPiQ_8qkBQU) to Youth Parliament 2019 in Wellington over the holidays.



Congratulations to you both on a fantastic contribution to important causes.

Women in Educational Leadership



“Women In Educational Leadership” was held on Tuesday, 2nd July at Epsom Girls. The topic of this event was support for our rainbow students.

MRGS was represented by staff Helen Netshidzivhani, Helen Prasad, Felicity Powell and Margaret Hoogendorn, plus five students: Sonam Bagwe, Aiden O Connor, Ishika Dwivede, Uday Bhattia and Freya Grant who presented to a group of over 50 educational leaders. Note that Sonam, Aiden and Freya are just Year 11.

Such courage and inspirational leadership. We are immensely proud!

Chess



Congratulations to Sylvia McDougall (pictured) for being the top player and under 16 Champion at the Auckland Girls Chess competition held at Mt Albert War Memorial Hall on 28 June. Sylvia then went on to win the New Zealand Schoolgirls' Chess Championship.

Also to Kirushni Suthakaran who won the under 18 Auckland Champion title.

Lacrosse

Congratulations to our lacrosse age group representatives:



- U15 NZ boys: Jeremy Bell, Josh Ford, Josh Lyon, Rishi Nava, Adhil Nishat
- U18 NZ: Jeremy Hand (pictured)
- Open Grade Mens Nationals, Auckland: Josh Ford, Josh Lyon, Isaac Bayldon.

MRGS Hockey Academy

MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL
YEAR 9
HOCKEY ACADEMY

**BECOME A
HOCKEY
ATHLETE**

☆☆☆
**ACADEMY SPACES STILL OPEN
TERM 3 & TERM 4**
☆☆☆

Contact
Tarun Nethula
Tarun.nethula@mrqs.school.nz

**DETAILS AT
MRGS.SCHOOL.NZ**

Uniform

With the cooler temperatures continuing, this is a reminder that students are expected to wear **school jackets or jumpers** to and from school. If you need to fundraise to buy a jacket or jumper you can see Mr McGirr in admin.

And don't forget our **NEW** official school scarf - in stock at the uniform shop for \$30.



Free PACE Seminar for Parents of Teens

Parents and caregivers of secondary school students (Years 9-13) are invited to a free '*Parents as Career Educators*' seminar on 28 August. The seminar will provide parents with tips and advice to guide their teenagers through the various career and study options available to them in the modern world. This free seminar will cover:

- The world of work: looking forward
- How to make informed career decisions now and in the future
- How parents can assist
- Career development resource.

Presented by a career consultant from the University of Canterbury | Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha (UC), the seminar will assist parents to help their teens consider ALL their options, such as work, university, polytechnic, an apprenticeship, private providers or other possibilities (please note that this event is NOT about study options at UC.)

The seminar will be held from 7:00pm-8:30pm on Wednesday 28 August 2019 at:

Fickling Convention Centre - 546 Mount Albert Road

Three Kings, Auckland

Register online at: www.canterbury.ac.nz/events



Arts Coordinator 2019

Person Specifications

- Good interpersonal, communication and organisational skills
- Experience preferable in at least one area of the visual and performing arts
- Experience required in organising, presenting and managing others
- Flexibility in hours desirable
- Initiative needed to develop arts events/activities
- Basic skills in word-processing, internet use

Job Specifications

- Work to support the Performing Arts, Visual Arts and Music Departments with co-curricular activities
- Assist with the promotion, organisation and presentation of Arts events within the school
- Initiate co-curricular opportunities in consultation with HODs
- Organise and assist with external Arts opportunities (e.g. trips and workshops)
- Enhance liaison with community arts providers, tertiary institutions and the MRGS campus schools
- Run an Arts Year Planner and Events Calendar.

The Arts coordinator will be responsible to the Principal through the Deputy Principal responsible for Arts Coordination who will work with HODs to coordinate requirements.

Hours will be 18 per school term week - the pay rate will be \$20.00 p. hour.

Applicants should provide – A covering letter of application and a brief CV giving details of education and previous employment/experience (closing date for applications is Friday 2 August 2020).

Applications should be addressed to:

Mr. D. Pemerika - Deputy Principal
Mount Roskill Grammar School
Frost Road, Mount Roskill
Auckland 1041

Any Further Enquiries to:

Mr. D. Pemerika - Deputy Principal
Tel 621-0050 Ext. 820

desmond.pemerika@mrgs.school.nz

Alumni News



Jordon Milroy [2010]

Para Athlete - Jordon led the Samoan contingent out at the official opening of the Pacific Games in Samoa and he continues to be an absolute inspiration to all!



Paris Baker [2016]

Lawn Bowls Athlete - A big congratulations to Paris Baker for winning Bronze in the Samoa Pacific Games 2019 in Lawn Bowls (Women's single event).

Otu Mausia [2014]

Rugby Athlete - In the build-up to the world, it is with pride that we recognise Otu Mausia who was named in the Tongan rugby team for the Pacific Cup.



Student Safety

Please ensure that when you collect your child from school that you are always parked safely and aware of all students. We have students from our school and students from the primary and intermediate who may not be as easy to see. Stopping on yellow lines is not legal or safe.



Roskill Stories

If you have Roskill stories about the success of current or past pupils, please share to alumni@mrgs.school.nz or message the MRGS Facebook page.

MRGS Sponsors

Thank you to New World Mt Roskill for their continued support of sport at MRGS.



Thank you to Gilmours for supporting students who are fundraising for the 2020 Europe trip.

