



From the Principal



Kia ora koutou

It was a surprising way to end last term and now we are clicking back into learning without being together in our classrooms. We are all working with new ways of doing things, so keep a watch out for someone you can help.

This assembly bulletin tells you how to get started and how learning will happen. Some of the big ideas are

- Lessons are mostly on Google classroom
- If you can't connect to the internet, your teachers can still help you learn
- Make a timetable of times that each teacher is available on line
- Check in each day by google forms
- Not sure? Email your Dean

Remember the Roskill Way. You don't need to know how to do everything before you can get started. You can do something.

If you get stuck email your Dean for help, or call them through Jules.
Enjoy the speech from Matthew.

Noho ora mai
Greg Watson
Principal

MRGS Board of Trustees

I would like to welcome you all to Term 2.

To our students I am sure you will continue do your best in the coming weeks. Enacting the value Tūmanakotanga in your learning and your wellbeing in what is a different world, you will need to manage your time well. This may mean setting up times of the day that work best for you to access your learning so that you can continue to support your family. We are fortunate that we have staff who care about both your learning and your wellbeing. Staff will be contacting you regularly so please be honest with them if you need help.

As an essential worker myself I understand the additional challenges this brings for many of our parents and caregivers and I would like to thank you for your contribution.

I would also like to thank the teachers and senior leadership team for their work over the holidays ensuring that our students are able to maintain some momentum in their learning, as well as including connectedness as a Roskill whanau in their planning.

I am grateful that our school continues to live our values not only when things are settled but most importantly when faced with unexpected challenges. It was great to see Whanaungatanga and Manaakitanga demonstrated so well by our prefects in their video last week.

Thank you all for staying home, being kind and being patient.

He waka eke noa
We are all in this together



Marjet Pot
BOT Chairperson

Dates for your diary

Wednesday 15 April	Term 2 Week 1 begins Distance Learning starts online
Monday 20 April	Term 2 Week 2
Saturday 25 April	ANZAC Day
Monday 27 April	ANZAC Day holiday
Tuesday 28 April	Distance Learning continues

Reports

Term 1 reports were sent out via email to all caregivers and students on Thursday 9th April. These reports focus on Key Competencies in the classroom during Term 1.

Distance learning

As we begin Term 2 and our Distance Learning programme, we would like to give you a clearer understanding of what is required whilst we are learning Online and from home. This is a new venture for everyone involved. We know that there will be challenges along the way, that it won't be perfect from the beginning, but we will all be learning a lot as we go. As our Prime Minister has reiterated throughout the Covid-19 journey, please be kind to yourselves as we navigate our way through Term 2 and beyond.

Our teachers have been working hard to ensure all Google Classrooms are in operation, and are ready in preparation for Term 2. Your teachers will be providing learning for you on Google classrooms, however the tasks may come from a variety of platforms for you to complete your learning in. This may include, but is not limited to Education Perfect, the Google Suite, Kahoot.

Each of your teachers' have been asked to identify 2 hours per day where they will be available 'live' to support you in your learning.

This may mean they can video call you via Google Hangouts, email you directly, or respond to your questions in Google classroom. They will be available at other times, but you may not receive an instant response like you will during the two hours. The two hours will be pinned at the top of each of your classrooms. Please note when each of your subject teachers is available so you can receive any support you need.

Checking in

Each student is asked to "check in" each day by 3pm via a google form, which will be on the Learning Hub <https://sites.google.com/mrgs.school.nz/mrgs-learning-hub/home>. This will enable us to ensure that you are engaging with their google classrooms regularly. We will then be able to get in touch with students who aren't engaging, and provide support where needed.

Device access

If you do not have access to a device, the Ministry of Education is working towards ways they will support you with learning throughout the lockdown. This may be provided in the form of a device, or hard copy materials which in either case will be delivered to your home. The information we have at this stage is that Year 11, 12 and 13 NCEA students will be the first priority. These provisions from the Ministry may not be with you from the very first day of Term 2, however there will be the television channels which are accessible across the nation for up to 15 year olds. All students will benefit from reading throughout the lockdown. Reading boosts your literacy, and supports you in every subject you complete at school.

