

June 2020: Week 10, Term 2

## From the Principal



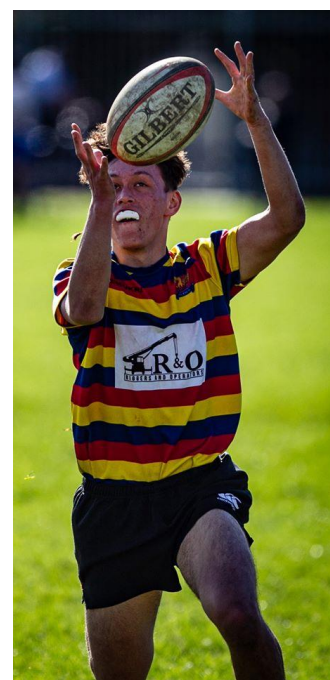
The Matariki season is a time to be with family and friends, reflect on the past, remember those who are not with us and prepare for the year ahead. Auckland Matariki Festival Director Ataahua Papa says: “Matariki is like pressing the refresh button each year”. This week senior students are planning ahead with their families and teacher mentors in the mentoring sessions. It’s a great opportunity to take stock, recommit to realising aspirations, and plan the way forward.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the school as we have returned and reset the school year following lockdown. We have reviewed our practices for Alert Level 1 for the start of Term 3. Under Alert Level 1 there are no specific public health requirements, however we will be maintaining our practice of student sanitising hands at the school gates, and this will also be an option in each lesson. We will also be resuming weekly assemblies.

It is tremendous that the winter sport season is underway. Congratulations to our 1<sup>st</sup> XI boys’ football team who won their play-off game against Rutherford College and remain in the Premier Division. MRGS is one of only two co-ed state schools in Auckland with both the girls’ and the boys’ football teams in the Auckland Premier competition. A great achievement.

There have been impressive season starts from our rugby, hockey, netball and lacrosse teams. Thank you to everyone who is joining our community of supporters at the games.

Nga Manaakitanga  
Greg Watson, PRINCIPAL



## Board of Trustees

A Board of Trustee membership should reflect the rich cultural diversity of the Mt Roskill Grammar community. The Board is fortunate to have had Sieni Voorwinden on the BoT for the past three years.

Sieni is of Samoan ethnicity and she has always ensured that the voices of the Pasifika community are heard at our meetings. She is constantly ensuring that the Board's decisions will improve the outcomes for Pasifika students.

Sieni has been appointed CEO of the Samoa International Finance Authority (SIFA) in Samoa. Sieni and her family are returning to their home country so that she can take up this prestigious role.

Sieni has really enjoyed her time serving on the MRGS Board of Trustees and being involved in the governance of the school. We are very sorry to lose her but she will be Samoa's gain.

Going forward the Board of Trustees will need to replace Sieni with another Pasifika voice. If you are interested in being on BoT please contact Marjet Pot 021977201 and she can talk you through what is required of BoT members.

*"What better way to help our kids than to be at the table with others making the decisions. It is too important not to be."* Sieni Voorwinden



Ngā mihi nui  
Marjet Pot, BoT Chairperson



## Dates for your diary

Term 2	
Wednesday 24 June	Senior Mentoring Conferences
Tuesday 30 June	Options Information Evening (6:30pm)
Friday 3 July	<b>Last day of Term 2</b>
Monday 20 July	<b>First day of Term 3</b>
Thursday 23 July	Report Evening
Wednesday 29 July	Open Day

## World Refugee Day

Donations of new or gently used blankets or quilts welcome. Help us share the warmth with our neighbours this winter. **Please drop off to H4 - Miss Ali.**

## Assessment

### Option choices

Options choices for 2021 are due in at the end of Week 1 Term 3 July 24th. Students are encouraged to discuss their options with whānau and seek advice from their form teachers and academic deans. The process is online and can be done via the KAMAR portal. If there any issues with access to the portal, students can see their academic dean to submit their option choices.

### Course Information Evening

Families of Year 9 to 12 students are warmly invited to attend the Course Information Evening on June 30th. Drop into the Hodge Learning Common anytime between 6.30pm and 7.45pm to talk with teachers about subjects choices. All subjects are represented and careers guidance experts will also be available. Students will be able to confirm their options choices on the night if they have made their decisions.

## Mentoring

Mentoring Conferences are this Wednesday 24th June. Please ensure you and your Year 11 to 13 student have booked your appointment with Mentors. This can be done online via [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz), caregiver code: **2fr7t**. School is closed to Year 9 and 10 students on this day.

