

September 2020: Week 7, Term 3

## From the Principal

*We'll walk this road together, through the storm. Whatever weather, cold or warm. Eminem.*

It is heart-warming to see our community adapting to twists and turns, from everyday challenges to events with more lasting impact. The road travelled this year wasn't on the map. Each challenge affects people differently, bringing a unique flood of thoughts, strong emotions and uncertainty.

Our students are continuing to move toward their goals, even in the smallest ways. We are encouraging students to 'chunk their future', or their day, asking themselves, "What's one thing I know I can accomplish today that helps me move in the direction I want to go?" Doing something regularly - even if it seems like a small accomplishment - helps build learning momentum. Most students worked their way back into usual routines during last week. We finished the week with just 10% less senior students attending than in the week before the recent Level 3 lockdown.

### Mask Up Fund

In addition to our routine hygiene practice we are encouraging students to add the capability to wear a mask to their 'Covid toolkit'. Mask wearing provides everyone with a greater confidence to attend school. This week, students wearing masks on entry to school increased from about 40% to 60%. School reusable cloth masks will be available for purchase from the last week of term (September 21).

We have already received a wonderful sponsorship offer to help keep the cost of masks low. Our sponsor will support dollar for dollar any contributions to the 'MRGS Mask Up' fund up to \$1000. A total of \$10,000 would provide a mask for every student free of charge.

**Contributions to the fund can be transferred to bank number 12-3033-0358045-02 labelled "mask up".**

### Practice External

Next week seniors will be focusing on practice external examinations. This year the practice externals have increased importance because the grades gained in these exams can be used as evidence should the NCEA externals be disrupted by Covid in Term 4.

We have broken assessments down into one standard 'chunks' held in class time to make the exams as manageable as possible and to enable students to remain in class, learning when they are not being assessed. There are two study days, Friday September 11 for seniors and Friday September 18 for all students.

The NZ Curriculum picks out resilience as a desirable capability for lifelong learners. Educators define resilience as the process of adapting well in the face of adversity, or significant sources of stress. This year is proving to be a masterclass, offering the opportunity for profound personal growth. Thank you to all the families who are working to help students with the routine day by day challenges – it is in working through these that our leaders of the future are made.



Ngā manaakitanga  
Greg Watson, PRINCIPAL

## Board of Trustees

Kia ora koutou

I mentioned in the last newsletter that we are at a time of the year when the student trustee on the Board of Trustees is nominated and that you, as a student body, are able to have a say in who you would like to represent you on the Board.

Each of you have the right to vote and choose who you want to be your voice helping to govern our school. Your opportunity to vote is this **Thursday September 10**. I encourage you to think about the strengths your student representative has and how they can contribute at meetings. I strongly encourage you to take up the opportunity to vote so that your voice is heard.

It is a unique opportunity to take on a leadership role within the school and to participate at a high level at the school. To the candidates, thank you for putting your name forward and the Board looks forward to working with the successful candidate.



Ngā mihi nui  
**Marjet Pot**  
BoT Chairperson

## Dates for your diary

Thu 10 September	Student BOT Election
Fri 11 September	Senior Study Leave: Year 9 and 10 ONLY attend
Mon 14 – Thu 24 September	Senior External Practice Assessments begin (completed in class) – see schedule on pages 5-6 of this newsletter
Fri 18 September	Teacher Only Day
Fri 25 September	End of Term 3

## Sports Awards Evening Cancelled

Given the extension of the current Alert Level and the uncertainty that we will be back to Level 1 before the end of this term, the difficult decision has been made to cancel the Sports awards evening this year. We sincerely apologise that this will not be taking place.

## Sports

Following the Government's decision that Auckland will remain at Alert Level 2.5 until 11.59pm on Wednesday 16 September, all College Sport Auckland events and activities remain on hold.

At Alert Level 2.5, College Sport Auckland events and fixtures are not possible due to the gathering size restriction of 10 people. Although this is disappointing news, it may be possible to resume some school sport on Thursday September 17 for the remaining week and a half of the school term. A further update will be sent next week.

