

May 2021: Term 2, Week 3

From the Principal

Our Mathematics team of Coco Chen, Grace Xu, Riley Mara, and Sylvia McDougall is one of two teams selected to represent New Zealand in the International Mathematical Modelling Challenge. The team spent five consecutive days in the school holidays analysing and solving a real world problem. Real problems require a mix of different kinds of mathematics for their analysis and solution and take time and teamwork. Congratulations to the team on this fantastic achievement, and to their companion team of Ansh Trivedi, Chris Lobo, Joe Wang, and Mohammad Tousif Kabir who were highly commended. Thank you to Mr Dewerse for his organisation of our participation.

Last week we held the first teacher only/accord day of the year. The focus was on numeracy and literacy, and Mana Ōrite mō te Mātauranga Māori – ensuring te Ao Māori is fully represented in the curriculum. The day was very valuable in enabling thinking and planning for changes in NCEA for which full implementation begins in 2023. There are two more accord days scheduled by the Ministry of Education this year: in August to focus on the new Level 1 Achievement Standards, and in November to focus on local curriculum design.



Ngā manaakitanga
Greg Watson
Principal

Board of Trustees

With any change a significant amount of work goes on behind the scenes and I would like to thank our staff for their openness to learning on Thursday last week regarding the forthcoming changes in 2023 to NCEA. Our whānau appreciate you supporting our tauira through this future change. These changes will be trialled in 2022 and implemented in 2023 at NCEA Level 1 (the year 11s in 2023 are our current year 9 tauira). The NCEA Change Programme is a work programme led by the Ministry of Education to deliver the package of seven changes aimed at strengthening NCEA. The first change discussed in the previous session was how NCEA would be made more accessible. The focus on Thursday was on changes two and three; “Equal status for mātauranga Māori in NCEA” and to “Strengthen literacy and numeracy requirements and assessments”. If you would like any further information about this process the following website provides details of the changes <https://ncea.education.govt.nz>. I am confident that the transition into these changes are being well led by our senior leaders, heads of department and within school leaders.



Marjet Pot
Presiding Member

Important dates for your diary

Mon 7 June	Queen's Birthday (School closed)
Wed 9 June	Campus Fiafia night
Thu 10 June	Open day (Early finish at 2.20pm)
Mon 14 June	Nathan Wallis Presentation Evening
Tue 15 June	Teacher Only Day
Thu 24 June	Campus Matariki
Wed 30 June	Senior Mentoring Day (no school for Junior students)
Sat 3 July	School Ball
Fri 9 July	End of Term 2

Open Day

We look forward to welcoming prospective students and their families to our Open Day on Thursday 10th June, 3.30-7pm. Come and see our school in action!



Nathan Wallis Presentation

Nathan Wallis is coming to Mt Roskill Grammar. Don't miss the opportunity to listen to a world class neuroscience educator. The Teen Brain event is now live and tickets can be found at:

<https://www.eventfinda.co.nz/.../the.../auckland/mt-roskill>



Teen Brain

Mon 14 June 2021 : 7:30pm - 9:00pm
Mt Roskill Grammar School - Auckland



Sports Notices

Winter Sports is underway! Most of our winter sports teams have started over the first two weeks of this term with all others starting this week. A reminder to parents to get permission slips signed and returned to the Sports Department or team manager. All sports fees can be paid online or at the accounts office and need to be paid in the first two weeks of competition.

Volunteers NEEDED We are still looking for a number of volunteers to support our sports teams through coaching, managing and officiating. Please contact the Sports Director at the following email address if you are available: cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz

Draws/Results Draws and results can be found through the Mount Roskill Grammar School Website on the Sports Tab. You can also check the College Sport Auckland Website or download their app for the latest and most up to date information.

Respect on the Side lines Reminder to all parents and supporter's of sport to please be respectful of all players, officials and team management of both teams. We hope to see lots of positive support on the side lines this winter encouraging our students to play hard and fair!

Swimming Success

Congratulations to our swimmers who competed and medaled at the New Zealand Division II Championships in Dunedin.

Saniru Hewa

2nd 15 year old Men's 50m Freestyle

3rd 15 year old Men's 100m Freestyle

Astrid Kyle

3rd 16-18 year old Women's 400m Individual Medley

Alex Winn

1st 14 year old Women's 100m Backstroke

3rd 14 year old Women's 50 m Backstroke



Alumni Olympic Selection



Congratulations Malcolm Hicks - selected for the Tokyo Olympics!

Tokyo 2021 will be Malcolm's first Olympic Games. A member of the Wesley Athletic and Harrier Club in Auckland, he is now living in London but is still coached by New Zealand-based Paul Hamblyn. His qualifying time makes him the fourth-fastest Kiwi to ever have run the marathon.

A latecomer to the marathon, the 33-year-old previously ran in shorter distances and has made great strides since dedicating himself to the marathon just three years ago.

