

March 2021: Term 1, Week 9

From the Principal



Last week we welcomed families to the first Campus Pasifika Fono for the year. Our young leaders were recognised and the students and their families had the opportunity to meet with a range of Universities to further explore future options. We look forward to our NCEA information evening on Wednesday 31 March.

Congratulations to our 1st XI boys' cricket team who have gained a place in the final of the 1A competition after a fantastic win over Takapuna Grammar. The final is scheduled for Friday 9 April against Sacred Heart College with the winner gaining a place in the Auckland Premier Competition.

Best wishes for a refreshing Easter break.



Ngā manaakitanga
Greg Watson
Principal

Board of Trustees

It has been exciting to see so many of our tauira involved in co-curricular activities over the past few weeks, striving for their own level of excellence through our value of Tūmanakotanga.

In addition to our exceptional sporting successes and those representing our school with pride, MRGS also has a niche for students committed to social justice, leadership and community projects. In the past week our mediators trained with external providers to support social justice as a preventative measure. We have seen our Pasifika Young Leaders presented with their badges alongside other students from our campus schools, representing the Pasifika community. The Sheppard House (and other Houses) "Relay for Life" team shone in their overnight walk at the weekend, raising over \$8,000 for the Cancer Society of New Zealand. Our thoughts are with families affected by cancer and it was heart-warming to see our students literally walking the talk to help. Well done to all of the tauira and staff who contribute many hours to support our school culture of excellence in all areas.



Marjet Pot
BOT Chairperson

Important dates for your diary

Wed 31 Mar	NCEA Information Evening
Fri 2 – 6 Apr	Easter Break
Thu 8 Apr	Mahurangi Sports Exchange @ Mahurangi
Tue 13 Apr	Term 1 Junior Report Evening, Pukekohe Exchange @ MRGS
Fri 16 Apr	End of Term 1
Mon 3 May	Start of Term 2

NCEA Information Evening

Parents and Caregivers of students studying Level 1 and senior 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.

Junior Report Evening

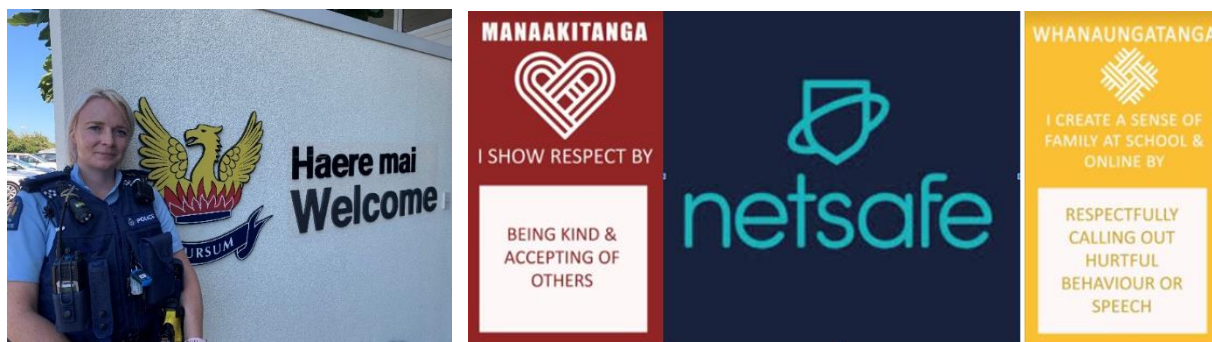
The Junior Report Evening will be held on Tuesday the 13th April from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. Teachers of Junior classes will be available for 5 minute meetings to discuss student progress and next steps on their subject. Bookings will open from Thursday 1st April. Student reports will be sent out to caregivers via email on the 9th April.

Cyber Safety

Our thanks to Constable Holly Stiles for delivering a Cyber Safety talk to each of our Year 9 classes this week. Her presentation reiterated our values of Manaakitanga and Whanaungatanga.

She reminded students to be kind online, to monitor and manage the amount of time they spend online and to report any concerns to Netsafe, or if more serious to the police.

She also reminded students about the serious consequences of online harassment aligned with the Harmful Digital Communications Act (2015)



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.

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

1. **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.
2. **If someone asks them to join a chat:** if the person is not your friend, don't join.
3. **Negative behaviour:** if you see it, call it out and disconnect. Contact Netsafe.
4. **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.
5. **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

Relay for Life

On the 27/28th March 25 students took part in the Relay for Life at Lovelock Track. This is a worthy cause supporting the New Zealand Cancer Society. Our students were great and we have raised over \$8000 for the cause and the donations are still coming in.

A highlight was seeing one of the students Hudson Pfeifer completed his personal goal of running 300 laps (over 100kms) during the 14hrs. It was a real community event with lots of activities – most of us did not sleep but immersed ourselves in what was happening. Emotions were high as we remembered those we have lost, and those we love who are fighting cancer. We would like to thank everyone who got involved or donated what they could.



Maclean Centre Masterpiece

Toby Kuforiji designed and built this lamp by himself as part of his technology homework.



PYL/Pasifika Young Leaders



Pasifika Young Leaders are a group of students we are very proud of. They are students who represent their culture with pride and others respect and look to as role models. We recently were able to celebrate them and their role within the school. We are very excited to see what they achieve this year and in their futures.

Volleyball Senior Girls

This year was our first year in the Division 2 at Auckland Champs which was held at Bruce Pullman. The majority of our players were from our Junior volleyball team last year. The girls went on to play MAGS for 9th and 10th and put us in the top 10 for this year. Huge thank you to Izzy and Shania and also our parents that came out to support us every night.



