

June 2020: Week 3, Term 3

## From the Principal

Hundreds of families streamed into MRGS for our annual Open Evening on Wednesday 29 July. The school was humming with next year's new students and their families as they met current students and staff and checked out the facilities and the huge range of subjects and activities available at the school.

Thank you to the student leaders who gave their time to guide families around the school and present the learning opportunities in classrooms around the school. Enrolments for 2021 are well underway.

Last week we had the pleasure of a visit from poet, spoken word performer, and actor Te Kahu Rolleston. Students were enthralled by his poetry and willingly took him up on his offer to present their own spoken word to the gathering and receive his affirmation and feedback.



Our year 11 Pathways students were honoured to receive a visit from World Champion boxer and Tik Tok star Joseph Parker in response to a letter they had written him. Joseph spoke at length with our students about the mind-set that leads to success.



This week we are looking forward to the BP Business Challenge, the Year 13 production, and International Peace Week in which the school celebrates diversity, and recognises the contribution of student mediators to growing respectful global citizens.

Ngā manaakitanga  
Greg Watson, PRINCIPAL

## Board of Trustees

I have been impressed to see how quickly our students have settled into the term, in both their learning and in co-curricular activities.

It takes commitment and perseverance to be part of the co-curricular activities which are offered at the school. I have referred to perseverance before and to hear that a junior football team can win a game 10-9 on penalties is a great metaphor for not giving up.

To see the hive of activity on Open Day both inside and outside of the classroom, meant that we have been able to showcase MRGS in its best light - a place where you can be part of a team, of players and of learners. Ka pai to the staff and the students who contributed to put together the many great displays and for being ambassadors for the school.



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

## Dates for your diary

Thu 6/Fri 7/Sat 8 August	Year 13 Production
Thu 20/Fri 21 August	Rua Showcase
Fri 28 August	<b>School Holiday</b>
Thu 3 September, 7pm	Annual Music Department Extravaganza, Butler Hall
Fri 11 September	Senior Study Leave
Mon 14 – Thu 24 September	Senior External Practice Assessments
Fri 18 September	<b>Teacher Only Day / School Ball</b>
Thu 24 September	Sports Awards
Fri 25 September	<b>End of Term 3</b>

## Unitec Manaaki Whenua



Some of our Year 11 Te Reo Māori class along with Mr Syme spent the morning out at Unitec Marae as part of a manaaki whenua (working bee).

They were able to learn about tikanga pā harakeke (sustainable environmental practices) and how to help take care of our natural resources and wāhi tapu (sacred sites).

Ka mau te wehi!



## Pasifika Young Leaders



On Monday 27 July, the Pasifika Learning Centre hosted an event called Community Pasifika Talanoa. The event was held to celebrate our Mt Roskill Grammar School Pacific Young Leaders and acknowledge their leadership positions. It was also an opportunity for the Puketāpapa Local Board to share with us about the draft plan for the area.

The evening was a beautiful celebration of our Young Leaders with whanau, dance and food. We are extremely proud of our students and their journey ahead. A huge thank you to Peter and Tili Leilua and their team for hosting this event and supporting the Pacific Young Leaders group.

## Sustainability

As part of our Pathways programme, a group of MRGS students started work experience at The Urban Farm on Symonds St last week. They are learning about sustainability and urban gardens.



## Alumni



### Neil Campbell (1984)

Neil Campbell was sworn in as a Justice of the High Court at Auckland, 29 July 2020.

Neil is a true Roskill boy, attending Three Kings Primary and Mt Roskill Intermediate, then MRGS from 1980-1985.

Neil is an internationally renowned legal academic and practitioner, primarily in the field of insurance law and commercial litigation. He was made a Queen's Counsel in 2013.

Neil was sworn in by the current Chief Justice, Dame Helen Winkelmann (Lynfield College alumna) – a big day for Mt Roskill in the legal community.

## 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.

## MRGS Chess

Old rivals Mt Albert Grammar and new rivals Western Springs College were among the schools challenging us at the Central Auckland ChessPower championship. Scores were equal going into the 5th round, but our greater depth of talent meant we could surge ahead in the last two rounds and win comfortably. We have now qualified for the Greater Auckland ChessPower championship. All our chess players performed well, exceeding expectations.

Congratulations to Joe Wang, undefeated on 7 wins out of 7, and to Baraa Zara, our new Year 9 star, who only dropped half a point with one draw. Sylvia McDougall was the top female, sharing 3rd place with Euan McDougall, Aydin Mustahib and Saahir Saheb (also year 9). Our new young talent bodes well for the future.