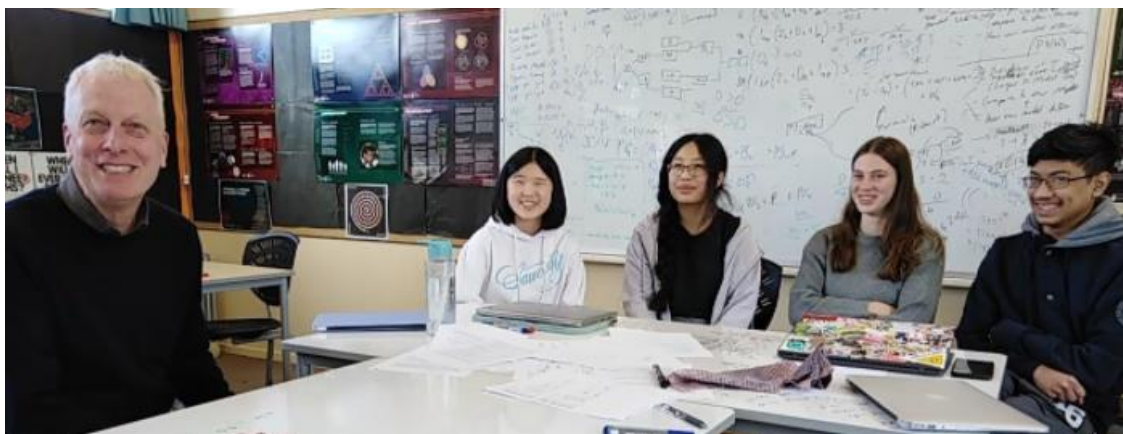
Wahine Toa



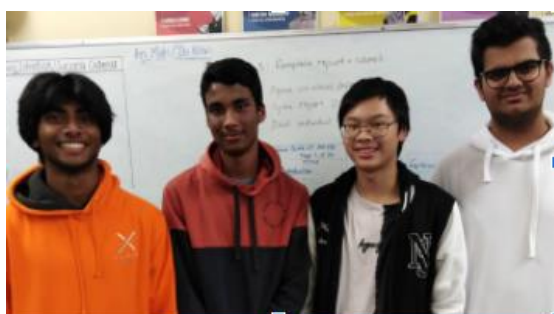
A cultural exchange between Mt Roskill Grammar School and Whanganui Girls College was held for rangatahi. The students made connections with Manukau harbour, met Pania Newton at Ihumātao and explored Māori artistry during the exchange.

2021 International Mathematical Modelling Challenge at MRGS

A mathematical model developed by a team of four MRGS students has been selected as one of two that will represent Aotearoa, New Zealand in the [2021 International Mathematical Modelling Challenge](#). The team, consisting of Coco Chen, Grace Xu, Riley Mara and Sylvia McDougall, was one of two MRGS teams that took part in the NZ round of this challenge. The other team consisted of Ansh Trivedi, Chris Lobo, Joe Wang and Mohammad Tousif Kabir.



After weekly training during Term 1, our teams had five days during the school holidays to analyse a problem posed by the International Mathematical Modelling Committee. Working from 9am to 5pm in the class each day, and also at home in the evening, they used a variety of skills including coding, spreadsheeting, report writing, research, data processing and analysis and of course lots of mathematics to develop models for a staged problem.



While the topic of the problem cannot yet be publicised (as some countries have yet to start their 5-day period), it was very relevant to our everyday lives, and made the teams wonder how on earth to go about modelling it! After brainstorming some key questions and working out an approach to take, both teams got under way and made good progress on the first stage of the problem.

Some difficulties such as accessing and processing large amounts of data led to frustration at times, but with a bit of prompting from Mr Dewerse (the MRGS advisor) the teams started to work together well, breaking the problem down into smaller tasks that each person took responsibility for. On the final day of the Challenge the teams worked solidly through the day with only a 10-minute break for lunch, while being well supplied with a steady stream of hot waffles made by Mr Dewerse to help keep them going.



The successful MRGS solution and one by a team from Botany Downs Secondary College will now be judged by an international panel of experts, and recognised as Successful Participant, Honourable Mention, Meritorious, or Outstanding. Advisors and teams will be notified of the results in June or July.

Japanese Restaurant trip

On Wednesday the 14th of April, the senior students taking Japanese went to a Japanese Restaurant named Nishiki in Freemans Bay. The students had an amazing opportunity to try authentic Japanese foods and bond with other students who they may have not met before as they are in different year levels. While waiting for the food, some students had fun guessing the Japanese songs playing over the speaker. When the food arrived, the kinds of food served were things like Sushi, Miso soup, Oyster, Tempura, Tofu and Beef. Special thanks to Miss Kojima for organising this event, and thanks to Mr McAlpine for driving a school van.