If you need support throughout the lockdown, the same people are available to support you, as they are in school. Subject teachers, form teachers, Deans, Counsellors, Nurses, Senior Leaders, are all available via email. Please reach out and make contact with them. There will also be a google form on the Learning Hub, which you can complete with any issues, questions or concerns, and that support will be provided as soon as possible.

I know all teachers and school staff are missing all our students and whanau very much during this time. We're really looking forward to starting Term 2 and making connections with you all again. We feel very well prepared for this new avenue of learning, and we're also really prepared to continue to learn and develop as we go.

Managing Self

As we enter a different way of learning we want to ensure that you have guidance on how you can best manage your time.

Managing Self is one of the Key Competencies and there is an expectation that you will create a timetable that best suits what you need to do for your learning but also accommodating the fact that many of you may have family responsibilities or may be sharing devices with other family members. Having a timetable can help you to remain focused, keep to your set goals for the day/week and ensure that you have a plan.

For some of you working at normal school times [Timetable A] may be the best way for you to be productive. We have included some timetable outlines below for you to use or adapt.

Form time is an opportunity to utilise the activities that will be sent once we are in a routine, including things like mindfulness, video messages etc.

Break time is a great opportunity to eat, move AND hydrate - drink water - your brain is approximately 80% water so keep it hydrated.

Make sure you are being active as much as possible - maybe set up a group of friends or class group challenge for steps, planking duration, HITT workouts, free workouts on TV, any activity which raises your heart rate and gets you active.

School Timetable A, OR create your own and stick to it:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
9.00 - 9.55					
9.55 - 10.50					
10.50 - 11.15	Form time	Form time	Form time	Form time	Form time
11.15 - 11.40	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11.40 - 12.35					
12.35 - 1.30					
1.30 - 2.10	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
2.10 - 3.05					

Teacher availability

The staff have been asked to allocate two hours per day in total in which they are available 'live' to their classes. It may be helpful to add this information to your timetable, showing when those times are so that you can work in a way that means you can ask your teacher questions when they are online.

Your teachers might be available at times that are not exactly 'on the hour' (9am - 11am for example), but over different time blocks which you could colour code.

Setting up a timetable

The timetable you set up for you will need to accommodate what works for you and your family, what you are going to be able to stick to, when staff are available and allow for breaks.

(Don't spend hours setting up the timetable. Get it done on the first day and then focus on learning)

Teacher availability timetable: **SAMPLE ONLY**

(to combine boxes in your own version - highlight area required, right click and select "merge cells")

	Mon	Mon	Tues	Tues	Wed	Wed	Thurs	Thurs	Fri	Fri
9 - 9.30	SAMPLE									
9.30 - 10	English Mr E		ENG GYC		ENG GYC		ENG GYC		ENG GYC	
10 - 10.30		Chemistry Mr C		CHE MGR		CHE MGR		CHE MGR		CHE MGR
10.30 - 11	Maths Mrs M		MAT WRS		MAT WRS		MAT WRS		MAT WRS	
11 - 11.30										
11.30 - 12										
12 - 12.30		Painting Ms P		PNT GRO		PNT GRO		PNT GRO		PNT GRO
12.30 - 1										
1 - 1.30										
1.30 - 2										
2 - 2.30										
2.30 - 3		DVC Mrs P		DVC PGD		DVC PGD		DVC PGD		DVC PGD
3 - 3.30										
3.30 - 4	English Mr E		ENG GYC		ENG GYC		ENG GYC		ENG GYC	
4 - 4.30										

Staying Connected

In addition to your online connection with your subject teachers and classmates we will also be contacting each of you by phone in the first week. Mentors will call their 'mentees', junior form teachers and deans will call all Year 9 and 10 students.

Each of these people will continue to contact you weekly, either by phone or email to check on your wellbeing. We do not currently have information on a return date to school, but as soon we have that information we will pass it on to you.

