

July 2020: Week 1, Term 3

## From the Principal



It's a pleasure to welcome everyone back to a full and exciting term 3. Our students are looking to convert their strong start to the academic year into great final results. For all students, attention to the basics of regular and prompt attendance, and an emphasis on understanding and mastering learning goals is a focus this term. For senior students there will be formal external practice assessments during class time later in the term.

We have a tremendous schedule of events for the term including music, drama and dance, the school ball, and the sports awards evening, together with an extended winter sports season after the delayed start. We look forward to meeting families at the junior report evening this Thursday 23 July – a chance to catch up after the schedule for term 2 was disrupted by Covid-19.

The actual and potential impact of Covid-19 on our students and families is an on-going concern. To start with this term students will continue to sanitise hands at the gate and will have this option at each lesson. Communal 'high touch' surfaces will continue to be disinfected regularly, and we require that anyone who is sick stays home.

We are fortunate to be in our virus free 'bubble of 5 million', yet the experience of other well organised nations shows things can change rapidly. We need to remain nimble and able to make a smooth transition to distance learning if needed. One way students and families can help is to continue to bring devices to school each day. When the majority of students bring their device, teaching is much more effective, and students can gain important on-line learning capabilities.



We are looking forward to seeing each student take up incredible opportunities to follow passions and achieve success.

**Nga Manaakitanga**  
**Greg Watson, PRINCIPAL**

## Board of Trustees

Welcome to Term 3.

At the end of last term I discussed the benefits of taking up one of the large number of opportunities offered at MRGS - there is something for everyone. I admire the commitment not just of those of you who compete for our school with pride, but also those of you who support your peers on sidelines, in the audience or collaborating alongside them for social justice.

I look forward to our school welcoming new learners to our Open Day on Wednesday 29 July so that they can see the opportunities we offer for each student to reach "to the heights". To help educate your child as a successful powerful learner and active responsible citizen is a privilege, made possible by the commitment to excellence of staff, students and our community.



Ngā mihi nui  
**Marjet Pot, BoT Chairperson**

### Dates for your diary

Mon 20 July	Start of Term 3
Thu 23 July	Report Evening (Juniors)
Wed 29 July	Open Day – Early Finish 2.20pm
Wed 5/Thu 6 August	Year 13 Production
Thu 20/Fri 21 August	Rua Showcase
Fri 28 August	School Holiday
Fri 18 September	Teacher Only Day / School Ball
Fri 25 September	End of Term 3

### Junior Report Evening - Thursday 23 July

Our Junior Report Evening is taking place this week on Thursday 23 July. Interviews will start at 4pm.

**To book a time with your student's teacher/s online**, go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)

1. Enter the code **srsau**
2. Enter your details
3. Select your student's teacher/s that you want to speak with from the list.

You can find the names and codes of your student's teacher/s on their report (sent out at the end of last term) or via their Kamar portal.

## Mt Roskill Grammar School Open Day – Wednesday 29 July

At Mt Roskill Grammar School, the vision for our students is for them to become successful and powerful learners, equipped with the attitudes, qualities and qualifications to excel. The quality of the relationships within our school and wider community are pivotal to our success. Our commitment is to each student's wellbeing and success, enabling students to become positive, effective citizens who have the capacity to lead.

Excellence in learning is our top priority. Our teachers are experts in their subject and skilled facilitators. This year our students were the top scholars in New Zealand in Dance and in Accounting. Over the last five years students have received an average of over 50 scholarship awards, significantly exceeding national averages. They also excel in NCEA, well in advance of national averages. Our academies for 2021 include Basketball, Hockey, Football, Rugby & Performing Arts. We have two advanced learning classes in both year 9 and year 10 with the rest of the classes being mixed ability. Some students in year 10 may be accelerated into NCEA Level 1 Maths and Science, selected from across a range of year 9 classes at the end of year 9.

The motto of our school is 'Sursum', which echoes the phoenix in our logo and translates as "to the heights". When students leave Mt Roskill Grammar School they do so with the personal qualities and capabilities that enable them to continue to be successful learners for the rest of their life and the qualifications and attitude to take them to their own heights.

