

March 2021: Term 1, Week 7

From the Principal

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou,

It's great to have everyone back learning at Alert Level 1. Thank you to families who supported learning at home during lockdown and encouraged a speedy return to school. We had the best first day return from the most recent lock down and we are quickly back to 'business as usual'.

This week we have our mentoring meetings for senior students. Mentoring provides a powerful opportunity to improve learning outcomes through students, the families and their teacher mentor discussing the progress of each student together. In the mentoring conversation we seek to build a shared understanding about what is happening. The student's self-reports are heard by the family and teacher who add their perspective to provide a full picture. The aim is to facilitate ownership of learning by the student, supported at the right level by family and school. We look forward to meeting with all of the families of our senior students on Wednesday March 17.

The encouragement families are giving students to bring their devices every day is making a big difference. When we have a whole class with devices, the teaching 'flow' is better – less time is spent sorting out equipment and more time thinking together and learning. Thank you!

Last week we continued our conversation with year 9 students about cyber-safety and cyber-citizenship. Digital technologies are an important part of student's world. Student's use devices to connect with each other, learn new skills, and pursue interests further than has ever been possible. Learning can happen anywhere and at any time, through increased collaboration, increased feedback from teachers, and easy access to the huge range of resources on the internet. At the same time digital technologies can be used in harmful ways. Our objective is to create a learning environment involving the safe and responsible use of digital technology through fostering a positive culture use where challenges are understood to exist. Your support in monitoring student's on-line practices is greatly appreciated.



Ngā manaakitanga
Greg Watson
Principal



Board of Trustees



(Photos courtesy of Rory Thompson)

It was my pleasure to attend the opening of the new Auckland United Football clubrooms on Saturday and see our Mana Taiohi kapa haka setting the tone with a high standard performance. Our tauira represented Mt Roskill Grammar School with mana. Seeing our students connecting with our wider community reflects our core value of Whanaungatanga and our community often extends beyond the school gates.

This week will provide an opportunity to strengthen that sense of family as the school holds our first mentoring conferences for the year. To be able to hold these under Alert Level 1 means that we can welcome whānau to these important conversations. The tauira will get to experience a sense of family through the care for their learning offered by their Kaiako or mentor alongside the care of their family. As a school we look forward to supporting your children to reflect on their learning to date and to set authentic goals for 2021.



Marjet Pot
BOT Chairperson

Important dates for your diary

Wed 17 Mar	Mentoring Conferences (Y11-13) School will finish at 1.25pm
Thu 18 Mar	Interhouse Sports Carnival
Thu 25 Mar	Class Photos
Sat 27 Mar	Puketāpapa Lantern Festival
Wed 31 Mar	NCEA Information Evening
Fri 2 – 6 Apr	Easter Break
Thu 8 Apr	Mahurangi Sports Exchange @ Mahurangi
Tue 13 Apr	Pukekohe Exchange @ MRGS, Term 1 Junior Report Evening
Fri 16 Apr	End of Term 1

MRGS School Head Prefects 2021



Head Prefects: Phoenix Tuap'i Samuel and Chloe Vos (centre)

Deputy Head Prefects: Rachel Ogbuze (far left) and Abhishek Ravichandran (far right)

Mentoring

Mentoring Conferences for Year 11, 12 and 13 students are on Wednesday 17th March. As we are in Alert Level 1 at the time of publication, parents/caregivers are invited to attend this meeting with their child. It is expected that students will attend this 15 minute conference. Please ensure you have made a booking with your child's mentor, utilising the Booking system:

www.schoolinterviews.co.nz Enter your child's mentor's code (sent to you via email)

Caregiver code: D8s5h

School will finish at 1.25pm for all students on Wednesday 17th March, at the end of period 4.

NCEA Information evening 31 March

Parents and Caregivers of Year 11 students and students new to MRGS are warmly invited to the NCEA Information Evening held in the school hall. There will be a brief overview of NCEA, careers and mentoring followed by an opportunity to meet key staff and ask questions. Tea and coffee will be served. Please be seated by 6.30 pm.

Staying safe online



Social media can be a positive way for students to connect with friends, family and teammates. It can also be a place where some young people nationwide see the anonymity of social media as an excuse to say what they are thinking without filtering their thoughts. At MRGS our values of Manaakitanga and Whanaungatanga are relevant not just at school but also online.

This message is relevant to all year levels, but as part of our transition of Year 9 students we held an assembly last week explaining our values, including the need to be kind online. We spoke with our students about what they can do to ensure that their time online is productive. Constable Holly Stiles joined our assembly to help explain the level of accountability if harm is caused online. Her closing message was “If you can be anything in this world, be kind.”

What we want to see in students’ online presence is for them to understand:

There is a time and a place: if students are having trouble disconnecting at night we have recommended putting their device on flight mode so they don’t receive notifications.

They can also put their device physically out of reach so they are not tempted to use it late at night.

If someone asks them to join a chat: if the person is not your friend, don’t join.

Negative behaviour: if you see it, call it out and disconnect. Contact Netsafe.