### Option Selections 2021

We are currently in the process of making option selections for 2021. Year 9 and 10 students will be having conversations in the remaining weeks of Term 2 with their form teachers and academic deans to ensure they are making choices which support their future career pathway/s, passions, interests and strengths. Please have a conversation with your child about their option choices. This information is available via the KAMAR portal, with detailed information about the courses on offer.

Year 11 to 13 students will make their option choices with their Mentors at the Mentoring Conferences. They should also attend the Course Information evening if they have any questions about their subject choices. This is on Tuesday 30th June. Students may change their options up until the end of Week 1, Term 3.

### Attendance

We are very happy with the number of students who have consistently attended school since Alert Level 2. We would like to remind students and whānau of the importance of punctuality. The ability for students to manage themselves, being organised and punctual are important life skills. Students need to be at school by 8.55am (Wednesday 9.15am) and need to be moving to their next class from breaks as soon as the bell rings. A reminder from parents to your children is greatly appreciated.

### Parking

With the increasing number of road works around our school at the moment, parking on the roads has become more challenging. Students are reminded that they can only drive their car to and from school. Year 13's may only go to the lunch bar during breaks. Please be courteous to the community when parking your car and respectful of others around you.

## MRGS at NZ Chess Congress



Euan McDougall competed at the NZ Chess Congress for two weeks in mid-January. This is the longest running annual chess event (and sporting competition) in the world.

Euan took the Under 20 champion in the NZ Junior Chess Championship, losing just one game. Games lasted 3-5 hours or longer, and Euan competed against 19 other players. He is keen to return in 2021 and hopes to do better in the Open and Blitz events against all ages.

## Peer Mediation Training: 'Students Helping Students'



The Peace Foundation trained 108 enthusiastic New Mediators this week, which involved learning about the important skills of how to resolve everyday conflict in a constructive way. A big part of this training involves reflecting on themselves and becoming more self-aware. The more we know and understand ourselves, the more we are able to help others. It is hard to 'extend kindness' to others if we don't extend kindness to ourselves and look after ourselves. These life skills of open communication, relationship building and 'listening to understand' are part of MRGS's culture and values of manaakitanga and whanaungtanga ... respect, kindness, equality, inclusion and aroha for everyone.



Earlier this year, 60 Advanced Mediators attended further mediation training from Human Rights activist Julie Watson on "Developing Positive Race Relations" and SHINE on the effects of violence and how to be an Upstander, not a Bystander against prejudice and harassment.

Also, for the first time, a NETSAFE training on how to protect yourself from online harassment was facilitated by our very own Advanced Mediators and YAS Leaders Ihsanullah PA and Rishi Shukla.



Mediators are 'Ambassadors of Social Justice', standing up against harassment, bullying, inequality and exclusion, supporting students to get the help they need. They provide confidential help to their peers informally in the school environment, or formally in the mediation room at Student Services.

## Mediation is ...

A structured PROCESS that uses a neutral person/s (the mediator/s) to HELP the people in a conflict (the disputants) to come up with their OWN solution/s for a WIN/WIN outcome. Mediation is both voluntary and confidential. Mediation is a constructive way of dealing with conflict.

If you are experiencing conflict or being harassed, and would rather speak with an older student, please contact us at Student Services. Confidentiality assured.



### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES:

- International Peace Week: August 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>
- Peace Symposium: Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August

Te rangimarie me te aroha.

## BP Business Challenge for MRGS Year 10 Students

We want the next big idea like Facebook, Uber or iPhone to come from a Roskill student.

The BP Business Challenge is a unique three-day learning programme to develop skills, connect students to their community and build their understanding of how successful businesses operate.

Students will learn to:

1. Adapt to change
2. Collaborate in teams
3. Increase their confidence
4. Develop their communication skills.



It is being held at MRGS Butler school hall on 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of August 2020, during schools hours. There is no cost to students and all the resources will be provided by two external business consultants who are coming to work with our students.

We will also have inspiring judges on the final day, who will give feedback to our students on their progress. The judges include a top manager from KPMG, a franchise business owner, an international sports personality and a member of the parliament.

The entry is open to all Year 10 students. You do not have to be enrolled in Year 10 Business Studies to be a part of this exciting learning opportunity. You can sign up on this link – <https://forms.gle/oLr1Yk36zYCZPpv17> or come see any teacher in the Commerce Department (upstairs E Block). We only have 20 spots remaining. The winning team will also receive \$100 cash.

## 2020 Prefects

The prefects were involved in a leadership evening on the 5<sup>th</sup> of June. Thanks to the prefect team and Mr Cornes for the leadership they show in their everyday interactions with our wider school community.