All families, including those who are In Zone, need to apply please. **Out of Zone applications must be in by 4pm 2 September.** We would love for the In Zone applications to be submitted by October if possible for class placement planning.

If you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact [admin@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:admin@mrgs.school.nz)

We look forward to welcoming you!



**Mount Roskill Grammar School**  
**Open Day, Wednesday 29 July, 4pm–7pm**  
Principal's address in the Hall 4pm & 6pm  
**Excellence, together**

TŪMANAKOTANGA



## MRGS Values Recognition Awards

Each term, Mt Roskill Grammar recognises students with Values Awards. Please see below for the complete list of awardees for Term 2.

Manaakitanga	Whanaungatanga	Tūmanakotanga
Joel Ioelu-Siemu Amon Jeganathan Jeffrin Joshua Adil Khan Kartikeya Khullar Brooklyn Koonwaiyou Jamie Matagiaga Corey Nelson Shivesh Pranav Caroline Reopoamo Anthony Rigg Saahir Saheb Fatima Tualau Talilotu Tuitupou Thomas Tuliaupupu Levi Williams	Fatema Al-Ali Atita Arona Deepesh Badoniya Celia Chanwong Li'i Cowley-Lupo Nafetalai Fonua Laila Jeeru Mai Linh Nguyen Ines Stoev Bronson-Toni Tipama'a Chloe Vos Cara Tianlan Wang	Asma Ahmadzai Sneha Bhati Zoe Chen Pelenato Faamoe Solofua Jordan Fuller Freya Grant Bree Ioane Seine Kaipō-Ierome Riri Kaur Aroha Kingi Astrid Kyle Joseph Levi Nhi Luong Meleane Mafi Angel Ren Jerome Tanielu Laurentiu Teca Grace Xu Baraa Zara

## Uniform

Please ensure that you help to enable our students to be in the correct uniform from the beginning of Term 3. As the weather is getting colder it is important to remind ourselves of the high expectations and pride that we have in our school uniform. In particular here are a few reminders:

1. School socks – either black socks or school knee high socks only (no white socks)
2. Jumpers and Jackets – school uniform only, others must be removed when entering school
3. Jewellery – single stud earrings, no nose studs or other visible piercings
4. Beards – boys should be clean shaved, if not they will be requested to do so at school
5. Long Sleeve Tops – should not be visible underneath school shirt or blouse.

Any questions please contact Deputy Principal Mr McGibbon [callum.mcgibbon@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:callum.mcgibbon@mrgs.school.nz)

## Student Council

Towards the end of Term 2 we had the first opportunity to get the Student Council together. The council is made up of a representative from each form class who work alongside their House Captains, the Student BOT Representative and the Head Prefects to raise student issues and ensure a communication line between student voice and school leadership. Our main focus was to connect and think about some of the things we would like to focus on in Term 3. We look forward to working together this term!



## Rugby Camp

In addition to training, skills sessions and a game against Tamaki College the three days of Rugby Camp were a great opportunity for team building, both on the field and off it.

Thanks to all of the current and past staff and students, coaches, Roskill alumni and connections who assisted in creating this opportunity for the students. Our rugby students were also inspired by a number of motivational speakers in the evenings, sharing their stories and describing their individual journey of how each of them reached their individual heights. Thanks to Nick Tuiali'i, teacher in charge of rugby, for creating and strengthening connections with our community.



