

February 2020: Week 7, Term 1

## From the Principal



The 1<sup>st</sup> XI cricket team's win in the final of the Auckland 1B competition brought an exciting season to a close. With 12 wins in a row, the team has gained deserved promotion to the 1A competition. Congratulations to all the players, coaching staff and families for a superb season full of commitment!

We are extremely proud of all of our groups who prepared so passionately and purposefully for this year's Polyfest. Thank you to students and families who contributed so much to getting ready for the event. Our students have shown manaakitanga even in their disappointment about the cancellation.

Thank you for your ongoing cooperation with the Covid-19 prevention and management measures in our school and community. We are asking students, staff, whānau and visitors to the school to avoid handshakes, hongi, hugging and other physical contact.

We are reviewing all upcoming school events through a Covid-19 lens and will make case by case decisions in the interest of student and community health and wellbeing. We all have a role in preventing the spread of COVID-19.

Please continue to:

- Follow the latest government travel advice and isolation requirements.
- Keep children away from school if they are unwell.
- Wash and dry hands.
- Use good cough and sneeze etiquette.

Ki ngā taumata

Greg Watson, **PRINCIPAL**



## Board of Trustees

Aligning with Mr Watson's message I'd like to also express my disappointment for those of you affected by the cancellation of Polyfest. I am aware of all your hard work and would like to extend my thanks to tutors, staff and senior students for leading these groups. To see our students enacting our values within these groups is heart-warming.

The Board of Trustees (BoT), in consultation with whānau also recently cancelled the Classics trip to Italy and France. It was a hard decision to make and we knew how much it meant to those who were planning to go. I thank you all for the support of your tairua learning. Thanks also to Student Horizon Travel for the transparency in their communication.

The BoT recognise the huge amount of effort and time by the taura and kaiako, whānau and wider community for the planning that goes on behind the scenes. What stands out for me is the maturity and understanding of our tairua in all groups, displaying the school values of manaakitanga and whanaungatanga.

Health and safety is paramount and we all need to look after ourselves and be vigilant with our health to reduce the spread of the disease.

I encourage you all to use good hand washing techniques and practice good cough and sneeze hygiene: thoroughly wash (with soap and water for at least 20-30 seconds) and dry hands; coughing or sneezing into your elbow or a disposable tissue, then put used tissues in the bin and wash hands afterwards.

Information about hand, cough and sneeze hygiene is available on the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and Auckland Regional Public Health Service websites.



Anyone seeking health-related advice about COVID-19 can also free call Healthline's dedicated 0800 number: 0800 358 5453.

Ngā mihi nui  
Marjet Pot, BoT Chairperson

## Dates for your diary

Term 1	
Friday 20 March	Sock Day – Gold Coin Donation for World Down Syndrome Day
<b>Monday 23 March</b>	<b>Holiday (School Closed)</b>
Wednesday 1 April	Progress Reports distributed
Tuesday 7 April	Junior Subject Report Evening
Thursday 9 April	End of Term

## Covid19 Coronavirus Key Information

We have a number of school trips and events that play an important part in our school curriculum. We are and will continue to make decisions on these trips on a case by case basis and use the advice and guidance provided by the Ministries of Health and Education.

### Covid-19 Coronavirus - frequently asked questions and answers:

#### **Should I still be sending my children to school/letting them attend assembly or camp?**

Yes, children should continue to attend school as normal. This would only change if:

- a student or staff member at your school was confirmed as having COVID-19 and
- your child had had 'close contact' with the infected person.\*

\*Close contact means being face-to-face (less than a metre) with an infected person for longer than 15 minutes. Contacts of close contacts are not considered at risk of catching the virus.

#### **What can I do to protect my child at school?**

As with other respiratory illnesses, it's important you remind your child/ren to practice safe hand, cough and sneeze hygiene to reduce the risk of infection. They should:

- Frequently and thoroughly wash (with soap and water for at least 20-30 seconds) and dry hands.
- Practice good cough and sneeze hygiene. That means:
  - Maintaining a distance of a metre or more away from other people.
  - Coughing or sneezing into their elbow or a disposable tissue, then putting used tissues in the bin and washing their hands afterwards.
  - Carry disposable tissues in their bags/pockets.
  - Hand sanitiser is also a useful alternative option if soap and water is not readily available.
- Avoid touching their faces. Viruses can enter the body through the eyes, nose and mouth.

Information about hand, cough and sneeze hygiene is available on the Ministry of Health, World Health Organization and Auckland Regional Public Health Service websites.