## MRGS Success in: 2020 Language Perfect World Championships



In Term 2, Mount Roskill Grammar School competed in the 2020 Language Perfect World Championships. This is part of the Education Perfect World Series. There were over 2,155 schools worldwide who competed and MRGS came 6<sup>th</sup> in NZ and in the top 60 schools Worldwide. This represented many hours learning languages and revising material in a fun way.

There were a large number of impressive results with over 40 MRGS pupils gaining awards and more than 300,000 questions answered by MRGS Languages pupils.

The very top students in this competition gained an ELITE Award & Badge because they gained over 10,000. They were in the top 0.2% of all competitors. Liahona Lauano (1<sup>st</sup> in MRGS) and Riley Mara deserve a special mention for their dedication to gaining outstanding results worldwide. There were also 5 pupils who gained an Emerald Certificate for over 5,000 points, and 4 pupils gained a GOLD Certificate with over 3,000 points.



- The 2 pupils who gained an Elite Award & Badge (10,000+ points) are: Liahona Lauano, Riley Mara (*pictured above*).
- The 5 pupils who gained an Emerald Award (5,000+ points) are: Christopher Mara, Robbielyle Lauano, Huthaifa Ibrahim, Joshlyn Iyekekpolo, Baraa Zara.
- The 4 pupils who gained a GOLD Award (3,000+ points) are: Zahlia Prasad, Lucy Palu, Ayesha Ali, Rhea Palmer.
- MRGS also gained:
  - \* SILVER Award (2,000+ points) = 3 students
  - \* BRONZE Award (1,000+ points) = 15 students
  - \* CREDIT Award (500+ points) = 15 students.

**Student Feedback on 2020 Language Perfect:** “Very cool. Enjoy it lots. Very fun. Learning lots of things. It helps me lots.” “Education Perfect Languages is awesome.” “I like the way EP makes learning languages fun.” “I am better at it.” “Education Perfect is an amazing resource and activity.” “Task is easy and short, it helps with learning.” “Good activity to revise.” “Education Perfect is awesome.”

## MRGS Homework Centres 2020

Peer Mentors are available to students who would like support in specific subjects. This can be arranged by contacting an Academic Dean.

Subject Area	Times	Venue	Description	Teacher in Charge
<b>Catch Up</b> All subjects	Thu 3:10-5:00	Learning Extension	Students seeking help and support for any subject should attend the Homework Club or "Catch Up" time at LXTN. Some snacks are available to keep you going	MKT/LEN
<b>Chemistry</b>	Thu lunchtime	S6	Chemistry teachers are available to help with any Level 2, 3 or scholarship chemistry	MCS
<b>Computer Science/ Digital Tech</b>	Thu 3:15-4:15	B7	Help with work from any Year Levels and opportunities for students to catch up on work not completed in class	NLL
<b>English</b>	Tue 3:15-4:30	H6	Any help with assessments or questions about the course work can be answered	GYC
<b>ESOL</b>	Tue 3:15-4:15	R6	Assistance with ESL, NL homework. Support for English Language Learners in mainstream English. A quiet place to study after school	RYJ
<b>History</b>	Mon lunchtime	C3	Any help with assessments or questions about the course work can be answered	HTG
<b>Languages</b>	Wed 3:10-4:10	R3	Japanese (included in R-Block Homework Centre)	KOJ
<b>Mathematics</b>	Wed 3:15-4:15  Thursday 3:15-4:15	R9, A18, A7  A10, A20, A21	Y12's Y13 Calculus Students Juniors, Year 11's & Y13 Statistics A range of maths teachers are available	SBV
<b>Media</b>	Wed 3:00-4:30	T7	Help with assessments or questions about the course work can be answered. Computers available	BGV
<b>Performing Arts</b>	<i>Email PFA teacher to book a time</i>	Studio	Always happy to sit with individuals and families anytime Tues-Fri after school with a previous booking to go over any work. Please email your PFA teacher to book a time	GSE
<b>Technology</b>	Wed 3:20-4:30	D4	Help with portfolios in DSM and DVC as well as non-practical work from TMM, BCT and TCE	PGD/GRW
<b>Tongan Homework Centre</b>	Wed 6:00-8:00pm	D11	All levels in all subjects. Started two weeks ago & runs every Wednesday without fail. Very dedicated experienced tutors. Any other students needing help are welcome. Cheese & crackers available at the end of session	TNG
<b>Visual Arts</b>	Tue 3:20-4:20	A13 to A16	Supervised homework, students can get help from teachers. All other days after school and lunchtimes students can use facilities to work by themselves	GRO

## Staying Healthy

The students have been fantastic ensuring they are closely following hygiene protocols.

### Protect yourself and others from COVID-19



Wash your hands with soap and water often (for at least 20 seconds). Then dry.