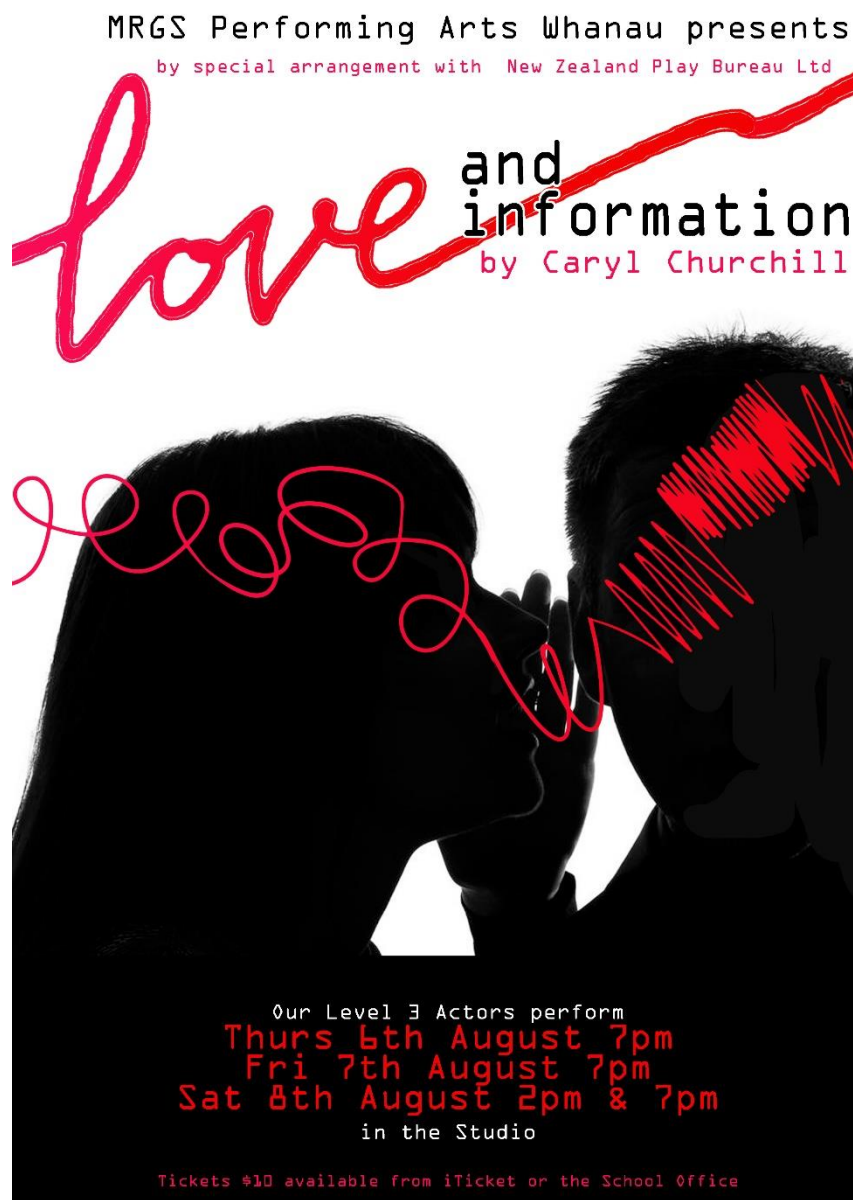
*"Huge thanks to our guest speakers and coaches who came into camp to give their insight to our kids, on how to keep pushing through obstacles and to pursue their goals in life!"*

Fotu Ilaua

## Year 13 Production: "Love and Information"

Nothing can prepare you for the randomness of this show. Caryl Churchill's masterpiece is a selection of mostly unrelated scenes which explore the ideas of love and information in a montage of humour, curiosity and poignancy. Be prepared to re-examine your own thoughts on love and information as you are thrown into the world of the play by our Year 13 Actors.

Mt Roskill Grammar School is excited to present by special arrangement with Play Bureau "Love and Information". It's been a long time coming, but we are so excited to be back on stage after lockdown and to be able to perform for you in our Studio from the 6th-8th August.



- RECOMMENDED AGE: Best suited for audiences ages 13 years and over.
- PARKING: Best parking for the PFA studio is via the gate 1 entrance. Follow the driveway and utilise the parking beside the field and outside the Butler Hall.
- TICKETS: Tickets will be available on iTicket and from the school office for \$10. Note: iTicket charges a \$2.50 booking fee, with a maximum of \$7.50 booking fee when buying in groups.



## Spoken Word Competition

MRGS competed in the Auckland Spoken Word Competition, with the Advanced Team qualifying for the semi-finals. Advanced Team: Joshlyn Iyekekpolo, Sarah Shawish, Fatema Al-Ali, Fateecka Farook. Junior Team: Mary Vao, Preenal Kumar, Hadia Rehman, Layba Zubair.



