

February 2020: Week 1, Term 1

## From the Principal



It has been an enjoyable start to our school year. Welcome to all of the families who are beginning their partnership with our school. We look forward to meeting you at the various upcoming events and helping your son or daughter get settled in the school. It has also been a pleasure to welcome back returning students, and congratulate them on excellent achievement in the NCEA examinations.

The co-curricular programme is well underway and summer sports have already begun. We encourage each student to take up an activity in addition to classroom learning. These activities are a good way of getting to know a wide range of students, grow in personal qualities such as persistence and responsibility to others and most importantly, are a lot of fun.



We are always available to help families with any questions and to ensure each student enjoys their learning.

Ngā mihi  
**Greg Watson, Principal**

## Board of Trustees

Welcome to 2020 at Mount Roskill Grammar School. As the chairperson of the Board of Trustees it was a privilege to attend the powhiri last week to welcome new students, staff and families.

For those of you who are new to the school you will have already noticed the warmth of our teachers and support staff who work hard to ensure that each student will reach “to the heights” in their own way. I was particularly proud of the current student leaders who welcomed our new staff and students. They showed great unity and strength in their welcome and support later in the day running the Peer Mentoring programme.

To our families, old and new, know that you can best support your child by knowing what is happening with their learning, encouraging excellent attendance and ensuring that they make the most of the myriad of opportunities offered at MRGS – at our school we support students to be global citizens by encouraging them to create connections, both in class and outside of the classroom.

I look forward to meeting many of you at the New Parents’ Evening on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 6.30pm.




Ngā mihi nui  
Marjet Pot, BoT Chairperson

## Dates for your diary

### Term 1

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 6 February     | Waitangi – HOLIDAY                              |
| 11 February    | <b>New Parents Evening – 6:30pm in the hall</b> |
| 17-21 February | Year 13 Camp                                    |
| 27 February    | NCEA Excellence Awards – 6:30pm in the hall     |
| 28 February    | NCEA Assembly Y11                               |
| 3 March        | NCEA Information Evening – 6:30pm in the hall   |
| 6 March        | NCEA Assembly Y12/13                            |

## Nominating MRGS with ASB Home Loans



**Supporting success in your school.**  
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.

ASB's lending criteria and terms apply. Fees may apply. Eligibility criteria - Documentation of the facility agreement must be done by 30 June 2020. For this promotion to apply, you must make mention of it during the home loan application. Only applies to loans which are secured by residential owner-occupied property with a minimum of 20% equity. The offer is limited to one donation per new home loan. The donation will be made to the chosen school on complete draw-down of the home loan. Excludes lending through brokers. Full eligibility criteria, exclusions, terms and conditions are available at [asb.co.nz/promotions/supporting-success-in-your-school.html](https://asb.co.nz/promotions/supporting-success-in-your-school.html)

If you are applying for a home loan with the ASB, and it meets the criteria outlined below, you can support Mt Roskill Grammar by nominating the school and ASB will donate \$500. ASB's lending criteria and terms apply.



## MRGS 2020 Powhiri



## MRGS School App



Keep up to date with the MRGS App.

1. From your device go to the App Store/Play Store.
2. Search for "School Stream" and tap the install button.
3. You will be prompted to accept push notifications - select OK.
4. Type Mount Roskill Grammar School into the search bar then select it.

The App will give you access to daily notices and newsletters as well as allowing you to update personal details and notify the school about absences.

## Novel Coronavirus Alert

International efforts to contain the spread of the novel coronavirus are evolving day by day. The virus can be spread by infected people before they are showing symptoms.

As advised last week, MRGS students returning to New Zealand from China, or who have been in contact with someone confirmed as having the virus, need to remain away from school for 14 days on arrival back in New Zealand. The government has now placed temporary entry restrictions into New Zealand on all foreign nationals travelling from, or transiting through, mainland China.

This will delay the start of their school year and may cause some students to feel anxious about the work they are missing. Everyone's health and wellbeing is important to us and students affected by the need to stay home are encouraged to contact the school [admin@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:admin@mrgs.school.nz) so that your House Deans can work with your classroom teachers to provide you with school work.

The Ministry of Health continues to encourage a precautionary approach and a focus on good hygiene; wash hands thoroughly with soap and sneeze/cough into an elbow or tissue. For further information you can access the Ministry of Health link [Novel coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\) guidance – Ministry of Health](#).

We are receiving ongoing advice and monitoring the situation.

## MRGS Uniform

Students are expected to wear correct school uniform throughout the day. School shoes are black leather, closed-in. They can be lace-up or plain. NO sandals. This shoe policy is for safety reasons.

**PE Uniform:** PE uniforms have just arrived in the Uniform Shop and are now available to purchase. This means that some new students and their families have not been able to purchase these prior. PE staff have been made aware of the availability issues and that some students will not be in uniform for the first few lessons.

