

November 2019: Week 3, Term 4

From the Principal



Over the last two weeks it's been a pleasure to welcome so many families to the Arts and Cultural Awards evening, the Māori Graduation evening, and to Senior Prizegiving. It has been wonderful to acknowledge outstanding achievement and to see our graduating students taking their place in a new generation of young leaders. Congratulations to our prize winners on your success. We know that your achievements are hard won and for many of you are the culmination of years of endeavour.



Congratulations to Sheng Ya-Wang and Christine Fangzhi Jian on their Dux and Proxime Accessit awards respectively. Congratulations also to HOD Mathematics Mrs Wright on being recognised with the Board of Trustees staff travel award.

Ki ngā taumata
Greg Watson, Principal

Board of Trustees

The word inspirational means making you feel full of hope or feel encouraged, and is a word that comes to mind as I reflect on this year's achievements.

Education is unique and different for each taurua. For some it is about acquiring different skills, values and how to live in the world. For others it is about becoming the best in a chosen subject or mastering a sport or cultural activity. For some they will be aiming to get to university or on to a particular course and for others it is about improving the world we live in by being a caring and supportive student.

Students at MRGS have the support of their whānau and professional staff to enable them to reach their goals. Over the years, MRGS has produced many inspirational leaders. Each newsletter has a story about our alumni. It is always an impressive read.

So many current senior tairua have lead with pride and our community is richer for your leadership.

Thank you to those families, businesses and staff who provide financial, coaching, mentoring, tuition and support to the school. Best wishes to senior students with their impending exams. I am sure that you will continue to make your families and the school proud of you.



Marjet Pot, BoT Chairperson

Staff Travel Award

Each year the Board of Trustees funds a travel award. The BOT values the quality staff we have at MRGS.

The staff travel award includes leave and travel costs and for 2020 has been awarded to Mrs Sophie Wright, HOD Mathematics. Mrs Wright will be attending a Maths Conference in Ontario.



Correction - MRGS Sports Awards



Our sincerest apologies to **Nathan Sands** whose photo was featured in our last newsletter (Term 4 Week 1). The photo, showing Nathan accepting one of his sports awards, was captioned with the wrong surname.

Congratulations again to Nathan for receiving the *Best All Round Sportsman* award at the 2019 MRGS Sports Awards.

MRGS Senior Prizegiving



Congratulations to all the students who were recognised at Mt Roskill Grammar's Senior Prizegiving Awards held last week. The following list is a selection of some of the awardees:

Dux	Sheng-Ya Wang
Proxime Accessit	Christine Fangzhi Jian
1st Year in 12 & The Thomas Cup for Top Year 12 Student Studying Level 2 Subjects	Huthaifa Ibrahim
2nd in Year 12	Matthew Mitra
1st in Year 11	Fabian Li
2nd in Year 11	Coco Chen
Best All Round Sportsman	Nathan Sands
Best All Round Sportswoman	Shania Gates
Sportsman of the Year	Justin Sapoi
Sportswoman of the Year	Cheyenne Takau
Performing Arts Award for Excellence in Performance	Mele Taumoeanga
Performing Arts Award for Leadership	'Isope 'Akau'ola
Principal's Art Award - Sponsored by Elizabeth Michael	Ella Shiyu Zhao
PhotoLife Award for the Top Overall Art Student	Sharon Liang
Philip Darragh Cup for Songwriting	Josio Tiata
Raewyn Winny Trophy for Contribution to Music - Joint Award	Joel Hawthorne
Raewyn Winny Trophy for Contribution to Music - Joint Award	Max Noller
The Most Progress in Senior Solo Music Performance	Akuila Fakatoumafi
Mana Taiohi Leadership in Kapa Haka - Joint Award	Bronson Aramoana
Mana Taiohi Leadership in Kapa Haka - Joint Award	Alix Taku-Bedwell
Marilyn Toi Trophy for Karanga	Alix Taku-Bedwell
Te Iwi Ngaro Trophy for Best All Round Senior Maori Student	Kate Bonnici
Manawa Titi for Perseverance	Bianca Bryan
Mana Wairua Trophy for Spiritual Strength	Jelena Faleafaga
Taiohi Matataki Trophy for Overcoming Challenges	Jarese Sturgeon Wilson
Whaikorero (Roimata Kaaka Trophy)	Levi Ahlquist
Bowden Trophy for Strength with Dignity	Mandela Takaa
Chris Hassan Memorial Trophy for Leadership in Year 12	Zach Alaimoana
Fisher-Maher Peer Mentor of the Year Award - Joint Award	Kaitlyn Booth
Fisher-Maher Peer Mentor of the Year Award - Joint Award	Fahad Shehzad
International Student Award	Christine Fangzhi Jian