If there are any changes in information we will inform you.

## MRGS School App



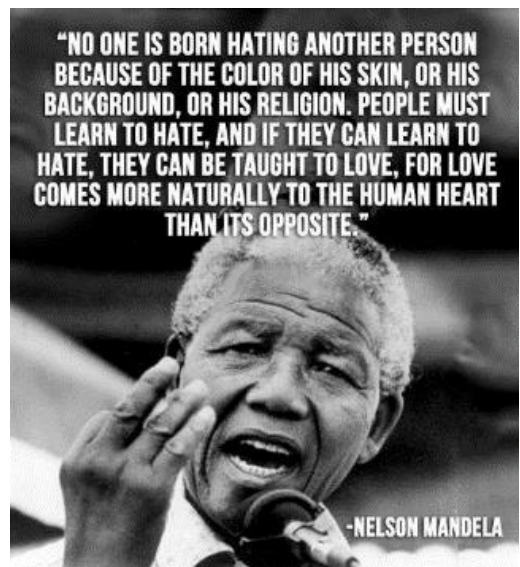
Keep up to date with the MRGS App.

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.



## Advanced Mediation Training



Advanced mediators' training over the past fortnight has included:

- a 'Race Relations' workshop with mediators showing commitment, wisdom and dedication in standing up against racism in our community
- a workshop from Shine on the prevalence of violence in Aotearoa, the myths of violence, healthy/ unhealthy relationships and how to be an active bystander.



## Catch Up with Learning Extension

Is your child having difficulty with any of their subjects? Support them to come and get support at "Catch-Up". This is a chance for all students to get the support they need to reach their goals.

Everybody is invited and it takes place every **Thursday afterschool from 3.20pm-5.30pm in Learning Extension**. We provide teachers from different subject areas to ensure your child is given the help they need. We also have Chromebooks available and to ensure their brains are fully functioning, there are also some snacks. We want your child to reach the heights, so encourage them to get the support they deserve.



# MRGS Sports Carnival

The MRGS Sports Carnival day was held on Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. The results are below with the cumulative house points:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place: 100 – Ngata House
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place: 95 points – Hillary House
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place: 90 points – Sheppard House
- 4<sup>th</sup> place: 85 points – Cooper House
- 5<sup>th</sup> place: with 80 points – Rutherford House









## MRGS Students at NZ Lacrosse Nationals

**2020 NZ Senior Men's Lacrosse Nationals** - congratulations to Josh Lyon and Isaac Bayldon, members of the Auckland Blue team, who not only took out the title, they were undefeated throughout the tournament. Congratulations to Josh Ford and Jeremy Hand, who also competed, representing the Auckland White team.

## MRGS at Athletics Zones

Last week we had a team of 18 students represent the school in various events at Central West Zone Athletics held at Mount Smart Stadium.

We had numerous top 10 finishes but the stand out was Y11 student Rishi Shanthosh who finished 1<sup>st</sup> in Intermediate Boys High Jump. Nathan Sand's 4<sup>th</sup> place and Jordan Fullers 5<sup>th</sup> place in the Senior Boys 3000m were our top performances for boys. Rishi now qualifies for the Champs later this year. Sylvia McDougall was our star female athlete finishing 5<sup>th</sup> in Intermediate Girls 80m hurdles and 6<sup>th</sup> in 400m.

### Field Standings

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Int Girls Long Jump: Sylvia McDougall, 8<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Girls Shot Put: Melanie Sands, 6<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Sr Girls Shot Put: Serene Stewert Valiyaveetilrishi, 11<sup>th</sup></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Int Boys High Jump: Rishi Shanthosh, 1<sup>st</sup></li><li>• Int Boys Long Jump: Ahmad Ali, 7<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Boys Long Jump: Rishi Shanthosh, 10<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Sr Boys Long Jump: Hrithik Khemani, 8<sup>th</sup></li></ul>
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### Track Standings

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Int Girls 400m: Sylvia McDougall, 6<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Girls 80m Hurdles: Sylvia McDougall, 5<sup>th</sup></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jr Boys 100m: Benson Ireland, 24<sup>th</sup>, Xander Haddon McGuff 27<sup>th</sup>, Sai Ganesh Chanakya Yamalapalli 29<sup>th</sup>, Josefa Mataika 30<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Jr Boys 200m: Sai Ganesh Chanakya Yama, 14<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Boys 100m: Aaryal Prasad 10<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int 400m: Ahmad Ali 8<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Boys 1500m: Alex Thomson 8<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Int Boys 3000m: Alex Thomson 13<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Sr Boys 100m: Hudson Pfeifer, 11<sup>th</sup>, Yaqeen Abrahams 14<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Sr Boys 200m: Yaqeen Abrahams 12<sup>th</sup>, Hrithik Khemani 17<sup>th</sup></li><li>• Sr Boys 3000m: Nathan Sands 4<sup>th</sup>, Jordan Fuller 5<sup>th</sup></li></ul>
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## Homework Centres

### Tongan Homework Centre



The Homework centre will open tomorrow Wednesday - 19 February 2020 and every Wednesday after that in Term One.