Congratulations to Crystal Chanwong and Celia Chanwong, just behind Sylvia as the top females, and all in training for the Auckland Girls' Chess Championship. All are welcome to continue training any lunchtime in E9 as we prepare for more tournaments. Full results are online:

<https://tornelo.com/chess/orgs/nzjunior/events/auckland-central-senior-cluster-tournament/>

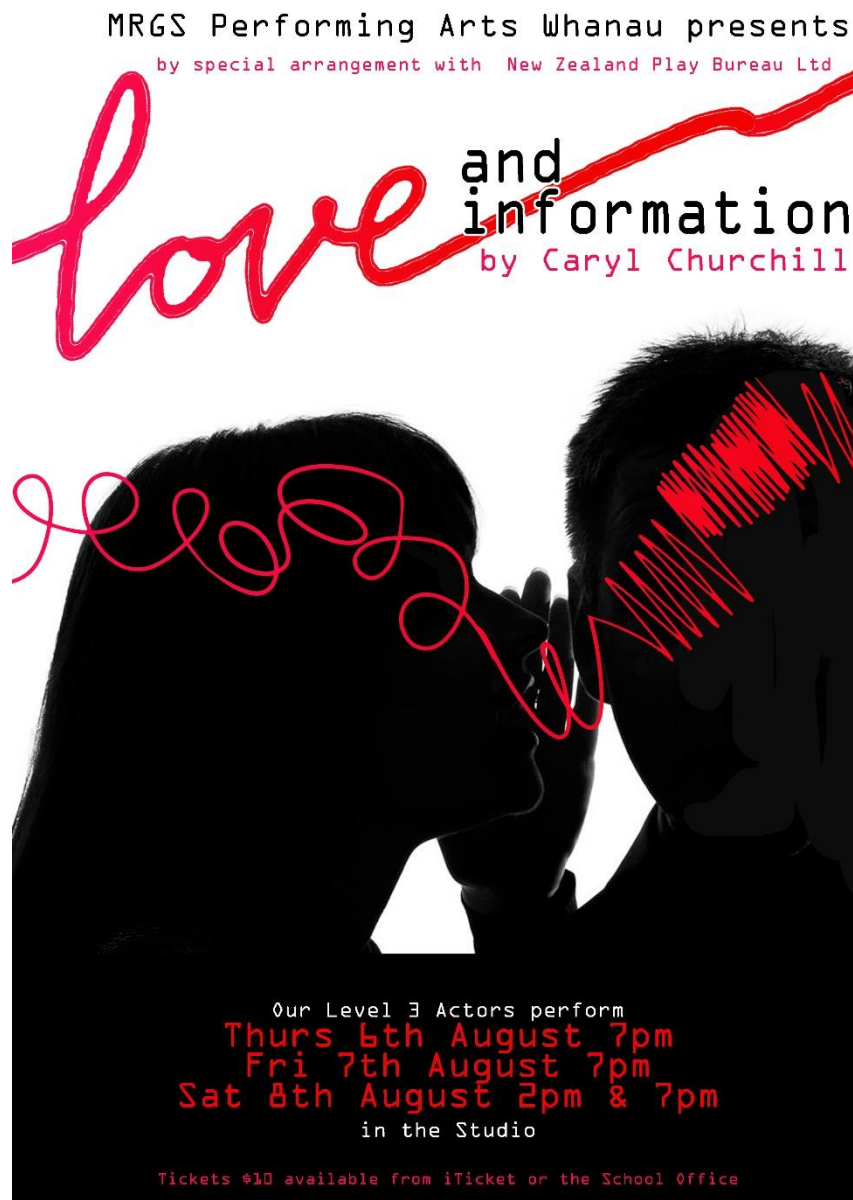




## Year 13 Production: “Love and Information”

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.

## 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	TIC
<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>Maori Homework Centre</b>	Thu 3:15-4:30	A1 & Whare	Come along to our Māori Homework Centre after school every Thursday. We cater to all year levels including scholarships for a range of NCEA subjects. We also provide kai, we hope to see you there.	REW
<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.



# Mount Roskill Safer Communities

- ✔ Our five speed tables by the Frost Road and Carr Road roundabout is due to be completed by 20 July (weather dependent).
- ✔ Next, our construction moves on to the speed tables at Hayr Rd for one week before moving on to Somerset Rd where there will be a 2-way traffic light.
- ✔ The footpath crew will continue their work until 7 August before starting work on the speed table on Dornwell Road.



Please take care when moving through the area and allow extra travel time, or consider an alternative pickup and drop area for students.



To find out more go to: **AT.govt.nz/Travelwise**  
or contact us on **09 3553553** or email **projects@AT.govt.nz**

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

ASB Bank Limited 543805814 0000