Leslie Gunson Award for the Student who gains the Highest Overall Marks in NCEA Level 1 in 2018 Huthaifa Ibrahim

Lions Community Spirit Award

Rishi Shukla

Margaret Hoogendoorn Trophy for Exceptional Leadership in Student Services

Ishita Dwivedi

Mintram Cup for Academic Excellence

Wei Liang Jian

PSSP Cup for Leadership in the Peer Sexuality Support Programme

Sonam Bagwe

Senior Library Award

Ben Hyland

The Jennifer Heath Classics Cup

Wanya Ansari

Transition Prize

Saaliha Khan

YWCA Future Leader Award

Latika Syed Niyamathullah

Shaun Thomas Cup for the Most Potential in Catering & Hospitality

Tom Ashworth

The Lawrence Trophy for Excellence in Level 2 Physical Sciences

Chea Long Koy

Senior Speech Trophy

Lauren van Laarhoven-Hargreaves

Lubeck Memorial Prize for 1st in Level 3 Physics

Sheng-Ya Wang

Lacy Cup for Senior Literature

Eleasha White

Parmar Cup for Academic Excellence in Level 2 Sciences

Jasper Yang

Faculty of Arts Award

Eurodias Yong

Saththiananthan Cup for Inspirational Leadership

'Isope 'Akau'ola

Soma Family Award for Character & Excellence

Kate Bonnici

Mt Roskill Rotoract Cup for Integrity, Honesty & Service

Jenice Kuzhikombil

MRGS Trophy for Qualities of Character

Niharika Mandadi

Ross Hamilton Trophy for Pursuit of Excellence

Sarah McKenzie

Gipps Trophy for Previously Unheralded Endeavour

Tayla Pennell Tupou

Lewis Cup for Dedication, Leadership & Humility

Fahad Shehzad

Cruze Cup for Inspiration & Commitment

Ala Vailala

Sursum Foundation - Keith Hall Scholarship

Lute Mafi

Sursum Foundation - Keith Hall Scholarship

Saimone Helu

University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship

Jabez Zeleke

University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship

Youxiang Lei





University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship	Kevin Wu
University of Auckland Faculty of Business and Economics Entry Level Undergraduate Scholarship	Daniel Torrey
University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship	Lillian Tualau
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship	Pranav Rao
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship	Akash Boppana
University of Auckland Top Achiever Scholarship	Sheng-Ya Wang
AUT School Leaver Scholarship - Kiwa	Glorielle Filisi
AUT School Leaver Scholarship - New Horizons	Mariam Ali
AUT School Leaver Scholarship - New Horizons	Ajit Franklin
Crown Institute of Studies Scholarship	Helen Desale
Crown Institute of Studies Scholarship	Eynna Yusuf
UC Engineering High Achievers Award	Sarah McKenzie
University of Otago New Frontiers Excellence Entrance Scholarship	Max Noller
University of Otago 150th Entrance Scholarship	Abdullah Mirza
Enterprise Award	Glorielle Filisi
Enterprise Award	Saimone Helu
Enterprise Award	Jessica Rigg
Enterprise Award	Naomi Vos
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in Commerce	Sangavi Shanthinathan
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in Science	Sheng-Ya Wang
Hay Trophy for Academic Excellence in the Arts	'Isope 'Akau'ola
Head Prefects Award	'Isope 'Akau'ola
Head Prefects Award	Sarah McKenzie