Our Deans: Can help if students don’t know how to contact Netsafe. They can also support restorative meetings where needed to resolve any issues so students can continue to work alongside each other and focus on their learning.

As a school: if we have any concerns about what is being said online we will encourage students to contact Netsafe and, where necessary, contact families.

Mt Roskill Grammar works closely with Netsafe and if as a parent/caregiver you have any concerns about what is happening online please do not hesitate to contact Netsafe. Netsafe’s contact centre is available from 8am – 8pm weekdays and 9am – 5pm weekends and public holidays.

NETSAFE HELPLINE

- Call toll-free on 0508 NETSAFE (0508 638 723)
- Email help@netsafe.org.nz
- Complete an [online contact form](#)
- Text ‘Netsafe’ to 4282

Central East Swimming Zone Results



Ethan Stocks – 1st Junior Boys Backstroke, 3rd Junior Boys Butterfly

Daniel Kregting – 2nd Junior Boys Butterfly

Juan Micutuan – 3rd Junior Boys Breaststroke

2nd Junior Boys Medley Relay – Ethan Stocks, Daniel Kregting, Juan Micutuan, Finn Orsbourn

3rd Open Boys Butterfly Relay – Andre Chan, Ethan Stocks, Daniel Kregting, Saniru Hewa

Circus skill lessons at the Maclean Centre



Several Maclean Centre students have been having weekly circus skills lessons to develop confidence, team building and social skills as well as physical skills. These have been delivered by Tobias from Circability. Bottom row Daniel Zhu and Logan Dalton. Top row Paris Parker.

Winter sports registration

Winter Sport Registrations begun last week and it is not too late to sign up for a sport this winter. The following Winter Sport Codes are available to Junior and Senior students for both boys and girls in 2021: Badminton, Basketball, Fencing, Football, Gymsports, Hockey, Rugby, Orienteering, Lacrosse (Girls), Netball (Girls), Table Tennis, Water Polo and Weight Lifting. Students can see the Sports Department during break times for more information and to register for a sport.

Uniform

A reminder that white socks are not part of the school uniform. Plain black socks (or the school socks that can be purchased from the uniform shop) are the only socks allowed to be worn.

Sandals are not part of the school uniform: black leather full foot shoes is the required footwear. Please refer to our uniform guide on our website for further information.

Unclaimed locker items from last year

Contents of lockers that were not cleared at the end of last year have been put in bags and securely stored away. Students who did not clear out their locker last year can see Mr Pemerika either at interval or afterschool to collect them. Unclaimed items will need to be collected before the end of the term **Friday 16 April** – all items will be placed in the recycling after this date.

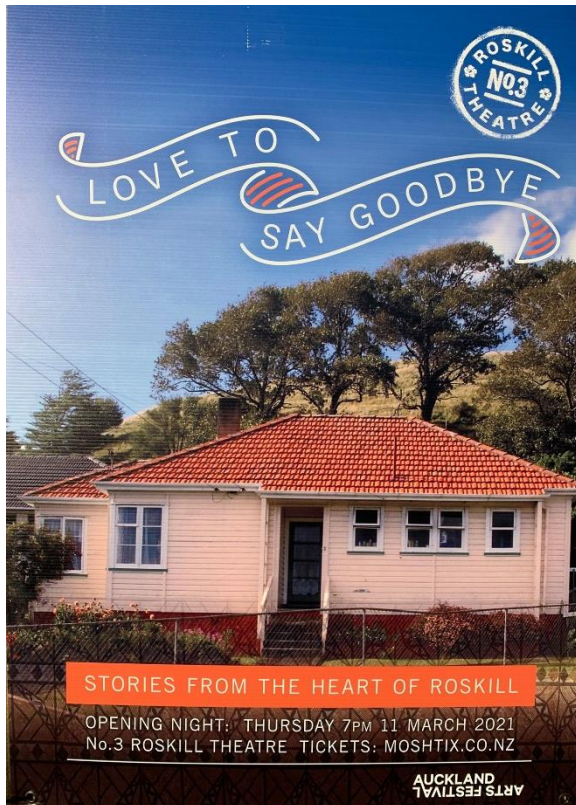
Puketāpapa Lantern Festival 27 March

The postponed Puketāpapa Lantern Festival –organised by our Chinese community will be held Saturday 27th March at the Mount Roskill Grammar School Hall.

Contact Details

It is really important for your child's Health and Safety and to ensure you are receiving all of our communications that we have up to date phone numbers and emails. If your contact details have changed can you please contact Reception - admin@mrgs.school.nz to let us know.

The No. 3 Roskill Theatre Company



The season of 'Love to Say Goodbye' has been extended until the end of this week! No. 3 Roskill Theatre Company is a theatre group comprised of mostly past Roskill students who have been working on a performance for the Auckland Arts Festival which will be shown this week at 3 Roseman Ave, Mt Roskill. The drama is called 'Love to say Goodbye' and is a final goodbye to many of the homes that have been demolished as new builds are created in the area. The ensemble drama performance shares stories and memories of these homes; performed on site of the house that Roskill resident and playwright Toa Fraser grew up in and subsequently the motion picture 'No.2' was filmed at. The house was scheduled to be demolished weeks ago but the No.3 Roskill Theatre Company have worked hard with local council and a trust to keep the site functioning for the purpose of a proper goodbye to the Mt Roskill that once was. For a few of these actors, they have been forced to relocate out of Roskill due to this new building programme and these stories are especially personal.