## MRGS at the 9<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Mediation Forum 2019 – South Korea



Mt Roskill Grammar was privileged to have Naima Ali participate and contribute on our behalf at the successful 9th Asia Pacific Mediation Forum Conference held on Jeju Island, South Korea on November 1-3, 2019. Naima met with international delegates and was most impressed with the presenters and their wealth of knowledge and expertise on Mediation. Her presentation on providing Muslim school aged students with opportunities to develop skills in leadership, conflict resolution and how to manage and address bullying and discrimination was well received.

Many of the international participants have invited us to present at other international conferences. Malaysia delegation were most interested to implement our restorative practices with an Islamic framework into their schools and workplace.



## MRGS Prefects for 2020

MRGS Head Prefects 2020 - we look forward to you leading alongside our other students.

Head Prefects: Zach Alaimoana, Pranayam Lal

Deputy Head Prefects: Matthew Mitra, Mackenzie Mariano



### Prefects:

Levi Ahlquist  
Khalifa Alamin

William Aleki  
Rizqi Alvaro  
Bronson Aramoana  
Uday Bhatia

Anna Brown  
Destene Campbell Davis  
Li'l Cowley-Lupo  
Margaret Fa'atea  
Jelena Faleafaga  
Gemini Ferrall-Fotuhetule  
Mitchell Gosling

Stephanie Guo  
Ayesha Hafeez  
Che Halafihi  
Darlene Hotwani-Myar  
Karen Huang  
Huthaifa Ibrahim  
Michelle Ibram  
Vinayak Joshi  
Brian Khomkomphut  
Ashleen Lau  
Euan McDougall  
Mateyiachs Ngavaine  
Puja Nory

Sarah Ogbuze  
Ihsanullah P A  
Travis Parsons  
Rishika Raju  
Jeremiah Ruawhare  
Upeksha Sabaragamu Korallalage  
Simar Sahni  
Rishi Shukla  
Lilyann Sila  
Angela Singh  
Isaiah Stitt  
Jaynee Woodward

## Peer Mentoring



Year 12 and 13 Peer Mentors support our Year 9s' transition into secondary school with a programme designed to help them connect with their peers and the school.



## Sports Registration at MRGS

Students interested in representing Mt Roskill Grammar in CollegeSport competitions must register their interest by completing the Sports Registration form (through google):

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1qydz9ufRLVBxwy1ZmgE7zzLfl1zSBKCrAFWnDvJ93KA/edit>

All sports are offered for both boys and girls with the exception of Netball (girls only). If a student wishes to participate in multiple sports then please select options accordingly.

At the end of the registration period, information regarding trials, key dates and fees will be circulated to the email addresses listed on this form.

If you find that a sport is not listed on the drop down menu then you are welcome to contact the sports department by email: [sports.department@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:sports.department@mrgs.school.nz).

## MRGS Senior Cricket

Four of our senior cricketers travelled to Whangarei in the second to last week of January for a fixture against Northland U16: Abdul Ahmadzai, Dev Ratra, Jay Patel and Ishaque Lolai

The team had a win with Jay Patel being the standout performance from our group.

## Lacrosse

Congratulations to Isaac Bayldon, Jeremy Hand, Joshua Lyon and Joshua Ford for their selection for the New Zealand U18 Men's team. They will be representing New Zealand in Melbourne in the upcoming U18 Australian National Championships.



## MRGS Celebrating the Arts

**Odd Daphne:** WINNER of the Auckland Theatre Awards “Hackman Cup” for Most Original Production! Congratulations to Joshua Iosefo. “Odd Daphne” is in its second and final season. Written by Joshua Iosefo (class of 2012), it features the following Roskill students: Lijah Mavaega (current year 12), Izzy Cerei (current year 13), ‘Isope ‘Akau’ola and Netane Taukiuvea (class of 2019), Yusuf Guessous and Isla Mayo (class of 2018) and numerous other Roskill alumni such as Awhina Mitchell and Jonjon Cowley-Lupo backstage and behind the scenes.



More information is available at:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/2020/odd-daphne-season-2/auckland/mangere>

**Wild Dogs Under My Skirt:** based on the poem by Tusiata Avia has made history as the first Samoan female ensemble to perform at the Soho in New York. This production features alumna Vaimailia Baker performing and alumni Mario Faumui choreography. Congratulations for being involved in an internationally acclaimed production.



## Alumni News



Randy Sjafrie [2016]

**Celebrating Randy's talent:** in addition to being an outstanding basketballer, walking the talk on the court, he has talked the talk in radio - moving quickly from graduating MRGS, to intern at Mai FM, to hosting Mai FM nights.

## Roskill Stories

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

## Lantern Festival at MRGS

*Come Along & Celebrate Chinese New Year*

# PUKETAPAPA 2020

## LANTERN FESTIVAL

Arts & Crafts

Free Entry

Fantastic Food

Wishing Tree

YEAR OF THE RAT

Martial Arts  
WuShu & TaiChi

Dance & Musical  
Performances

Date: Friday, 27th March, 6.00pm ~ 9.00pm  
Venue: Mt Roskill Grammar School Hall  
37 Frost Road, Mt Roskill

**\*Please bring cash for Food & Raffles\***

For more information, please contact  
Ella Kumar 021-047 7642 or Joseph Ngui 021-267 6368