Online expectations

As working online is more common practice it is essential that we hold manaakitanga at the centre of online interactions. Please show respect for your classmates and teachers. No-one knows the individual challenges each person has is facing during this time - we need to support each other in a positive way and be conscious of how we word our messages.

Pastoral support

Counsellors can be contacted by email counsellors@mrgs.school.nz during school hours, by Facebook Messenger (mrgscounselling) or through Instagram private chat (counsellingmrgs). All communications are confidential, unless there is an imminent risk to safety.

Nurses can be contacted by email nurses@mrgs.school.nz, texted or called on 021 320 021 Monday - Friday 8.30-4.30 for text or phone consults or referrals to the GP. The GP is available Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8.15am-12pm. Students can be referred from the Health Centre to other external Health Providers as necessary.

Any Covid-19 related queries please call Healthline on 0800 611 116.

Outside of school hours if you require support, Youthline is available 24/7 on free call 0800 376 633 or text #234 or webchat [Youthline.co.nz](https://youthline.co.nz) or email talk@youthline.co.nz

If you need to contact your House you can contact the Deans through the following email addresses. All of the deans are available but having one point of contact per House means that they can redirect any questions or make referrals as needed.

Cooper: haizley.reweti@mrgs.school.nz
Hillary: ciaran.overton@mrgs.school.nz
Ngata: stephanie.fraser@mrgs.school.nz

Rutherford: david.syme@mrgs.school.nz
Sheppard: connor.chellew@mrgs.school.nz

Assembly Item

Every week in the Student Assembly communication we will also have an “assembly” item to share.

This week’s item is a speech from our Deputy Head Boy, **Matthew Mitra**.

We will be uploading this speech to the website and via our Instagram and Facebook pages.



In 2019 Matthew gained 2nd place for all students studying Level 2 subjects.

He has achieved Excellence Endorsement in both Level 1 and Level 2, and over three quarters of his credits are at Excellence or Merit.

Matthew has achieved a number of House distinction awards and colours for basketball. He is an advanced mediator, has represented Ngāta House on the both the House Committee and in the Student Council.

Matthew excels in basketball, having represented the school in the Under 17 team for the past three years! He is a leader both on and off the court.

House Messages

COOPER HOUSE

*E rua tau ruru,
E rua tau wehe,
E rua tau mutu,
E rua tau kai.*

Two seasons of drought; two seasons of scarcity; two seasons of crop failure; two seasons of plenty.

Kia ora koutou, naumai haere mai, welcome to the start of Term Two Cooper House.

Well this is a little different! I hope you're all keeping safe, healthy and making the most of being at home with whānau.

Remember that our core value of **Perseverance** is vital for the next step in our journey for learning. We're all really excited for the fantastic learning opportunities this term has to offer.



HILLARY HOUSE



What's up Hillary whānau.

I hope you have found ways to entertain yourself throughout the holidays and you have been keeping up with some type of exercise to help break up your day and stay healthy.

With online learning starting up it is important that you continue to show **Endeavour** and keep pushing on with your education. Please continue to stay in contact with your teachers to ensure you keep up to date with school work.

If you have any issues or questions, please feel free to contact your Hillary Deans. Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

NGATA HOUSE

Kia ora team Ngata!

We hope you have managed to have a break over the holidays and enjoyed the time connecting with those in your isolation bubble. We are looking forward to getting Term 2 underway alongside you all even though it may look a little different.



Now is an important time to remember our house value as you begin your distance learning journey.

Aspiration - aim high and be ambitious in your achievement.

We are all in this together and if you need any support please do not hesitate to get in contact with any of us.

Whaowhia te kete mātauranga.
Fill the basket with knowledge.

RUTHERFORD HOUSE

Kia koutou.
Hope you are well and have had a good break.

As we head into the new term, we ask you to embrace our Rutherford value of innovation in your bubble. Sure we are in lockdown in our bubbles and this can be challenging, but remember we still can be creative in how we care and engage with others and set our goals.

Aim high, be positive and embrace technology to support your goals and to support our learning and wider community. Have an innovative and creative attitude! Kia manawanui.



SHEPPARD HOUSE