A must see poignant show telling our stories.

More details can be found at www.aaf.co.nz/event/love-to-say-goodbye

Auckland Transport Student Discounts

This year Auckland Transport has an updated process for students 16+ to get the student discount loaded on their AT HOP cards. Please check out the following link for the options available:

<https://at.govt.nz/bus-train-ferry/at-hop-card/card-concessions-discount-fares/child-student-discount/secondary-school-students-16-to-19-years-old>

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.

Alumni



Sharon Liang, 2020

Congratulations to Sharon Liang a Year 13 design student in 2020 who is included in the NZQA Top Art Exhibition 2021. The exhibition features exemplary Level 3 Visual Art portfolios and tours across New Zealand. The exhibition will be showing in Auckland at Whitecliff School of Arts, 12-16 July 2021.

Homework centres				
Subject Area	Times	Venue	Description	Teacher in Charge
Catch Up All subjects	Tuesday 3:20- 5:30	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
ESOL	Wednesdays 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. Chromebooks available.	RYJ/YAN
Mathematics	Wednesdays 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 Chromebooks available	SBV
Tongan Homework Centre	Wednesday 6:00-8:00 pm	D11	All levels in all subjects. 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
Languages	Wednesdays 3:15 - 4:15	R3	Japanese (included in R-Block Homework Centre)	KOJ
Computer Science/Digital Technologies	Thursdays 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
History	Tuesday Lunchtime	C3	Any help with assessments or questions about the course work can be answered.	HTG
English	Tuesday 3.15-4.30	H6	Any help with assessments or questions about the course work can be answered.	GYC
Media	Wednesday 3:00-4:30	T7	Supervised assistance with homework and computers available for editing	HPK
Chemistry	Thursday lunchtime	S6	Chemistry teachers are available to help with any Level 2, 3 or scholarship chemistry.	MCS
Visual Arts	Tuesday 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
Performing Arts	—	Studio	Always happy to sit with individuals and families anytime with a previous booking to go over any work. THT students can join the Technology Homework Centre.	GSE
Technology	Thursday 3.20-4.45	D4	Help with portfolios in DSM and DVC as well as non-practical work from TMM, BCT and TCE.	PGD
Music	Monday - Thursday lunchtimes	Music Block	The Music Block is open to all Music students to practise or work in the computer lab. There is always at least one teacher on duty and available to help.	HDN

EVER BEEN ASKED "WHERE ARE YOU FROM? NO, WHERE ARE YOU REALLY FROM?"



RESEARCH STUDY ON ETHNIC IDENTITY

During adolescence, we are trying to figure out how we identify with our ethnic groups. This can be especially difficult if you have parents who are from another country as there is often a clash between the two cultures.

We want to know what might influence how Southeast Asian young people think about their ethnic identity and how they would like to be supported.

This research study is part of Lovely Dizon's PhD thesis.

Participants will be asked to participate in a single interview that will take place either over the phone or online via a platform like Zoom, at a time that's convenient for you.

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?

We are looking for young people who are:

- 16 years or older AND
- Parents from a Southeast Asian country AND
- Born in New Zealand OR born in a Southeast Asian country and moved to New Zealand before 12 years old

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?

Or have any questions, please contact: Lovely
(l.dizon@auckland.ac.nz)

AUCKLAND COUNCIL PRESENTS

CultureFEST

A **World of Cultures** event

**Celebrate Auckland's
vibrant cultures**

Food • Performance • Sports • Arts

**FREE
EVENT**

Sunday 28 March 2021, 10am-5pm

Mt Roskill War Memorial Park

Visit **our[auckland.nz](https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz)** for details



 AKLworldofcultures

 #AKLculturefest

Media partner: 



2021



YOUNG WOMEN IN PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

**Recognizing young women for their commitment to
volunteerism, volunteer leadership achievements
and dedication to empowering women worldwide**



1 APPLICATION, 3 OPPORTUNITIES

**Club award
NZ\$1,000**

**32 district awards
US\$1,500 each**

**10 international awards
US\$5,000 each**

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit: zonta.org/YWPAAward.

CLUB DEADLINE:

22 March 2021

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

aucklandzonta@gmail.com

The Young Women in Public Affairs Award is a Zonta International program funded by contributions to the Zonta Foundation for Women. Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy.

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'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

ASB Bank Limited 58380 16814 0919



We value freedom of choice

All children develop in their own way, and we make sure that our care reflects this. We encourage free play, exploration, and creation. Celebrating culture and each child's individuality is important at our centre, as we aim to create learners who are both proud of their own identity and supportive of their peers.

Why choose us

- Excellent child-teacher ratios
- We take pride in our quality facilities
- 27 years experience
- Home away from home environment
- Celebrating diversity
- Qualified staff

Spaces available for all ages. Enquire now



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