## 2020 Education Perfect Science Championship

We had another successful Education Perfect Science Championship during lock down, last week. Our students participated and were engaged for around **1,085** hours online answering **148,495** questions and gained **24 Awards**, 6 more than last year's championship. Our school was placed 1st in New Zealand out of 102 schools and overall in 3rd place.



Great achievement and ranking for the following students in our school:

Elite Award	1st Place, Baraa Zara	2nd Place, Christopher Mara
Emerald Award	3rd Place, Eldana Habtom	4th Place, Uday Bhatia
Gold Award	5th Place, Jemimah Verghese	6th Place, Rhea Palmer
	7th Place, Cynaika D'Costa	

## Day of Silence



On Friday September 4, students from The Peer Sexuality Support Group and the Skittles group organised the Day of Silence. This is an important annual social justice event on the Roskill calendar. Participating students tape up their mouth, and take a vow of silence in order to draw attention to the silencing impact of homophobic and transphobic harassment and bullying.

With Whanaungatanga and Manaakitanga being two of our Roskill core values, we strongly believe that all students and staff, irrespective of sexual and gender identity, deserve to be respected and have their dignity kept intact.

Peer Sexuality Leaders Sonam Bagwe and Mackenzie Mariano addressed the staff at the morning briefing to explain the purpose of the day, and thank staff for their support. To the many students who participated: thank you for your courage, and your commitment to social justice and inclusion. With students of your leadership calibre, our future is in good hands.

## Mentoring

Our next Mentoring Conferences for Year 11-13's is on Thursday October 15, Week 1 Term 4. You will receive an email with further information this week, with the online booking system available from Thursday September 10.

These Conferences are critical to your students' success in 2020. They will focus on identifying their progress and creating a plan moving forward for Term 4. Please ensure you make a booking with your student's Mentor as soon as possible. Our aim is to have these conferences booked by the end of Term 3.

## Senior Practice External Assessments

At the end of this week there is a senior study day to enable seniors to focus on revision for their practice externals. This year the practice externals are held during class time in weeks 9 and 10 of this term.

In weeks 9 and 10 we remain on timetable and all students will be attending class as usual. In some classes practice externals will be held.

The schedule has been posted on the school website, emailed to students and families, and put on Facebook. Printed copies will be posted in the Deans' Centre and central thoroughfares of the school.

Remember:

- as always (but especially during the assessment weeks), being on time to class is critical
- exam conditions are required - phones and watches turned off and in bags at the front of the room
- there will be no form time during weeks 9 and 10.

Please encourage your students to continue to study for these practice external assessments. This year more than ever it is important to participate fully in these assessments, as we may be in a position of having to award derived grades for NCEA and those decisions will be made based on student performance in practice assessments.

At the end of week 9 (right in the middle of the assessment weeks), there will be a teacher only day to give students a chance to keep up with their revision.

Term 3	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 8	School as normal				<b>Senior study day</b> Juniors in class
Week 9	In class practice assessments for seniors Juniors - classes as normal				<b>Teacher only Day</b>
Week 10	In class practice assessments for seniors Juniors - classes as normal				Juniors in class Seniors in class - feedback from assessments <b>End of Term</b>

# 2020 Practice Exam Schedule

## Year 11 Term 3 Practice Externals Schedule Week 9 & 10

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>14/9/20</b>  Science A/B History - MNT French Samoan	<b>15/9/20</b>  MCAT	<b>16/9/20</b>  English History - GRA/MNT French Samoan Te Reo Maori Health	<b>17/9/20</b>  English History - GRA/WLA Chinese Health Music Studies
<b>21/9/20</b>  Science A Geography Dance Drama	<b>22/9/20</b>  Geography Accounting Chinese Japanese Te Reo Maori Drama	<b>23/9/20</b>  Mathematics 1A/1/1X History - WLA Economics Dance Drama	<b>24/9/20</b>  Music Studies