Time: 6-8 pm

Venue: D I I

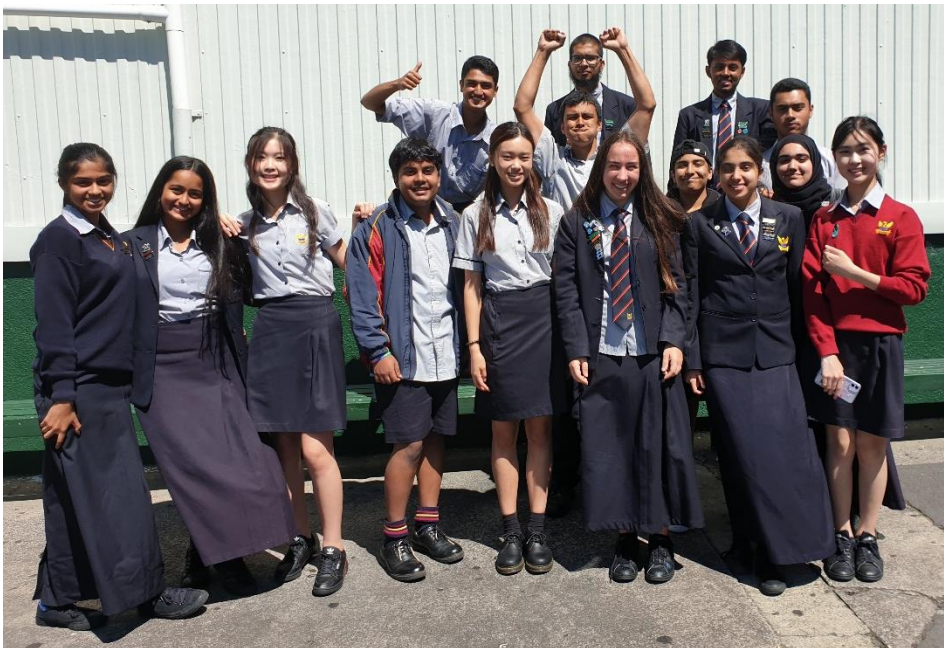
Need help with English?

## ENGLISH HOMEWORK CENTRE

Tuesdays in H6, 3.15pm - 4.30pm

## MRGS Debating News

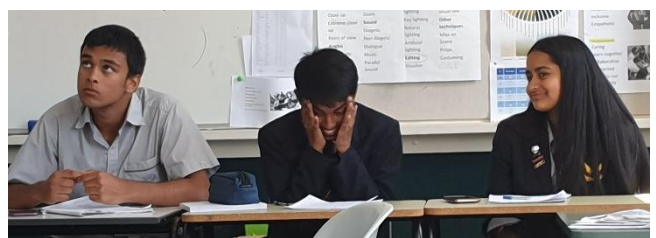
MRGS competed in the Seasonal Championship hosted by Lynfield College. We took our biggest squad ever, consisting of five teams.



The teams learnt a lot from the four debates they competed in. They enjoyed debating topics such as 'Police officers in NZ should regularly carry guns', 'We should lower the voting age to 14' and 'NZ should close its borders to all foreigners in response to the Coronavirus outbreak'.



We are now looking forward to a successful year ahead for the MRGS Debating Phoenixes.







# ROCK YOUR SOCKS

— for —

WORLD **DOWN SYNDROME** DAY  
#LOTSOFSOCKS

20.03.20

WEAR CRAZY, MISMATCHED SOCKS  
TO SCHOOL TO CELEBRATE.  
GOLD COIN DONATION.

## Alumni News



### Vaoheilala Laui [2014]

Vaoheilala Laui has been selected to represent New South Wales in the 2020 Grid Iron Australia National Championship.

## 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.

## Nominating MRGS with ASB Home Loans



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.

## 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](http://www.mountroskillearlychildhood.co.nz) and contact Nerys on (09) 629 0732 with any queries.



## 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.