Cough or sneeze into your elbow or by covering your mouth and nose with tissues.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects, such as doorknobs.



Don't touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean.



Put used tissues in the bin or a bag immediately.



Stay home if you feel unwell.

For updates and more information on keeping yourself safe, visit [Covid19.govt.nz](https://www.covid19.govt.nz)

New Zealand Government

Unite  
against  
COVID-19

Under Alert Level 1 any student or staff member who is sick must stay at home.

If they are experiencing Covid-19 symptoms we recommend they get tested, as a negative test will enable them to return to school more quickly once symptom free.

If a student or staff member has any symptoms they need to stay away until those symptoms are well clear.

Once symptom free they are welcome to return, with the recommended timeframe from the ADHB being 48 hours symptom free before returning.



## MRGS Open Day: Save the Date





**MT ROSKILL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL**

*Parents and Prospective Students are invited to*

# **Mt Roskill Intermediate Open Day – Information Tours**

**WEDNESDAY 29 JULY & THURSDAY 30 JULY 2020**



Prospective students and their families are invited to join us on one of our school information tours.

The tour focuses on highlighting the opportunities on offer at Mt Roskill Intermediate, information about our school, as well as looking around our classrooms and facilities. These are open to anyone interested in knowing more about our school.

You only need to attend one tour as the same content will be covered during each tour.

Please book your place on one of our tours by clicking the link below connected to the tour time you wish to attend:



**WEDNESDAY 29th JULY:**

[Tour #1: 9.15-10.30am](#)

[Tour #2: 11.15- 12.30pm](#)

[Tour #3: 1.30-2.45pm](#)

[Tour #4: 4.00-5.15pm](#)

[Tour #5: 6.30-7.45pm](#)

**THURSDAY 30th JULY:**

[Tour #1: 9.15-10.30am](#)

[Tour #2: 5.30-6.45pm](#)



Or by contacting the school office by either email:

[enrolment@mri.school.nz](mailto:enrolment@mri.school.nz) or phone: (09) 6208508

Once booked, a confirmation email will be sent to you.

On arrival, please come to the school administration area where you will be guided to the School Library.

If you have been unable to book, you are welcome to turn up on the day, 10 minutes prior to the tour and register at the school administration office.



We look forward to welcoming you and showing you  
our great school!  
**[www.mri.school.nz](http://www.mri.school.nz)**

## Frost Road Roadworks



While the current road works are occurring, and for the safety of all of the children on our campus, **please do not drive into the driveways of Mt Roskill Intermediate or Mt Roskill Grammar** to collect students. Please make arrangements to collect your child from an appropriate place. Thank you for your consideration.



## Mount Roskill SAFER COMMUNITIES

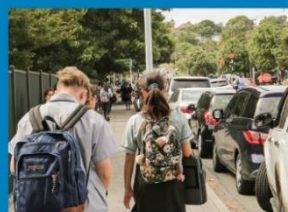
under Alert Level 2

Our project in this area aims to make roads safer for everyone. Changes include putting in new footpaths and more pedestrian crossings. Construction began in early March but stopped due to Covid-19. We resumed work under Alert Level 3 on Wednesday 29 April with a more robust health and safety approach and we are now at Alert Level 2.

- The next stages of work will see the removal of existing footpaths and construction of new wider footpaths on Frost Road by the roundabout outside the school, shops and reserve. We will also be installing drainage and streetlights. There will also be a stop/go during the day when we are completing drainage work in the area, but we will do our best to minimise disruption in the area.
- The pace of work under different alert levels may not be as rapid as it is under normal circumstances, but our aim is to minimise further delays and help spur on the economy. Our priority continues to be able to ensure the safety of our workers and the public.



*Mt Roskill Grammar students crossing Frost Road by the roundabout island.*



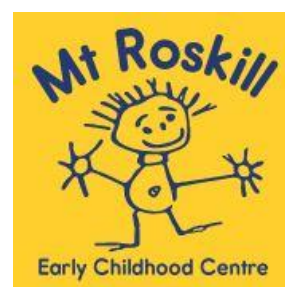
For more information call **09 355 3553**  
or email us on **projects@AT.govt.nz**

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## 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.



## 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.

## Lunch Orders NEW Eat Smart Menu – Now Live at MRGS

**Lunch Orders**

**HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS & AFFORDABLE  
SCHOOL LUNCHES ORDERED ONLINE**

**WWW.LUNCHORDERS.CO.NZ**

## 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

**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**

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](http://asb.co.nz/promotions/supporting-success-in-your-school.html)

ASB Bank Limited 58380 16816 0919

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.