## Year 12 Term 3 Practice Externals Schedule Week 9 & 10

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>14/9/20</b>  English 2/2P English 2L Mathematics 2A/2 History Samoan Music Studies	<b>15/9/20</b>  English 2/2P English 2L Chinese Samoan Te Reo Maori Dance	<b>16/9/20</b>  English 2/2P Physics Economics Health Sport Science Music Studies Dance	<b>17/9/20</b>  Chemistry History Chinese French Japanese Te Reo Maori Health
<b>21/9/20</b>  Biology Classics Drama	<b>22/9/20</b>  Geography Accounting for – Beginners Classics French Japanese Drama	<b>23/9/20</b>  Mathematics 2A/2 Sports Science Drama	<b>24/9/20</b>  Accounting

## Year 13 Term 3 Practice Externals Schedule Week 9 & 10

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
<b>14/9/20</b>  English - 3V/3W English - 2L Mathematics – Calculus Accounting for - Beginners Samoan	<b>15/9/20</b>  English - 3V/3W English - 2L Mathematics – Statistics French Japanese Samoan Te Reo Maori	<b>16/9/20</b>  English - 3V/3W Physics Geography Economics Health Music Studies Drama	<b>17/9/20</b>  History Japanese Te Reo Maori Health
<b>21/9/20</b>  History Classics Drama	<b>22/9/20</b>  Accounting Economics for – Beginners French Classics Dance	<b>23/9/20</b>  Mathematics – Calculus Mathematics 3 Biology Dance Drama	<b>24/9/20</b>  Mathematics – Statistics Chemistry Dance

## Attendance

One of the core messages during Covid times is to stay home if you are sick. If your student is well please send them to school so we can support them with their learning and progress. Please have a discussion with your student about the importance of being punctual to lessons. Every minute counts!

## Lunch Orders Eat Smart Menu – available now!



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

**[WWW.LUNCHORDERS.CO.NZ](http://WWW.LUNCHORDERS.CO.NZ)**



MyTuition is an organisation who provides tuition focused on NCEA External exams. They will be providing courses over the holidays targeted at Year 13. Please see the flyer for information of the courses. Each course is running for two days in the first week of the school holidays. It costs \$50 for one, 2 day course. Please enter this link online to register: [mytuition.nz/roskill](https://mytuition.nz/roskill). If you have any questions, please see Mrs Coetzee in Learning Extension.



To help you to prepare for your exam  
2-day courses (9:30am to 5:00pm)

**28 SEPT – 3 OCT**

Mon 28	CALCULUS	BIOLOGY	
Tue 29			
Wed 30	CHEMISTRY	PHYSICS	STATISTICS
Thur 1			
Fri 2	BIOLOGY	CHEMISTRY	
Sat 3			

**\$50 PER COURSE**  
**VERY LIMITED SPACES**

To signup please follow the link below

**MYTUITION.NZ/ROSKILL**

## Alumni

Lonnie Hutchinson



Lonnie Hutchinson is a renowned multi-media artist who attended MRGS in the late 1970s.

She has exhibited throughout Australasia and internationally. Her works are held in permanent collections of art galleries through Australasia and she has lectured in Art at Canterbury University. She draws on both her Ngāi Tahu and Samoan ancestry and is also influenced by popular culture. In addition to her signature paper cut-outs and digital works, her designs can also be seen in large scale installations.

Pictured is the facade of a building in Christchurch showing one of her large scale public commissions. In 2015, Lonnie was awarded the Creative New Zealand Pasifika Contemporary Artist Award and has also been awarded a number of international residencies. The link to the story about the pictured installation is here:

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/christchurch-life/87462690/kakapo-cloak-design-transforms-justice-and-emergency-services-precinct-car-park>

If you have Roskill stories about the success of current or past pupils, please share to: [alumni@mrqs.school.nz](mailto:alumni@mrqs.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](https://asb.co.nz/promotions/supporting-success-in-your-school.html)

ASB Bank Limited 56360 16814 0919