Dates for your diary

Term 4

9 November	NCEA Examinations begin
13-19 November	Yr 9 and 10 Summative Assessments
2-4 December	Wider Education Week
6 December	Junior Prizegiving; End of Term 4

NZQA Timetable 2019 Examination Timetable

DATE	TIME	LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	SCHOLARSHIP
Fri 8 Nov	9:30am		Physics	Business Studies	Calculus
	2:00pm	Geography	German	Dance	Agricultural & Horticultural Science
WEEKEND					
Mon 11 Nov	9.30am	Biology	Music	Media Studies	Accounting
	2.00pm	Business Studies	Chemistry	Agricultural & Horticultural Science / German / Chinese	English
Tues 12 Nov	9.30am		English		
	2.00pm	History	Te Reo Māori	Biology	Economics
Wed 13 Nov	9.30am	English			
	2.00pm		Media Studies	Home Economics	Statistics
Thurs 14 Nov	9.30am	Science		Making Music	History
	2.00pm	Te Reo Māori / Art History	Geography	Chemistry	Te Reo Rangatira
CANTERBURY ANNIVERSARY DAY					
WEEKEND					
Mon 18 Nov	9.30am	Chemistry	Chinese	French	Drama
	2.00pm	Classical Studies	Health	Economics	
Tues 19 Nov	9.30am	German	Biology	Geography	
	2.00pm	Physics	Home Economics	Classical Studies	Japanese
Wed 20 Nov	9.30am	Mathematics & Statistics			Biology
	2.00pm		Drama	Physics	Art History
Thurs 21 Nov	9.30am		Mathematics & Statistics		Classical Studies
	2.00pm	Music	Accounting	History	French
Fri 22 Nov	9.30am	Accounting		English	
	2.00pm	Home Economics	Economics		Geography
WEEKEND					
Mon 25 Nov	9.30am		History	Health	Physics
	2.00pm	Te Reo Rangatira / Latin	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Sāmoan	Te Reo Māori / Latin
Tues 26 Nov	9.30am	French	Business Studies	Calculus	
	2.00pm	Economics		Accounting	Media Studies
Wed 27 Nov	9.30am	Media Studies	Earth & Space Science	Drama	Chemistry
	2.00pm	Sāmoan / Spanish	Japanese	Te Reo Rangatira / Social Studies / Psychology	Sāmoan
Thurs 28 Nov	9.30am	Agricultural & Horticultural Science	Art History	Statistics	
	2.00pm	Chinese	Spanish	Earth & Space Science	
Fri 29 Nov	9.30am	Drama	Social Studies	Music Studies	Spanish
	2.00pm	Health	Sāmoan / Education for Sustainability	Te Reo Māori / Latin	Chinese
WEEKEND					
Mon 2 Dec	9.30am	Social Studies	Dance	Art History	Earth & Space Science
	2.00pm		Classical Studies		German
Tues 3 Dec	9.30am	Dance	French	Spanish	
	2.00pm	Japanese	Te Reo Rangatira / Latin	Japanese	

2019 NCEA Support Pathways

DEPARTMENT HUBS

2.

STAGE TWO
Wk5/T4 11-15th November

Art	Art Rooms	Māori	A1
Commerce	R11	Mathematics	A6-A10
English	Hodge	Music	Music Rooms
ESL	Normal classrooms	Performing Arts	L2
Food & Hospitality	B4	Health & PE	Normal classrooms
Languages	Normal classrooms	Science	S7-S10
Learning Extension	L Block + Hodge	Social Science	C5
Digital Technology	B7 - B8	Technology	Normal classrooms

Parent Communication Summative Assessment Week

Junior Assessment Week (this used to be called Exam Week) - Junior end of year assessments will take place over five days from 13-19 November and will be completed within normal timetabled class periods.