By: Racey Ferris



Senior French Dinner

Le Boeuf Bourguignon, la Salade au chèvre chaud et la Mousse au Chocolat - just a few of the options on the menu at 'Le Garde Manger', a French restaurant located near the top of Queen Street. On Monday 12th of April, the Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 MRGS French students got to experience all this on their French dinner trip for 2021. Once inside, the atmosphere was what can only be described as truly French, with red checkered tablecloths and French music playing in the background. In between courses, some students chose to make use of the piano at the restaurant adding to the lively French atmosphere. There were a number of prizes drawn in a prize draw and after dessert, everyone said their goodbyes and returned home after what was a truly memorable night.

By: Anna Duesing



Year 13 Production - Flint Street Nativity

One of the Level 3 Drama classes performed 'Flint Street Nativity' in the studio in Week 2. The show follows a misfit class of twelve students who are six years old and preparing to perform the story of the birth of Jesus, but everything turns to chaos over the course of the evening. The class worked so hard to pull the show together, spending hours of their own time rehearsing, preparing costumes and props and performing, and had wonderful feedback from their sold out season. Well done to the class.



Auckland Writers Festival

More than 80 of our students attended Auckland Writers Festival which is a gathering of the worlds best writers and thinkers to celebrate the world of books and ideas.



Debating

This week Roskill hosted a senior open debating round where 26 teams from around Central Auckland debated the moot 'This house would legalize performing-enhancing drugs in sport'. We had 6 teams competing out of which 3 won their debate. A great effort from all the teachers and students involved!




Performing Arts Showcase

MT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS

TAHI

A PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE



**WED 2ND AND THURS 3RD JUNE
7PM - BUTLER HALL**

TICKETS \$5 ON THE DOOR

MacLean Centre

During the last school break the staff of the MacLean Centre (teachers, therapists and teacher aides) participated in professional learning around autism and the challenges this can create for some of our students. The MacLean Centre staff work with students with a wide range of needs and disability. This learning will enhance their skills and knowledge in this area.



Alumni



Sir Murray Frederick Brennan

Is a New Zealand surgeon, oncologist, cancer researcher, and academic. From 1985 to 2006, he was chairman of the surgery department of the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Centre in New York City, United States. In the 2015 New Year Honours, he was awarded one of New Zealand's highest honours when he was appointed Knight Grand Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to medicine.

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.



Teen Brain

Mon 14 June 2021 : 7:30pm - 9:00pm
Mt Roskill Grammar School - Auckland

Mt Roskill Grammar School is proud to announce that the host of the documentary "All in the Mind", and co-host of the TV Series "The Secret life of Girls", Nathan Wallis, Aotearoa's renowned neuroscience educator, is coming to our community with his talk - Teen Brain.

Covid has put all of us in an unpredictable environment and this has added layers of complexity to an already complex time of life - especially for children and teens already dealing with issues around anxiety and depression. During adolescence parts of the teenage brain are "shut for renovations". This is the part of the brain responsible for regulating the teenager's moods, for understanding consequences, maintaining focus and for thinking about the well-being of others. And the 'teen' years can start as early as 9 and end anywhere from 18 to 32 years of age!

However the good news is that there are clear tips and practices from the research that can help and enhance our teen's ability (and yours) to cope with this tricky time and minimise the stress for everyone. Understanding the changes that are taking place will help you to navigate successfully these important and formative years. Nathan will share strategies with participants to achieve better relationships and better outcomes for the children and teens we work and/or live with!

Tickets are available at www.eventfinda.co.nz.
Search "Nathan Wallis Mt Roskill"



@nathandwallis



www.nathanwallis.com



@nathanwallisxfactorededucation



FREE EVENT

Want a safe teen driver?

"If I could have that moment again I wouldn't speed. It's not worth it you fullas." – James Rolleston

Bring your young driver along to our Your Teen and Driving evening, to meet James' and hear his story. He will share with us his experiences from working in film and TV, and how a serious crash changed his life.

Venue: Ormiston Senior College, (School Auditorium)

275 Ormiston Road, Manukau

Date and Time: Friday 28th May, 6pm – 8pm

Don't miss out, you must register to attend

Sheerli.Chand@AT.govt.nz



DRIVE
Be a great Kiwi driver



Message from Watercare - Road Closures

Bremner Avenue closures:

We are now installing the water main along Bremner Avenue. We have now reached the point where the road will be closed to through traffic with no public access to John Moore Reserve or Milliken Ave. Please use an alternative area to drop off your children.

Winstone Road and Memorial Avenue upcoming closure:

Winstone Road and Memorial Avenue will be closed 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.

How to find out more from MRGS



www.mrgs.school.nz



<https://www.facebook.com/MountRoskillGS>



[mountroskillgrammarschool](https://www.instagram.com/mountroskillgrammarschool)



Mt Roskill Grammar School

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.

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



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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