Taiko Drumming Experience

On the 15th of March, one of the Year 9 Japanese classes, Year 9 Music classes and Year 10 Japanese classes finally received the amazing opportunity to watch and listen to a Taiko (Japanese Drum) performance in the Hall. Miss Kojima applied for funding from the “Asia New Zealand Foundation”. We received the grant last year but because of the Covid situation we could not invite the Haere Mai Taiko group until this year. The performances included two traditional drum pieces and one special piece called “え-じゃないか” (e- janaika) which means “Anything Goes”. Our students were asked to chant along with the drum piece. 24 lucky students were then able to go up on stage with the drummers and learn a simple Japanese drum routine. At the end of the session, students thanked the amazing performers, and left the Hall with a memory they won’t soon forget.

Report by Ansh Trivedi



AA Drive School Student Focus Group

The AA Drive School met with a focus group of students and their parents from Mt Roskill Grammar to talk about driving lessons and what they offer as part of the AA network.

Students and parents provided feedback and gave suggestions around learning to drive and the qualities they would look for in a driving instructor. In return for their time each student received two complimentary lessons with the AA.



Peer Mediation Training: “Students Helping Students”

A big thank you to the 91 new Mediators who were trained by the Peace Foundation last week learning the important skills of how to resolve everyday conflict in a constructive way. These life skills of open communication, relationship building and ‘listening to understand’ are part of the MRGS culture and values of Manaakitanga and Whanaungatanga. Respect, kindness, understanding diversity and aroha for everyone.

A further 64 Advanced Mediators were trained by the Peace Foundation and the LEADR Lawyer /Mediators on advanced mediation skills. The facilitators were blown away by our incredible Mediators and the positive, warm school culture supported by the mediation ‘social justice movement’.

60 Advanced Mediators have also attended further advanced mediation training over the last few weeks from SHINE on the effects of violence and how to be an active bystander; and YOUTHLAW, knowing your rights and responsibilities. Further training is coming up from our PSSP team on embracing sexual and gender diversity; and Race Relations from Julie Watson.

To be the best Mediator you can be, it is important to be as self-aware as possible about your own beliefs and prejudices, so that you can provide the best support to others.

Our Peer Mediation Service is about students helping students. 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.

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



Howzat – Cricket Update

This week brings an end to what has been a great season for all our cricket teams at Roskill. We currently have 5 boys' teams and 1 girls' team in what is one of the biggest cricket programmes in the history of the school. There were many highlights from the season, including great coaching staff, amazing ground staff, very supportive parents and one of the highest numbers of student participation.

Our 1st XI Boys, who moved up from 1B competition last year, are having another successful season. Drawn on points with Takapuna Grammar School, the team pulled off a commanding win to secure a place in the final against Sacred Heart College. The winner of this final will gain automatic promotion into the premier league while the runner up will get the chance to push for the premier league through a promotion/relegation fixture in 2022. An historic high for our school.

Our 2nd XI team had an even better season than the 1st XI and finished unbeaten, securing a promotion to a higher division next season.

Our girls team fought hard throughout the season and in tournament week and played some great cricket to demonstrate the Roskill value of Tūmanakotanga which is aspiring for excellence through resilience. Both our Junior Year 9 and Colts team also had a great season and we are very excited to see these young cricketers grow into amazing sportsmen. The future of Roskill cricket definitely looks very bright.

We will be back in term 4 with more exciting cricket.



Waterpolo Tournament

Congratulations to this team who competed in Tauranga during Summer Tournament week. The team which is a mixed combination of boys and girls were playing in a boys grade and had a great tournament improving on their performances throughout the week!



Winter Sports Registrations

It's not too late to sign up and join a team for the winter season which is fast approaching. You can register for winter sport online by completing the Registration form which can be found on the school website through the sports page. Students can also see the Sports Department during break times to register or email sports.department@mrgs.school.nz.

Winter Sport Coaches

Mount Roskill Grammar is on the hunt for some Winter Sport coaches to support our teams this year. If you are interested in coaching a winter sport, whether it's a junior or senior team, please email the Director of Sport to express your interest – cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz

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.

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.

Climate Change March

If any parents/caregivers are giving permission for their child to leave school for this March on April 9th the parent/caregiver needs to contact the attendance officer **prior** to school starting for a student to have a leave pass created. This is not a school led activity. The Ministry of Education will deem this absence as explained unjustified.

Huia no. 1 Watermain Project: Road closures

Bremner Avenue closures:

Watercare are now installing the watermain along Bremner Avenue. During this time, Bremner Avenue will be closed to through traffic until at least mid to late May.

Winstone Road and Memorial Avenue upcoming closure:

Winstone Road and Memorial Avenue will be closed shortly, from approximately 6 April for at least 3 months due to complex works starting to tunnel a section of pipeline and build additional chambers. Please use Denbigh Avenue to get to Frost Road during these works.

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



Richard Mortimer (1969)

Richard left school to become a commercial building apprentice at Keith Hay Construction, followed by time working at DH Davies. Richard received a number of qualifications in robotics, marketing, management and business. Currently living in Christchurch, he had a great time walking down memory lane, including finding a photo of his 4th form, form teacher Mr Rowe.

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

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 59280 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



CONTACT US
Ph: +64 9 629 0732
E: admin.mrecc@mrgs.school.nz
W: mountroskillearlychildhood.co.nz

60 Somerset Road,
Auckland 1041