This applies to the following subjects: **Maths, Science, English and Social Studies** - other subjects will continue as normal. An important part of this process is students understanding the rule of formal examinations: students will work in silence; they will need to bring a clear plastic bag to store their pens and pencils; mobile phones will be turned off and kept in school bags at the front of the room.

Exam formats

Subject	Year 9	Year 10
Maths	Algebra test Number test	Tables/equations/graphs test Chance/Data test
Social Studies	Essay Skills test	Essay Skills test
Science	Physical world test Material world test Living world test	Physical world test Material world test Living world test
English	Response to written text essay Understanding unfamiliar texts test	Response to visual text essay Understanding unfamiliar texts test

Subject teachers will be working on revision and preparation for the assessments over the next few weeks. They will inform students of the assessment timings for this Junior assessment week. Any questions regarding junior end of year assessments should, in the first instance, be directed to subject teachers or Heads of Department. Any other concerns please contact your House Dean.

MRGS Senior Prizegiving Head Prefect Speech - Sarah McKenzie



Congratulations to all the prize winners who have come onto this stage tonight. Some of you I've come to know so well during my time at Roskill and some of you I haven't spoken to, but despite that, I'm proud of everyone here.

Getting up here tonight, I had a goal for my speech. It would be short and precise, not just about me, and somehow honouring the last five years I've had here at Roskill. If I was to cover those three points, I'd consider myself pretty successful. I'm sure that to some people out there, though, even standing up on this stage and saying something coherent would be a huge success.

And to some, even being able to speak up for themselves in front of their family would feel good.

This prizegiving, and the 'sports' and 'arts' prizegivings that have come before it, are established to acknowledge the cream of the crop of our school - those whose hard work throughout the year has been rewarded because they were more successful than others in the school's eyes. As harsh as this sounds, it's true.

But unfortunately, what prize giving doesn't acknowledge is the student who got straight not-achieved last year and is now looking to get university entrance with their achieved credits. It doesn't acknowledge the student who couldn't catch a ball this time last year and is now out wearing the Roskill crest every week. And it doesn't acknowledge the student who couldn't get out of bed for days last year and now makes it to school on time every day. Although these successes are not often acknowledged, they are just as valid to those students as the prizes tonight are for us.

Our society has been built on the idea that to be successful we must tick these certain boxes - namely: get good results at school, get into university, get a good job after that, get married, have kids, the list goes on. But not everyone who has had a successful life has lived it like this, and there are certainly people who are miserable by following this path. In my eyes, the only way to be successful in whatever you choose to do is to feel fulfilled by it. But success is not simply achieving someone else's goals. You have to find meaning in what you're doing in order to be successful.

My parents have always expressed that my brother Callum and I can pick whatever career we want for our futures. Rubbish truck drivers, lawyers, hairdressers, electricians, teachers, or stay at home parents. The world is our oyster in that regard. But, the one thing that my parents want is that we do our absolute best that we can in these fields. No matter what you spend your day doing as long as you come home after a long day feeling fulfilled and content, you are a success. I'm personally heading to study engineering at the University of Canterbury next year, and rest assured I'm going to be successful in what I do, even if I change paths throughout my life. Because this success isn't defined by anyone else, it's defined by me.

Roskill is the perfect place to learn how to develop your own personal brand of success. Every day of my 5 years here has been filled with passionate, hard-working people who aren't living just for the tick-boxes. I'm not going to name all of you because I'd be here for hours, but at Roskill, people seek genuine, personal relationships with other people. Whether it's teachers, friends, or classmates, everyone is aiming 'to the heights' in their own ways, and helping out others along the way to get to their successes too.

Over the past five years, the times I've felt greatest haven't been when I've looked down and seen an E on my paper - although that's always nice too - they've been after those long tiring days when I've got home into my bed - worn out, but with satisfaction seeped into my soul. The France trip last year, long evenings helping out my prefect buddies, arriving home after tournament weeks and camps and even just after a really nice day at school with my friends. These are the moments that I look for in life, these are the moments that are my successes.