## Salvation Army “Can Drive”



At the end of the term, the Roskill whānau donated over 300 cans to the Salvation Army as part of the Can Drive project. The aim of this Drive was to give back and support our community in this tough time.

Many families have been heavily affected by COVID 19 and now rely on food parcels from the Salvation Army. As a Roskill whānau, we wanted to do our part to support them, so over the final weeks of Term 2 we put out a call for donations.

We want to thank those students, teachers and families who donated cans, for their generosity. The crew at the Salvation Army was so grateful for the cans donated by MRGS and let us know that the cans will bless so many families!



## MRGS School App



The MRGS 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.

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 Roskill Cup - Debating Tournament

During the term break the Mt Roskill Grammar School Phoenixes hosted 'The Roskill Cup' two day open tournament for Roskill debaters. The tournament was open to students of all year levels and experience.

All debates were “limited prep” debates with only thirty minutes allowed for preparation. Nine teams competed on the first day, with the best four teams qualifying for the finals on day two. Due to draw strength team LTZ (Laurentiu Teca, Tisha Wadhwa and Zach Alajas) and team Pickles and Mayonnaise (Sneha Bhati, Nicole Sue and Mahreen Dossa) missed out on breaking into the finals. The finalists are listed below:

Team	Members	Day 1 Results
The Premiers	Karen Wang, Pranav Kumar, Lydias Yong	3 wins, 1 bye
The Golden Trio	Simar Bains, Nesil Satani, Hannah Armstrong	3 wins, 1 loss
The Three Wheels	Sonam Bagwe, Ansh Angurala, Layba Zubair	2 wins, 2 losses (3rd on draw strength)
The Debatey Baiters	Fatema Al-Ali, Sarah Shawish, Mona Janthama	2 wins, 1 loss, 1 bye (4th on draw strength)

In the semi-finals on Day 2, debating the motion *This house prefers a world where marriage doesn't exist*, The Premiers successfully negated against the The Debatey Baiters, and The Golden Trio successfully affirmed the motion against The Three Wheels.

In the grand final, debating the motion *This House World require employers to interview candidates in a way that conceals appearance, gender, ethnicity, and age*, The Golden Trio successfully negated the motion in a 4-1 judges split to be crowned the inaugural Roskill Cup champions.

Top speaker awards (average speaker scores throughout the preliminary rounds):

1. Hannah Armstrong 74.5
2. Nesil Satani 73.75
3. Simar Bains 72.5
4. Lydias Yong and Karen Wang 72.33
5. Sonam Bagwe 71.5.

Congratulations to **The Golden Trio (Simar Bains, Nesil Satani, Hannah Armstrong)**, first ever winners of The Roskill Cup!



A big thank you to our adjudicators, draw creators and scorers:

- *Roskill alumni* Anotidaishe Michael Chitando, Vinodhini Murali, Maitreyi Chakrapani
- *current students* Mohamed Ihsanullah (P A), Huthaifa Ibrahim.

A huge thank you also to Mr Singh for taking the debating Phoenix's to new heights!





**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)**

## 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

## 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.

## Alumni



### Penny Whiting (1965)

Penny is best known as a yachtswoman and the owner-operator of the Penny Whiting Sailing School for over 50 years, a school she founded at 19.

Penny was awarded an MBE (Member of the British Empire) for services to sailing in 1993. She commented at the 1986/7 America's Cup and the 1990 Round the World Race and has authored several

books on how to sail. In addition to her nine years in local government politics as a local board member and city councillor for Auckland, Penny has been involved in the Spirit of Adventure Trust, Auckland Maritime Museum, Young Mariners of NZ, Auckland Zoo Charitable Trust and Waterwise, spearheading fundraising campaigns. As Chair of the Auckland Zoo Charitable Trust she drove the fundraising needed to create Te Wao Nui and managed the campaign for the Zoo's New Zealand Centre for Conservation Medicine.

## 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

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



**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 56380 16816 0919