Now I know success isn't as simple as this because life isn't as simple as this. It isn't always practical to follow our passions because we have families to worry about and money to make. Many of us here at Mount Roskill come from immigrant families who have sacrificed so much to give their kids the chance at a better future. So to assume that conventional success is useless is to erase all the values that our families hold near to our hearts.

But the truth is that everyone deserves success and everyone deserves fulfilment, in whatever form it comes. Use your school, money, people, and jobs as your tools but don't let any one of these things be your end goal. There's always going to be fear, obstacles and a lack of motivation, but if you're the one who wants that success then these things no longer seem like such a big deal, because it's your life, your goals and your future.

The successes that are celebrated here tonight are well deserved by each of you, but it's important to remember that your own personal success belongs to you - and it's only when we realise that that we can truly be happy. Thank you.

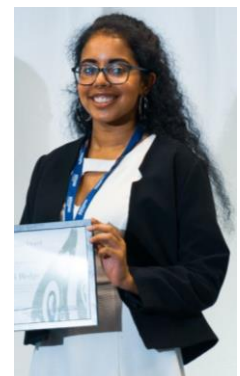
Puketāpapa Youth Awards



The Puketāpapa Youth Board Awards celebrate the achievement of the rangatahi of Puketāpapa.

Congratulations to these Mt Roskill Grammar students who were honoured at this year's event:

<i>Rangatahi Award</i>	Li'i Cowley Lupe
<i>Outstanding Sports Award</i>	Kalarnee Stunzer
<i>Role Model Award</i>	Maggie Lee
<i>Rainbow Award</i>	Uday Bhatia
<i>Kaitiakitanga Award</i>	Saakshi Hedge



MRGS Arts and Cultural Awards



Mt Roskill Grammar honoured several students at this year's MRGS Arts and Cultural Awards.

This was a Performance Event where students showcased visual art, culture, dance, drama and music - a night where we collectively celebrated excellence and creativity.

(Left: Artwork by Jessica Fang).



Mt Roskill Campus Māori Graduation

The Mt Roskill Campus Māori Graduation was held recently. Congratulations to all of our Māori graduates. So proud of you all and wishing you well for the next chapter knowing that you carry our aroha with you.



Alumni News



Pearl Lazaro (2015)

Congratulations to alumna Pearl Lazaro who placed second runner up in the Miss Cook Islands competition. Pearl was also named Miss Grand International and took out some of the individual categories:

- the Bluesky Social Media award \$500
- Bluesky Muumuu \$1000
- the Traditional Costume \$1000.

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.

Mount Roskill Early Childhood Centre

Located on the Mount Roskill School Campus, the Mt Roskill Early Childhood Centre has had 27 years of supporting our tamariki take their first steps in their Roskill learning journey. Low child-teacher ratios and a home away from home environment is a rare find in Auckland. Spaces are available now.

Check out our website www.mountroskillearlychildhood.co.nz and contact Nerys on (09) 629 0732 with any queries.



Nominating MRGS with ASB Home Loans

If you are taking out a new ASB home loan and it meets the criteria outlined below, you can support Mt Roskill Grammar by nominating the school and ASB will donate \$500.

A graphic for an ASB advertisement. It has a black background with a large yellow chevron pointing to the right. The text 'Supporting success in your school.' is written in yellow and white. Below this, in white text, it says: 'If you're a parent, staff member or member of the school community and you take out a new ASB home loan of \$250,000 or more, ASB will donate \$500 to your chosen participating school.' The ASB logo is in the bottom right corner.

ASB's lending criteria and terms apply.

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.

MRGS Sponsors



Thank you to New World Mt Roskill for their continued support of sport at MRGS, and to Gilmours for supporting students who are fundraising for the 2020 Europe trip.

