

April 2022: Term 1, Week 11



From the Principal

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

We have been working together to build back learning lost during the peak of the omicron outbreak. With so many students and teachers out of school at different times during the term, getting everyone 'on the same page' whilst maintaining learning interest has been our focus. Students are working towards being in a good position by the end of term so that everyone can move forward confidently next term. It's fantastic to see the best attendance of the year over the last week as students work with purpose to achieve.

We will return to our usual 5 period day for the start of the new term and will advise of any other changes that may result from government adjustments to the protection framework.

We are looking forward to opening new spaces for Learning Extension and Dance in H Block at the start of the term. The new Learning Extension facility will enable us to re-open our breakfast club for term 2. Work on the learning hub and staffroom will continue during terms 2 and 3.

Thank you to everyone for your excellent support during the term. We wish all our MRGS whānau a well-deserved and refreshing term break.



Ngā manaakitanga
Greg Watson
Principal

School Board

As we come to the end of the first term I want to acknowledge the perseverance of our taira and whānau. I am grateful to see our whole community working together to do the best they can in a range of circumstances. In addition to the classroom and online learning, taira and kaiako have also been able to engage in a range of co-curricular events. The engagement in academic competitions, sports, debating and school trips shown in this newsletter clearly demonstrates our commitment to our taira being successful powerful learners and active responsible citizens. I would like to thank each person in our MRGS community for any act of kindness you have shown this term. Your support for each other has not gone unnoticed.



Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board

Health and Safety

Mask wearing continues to be an important tool to stop the spread of Covid-19 and it continues to be a requirement for everyone to wear one while they are indoors.

Please make sure your child brings a mask to school every day and talk through the proper way to wear a mask. A mask should cover their nose, mouth and chin without gaps above, below or on the sides.

Masks for sale in Accounts:

Top mask \$10.00 each with adjustable straps and room for a filter
Logo and non-Logo (bottom two) \$4.00 each



Calendar Dates

Thurs 14 Apr	END OF TERM 1
Term 2	
Mon 2 May	Start of Term 2
Tue 17 May	Accord Teacher Only Day
Thurs 19 May	Pasifika Parent Fono
Mon 6 June	Queen's Birthday
Wed 22 June	Campus Matariki
Fri 24 June	Matariki
Wed 29 June - Fri 1 July	Year 13 Production

School Reports

Due to the disruption caused by Covid-19 this term we have decided to postpone the issuing of our Progress Reports until Week 3 of Term 2.

This report will give you a clear guide for how your student is progressing in their class work and will indicate their achievement to date.

Mentoring

As we come to the end of the term, it would be an ideal time to have a chat with your student about how their conversations with their mentor have gone so far.

There will be another round of mentor conferences in late Term 2 and we are hoping that these will be able to happen in person, however we will notify our School community about this closer to the time.

Languages Championships

In Term 1, Mount Roskill Grammar School competed in the 2022 Education Perfect Global Languages Championships. This is part of the Education Perfect World Series.

There were around 3,000 schools worldwide who competed and MRGS came 7th in NZ and 36th in the World. This represented many hours learning languages and revising material in a fun way.

There were a large number of impressive results with:

- over 65 MRGS pupils gaining awards
- and more than 375,000 questions answered by MRGS Languages pupils



The very top students in this competition gained an **ELITE Award & Badge** because they gained over 10,000 points. They were in the top 0.2% of all competitors. **Banujah Balagiritharan (1st in MRGS), Riley Mara and Christopher Mara** deserve a special mention for their dedication to gaining outstanding results worldwide. There were also 5 pupils who gained an **Emerald Certificate** for over 5,000 points, and 6 pupils gained a **Gold Certificate** with over 3,000 points.

Elite Award & Badge	10,000+ points	Banujah Balagiritharan Riley Mara Christopher Mara
Emerald Award	5,000+ points	Natalie Hu Frances Damu Catherine Zhao Inshirah Diwan Maaiasepi Samuelu
Gold Award	3,000+ points	Hetavi Sheth Janie Lai Christina Ah Ken Onethra Deniyage Lucy Palu Akain Koralage

MRGS also gained:

Silver Award	2,000+ points	8 students
Bronze Award	1000+ points	16 students
Credit Award	500+ points	27 students

Well done on all the AMAZING results – **LEARN, COMPETE, WIN**

Biology Trip

Year 12 Biology students attended a one-day ecology field trip in the Waitakere Ranges. They investigated the ecology of the forest for Achievement Standard AS91158 (4 credits).

Three rangers from the Arataki Visitor's Centre supported our students' learning on the field trip. Feedback from the students was very positive... 'We learned so much'.



Rock Climbing

On Sunday 3rd April MRGS had 5 students compete in the first College Sport Rock Climbing event of the year at Extreme Edge in Panmure.

Big congratulations to **Stella Boyd** in Year 10 who finished in 3rd place in the Intermediate Girls Division.



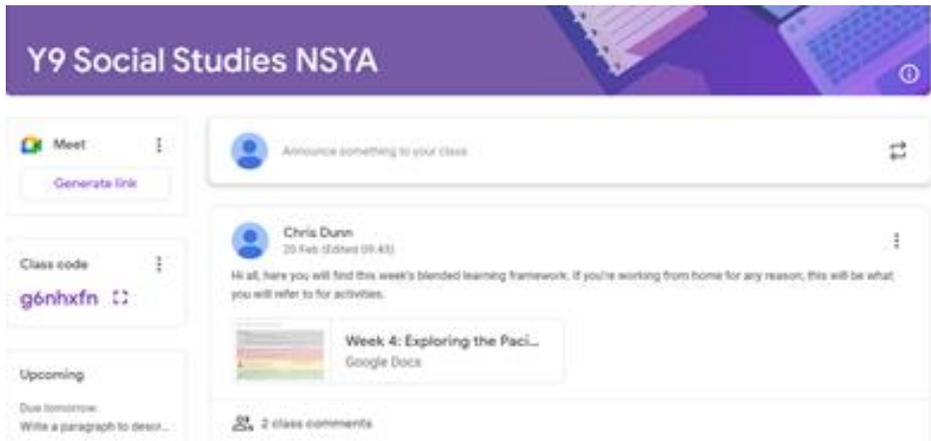
Online Learning

Important: If your student does not yet have a device to use, then we can arrange to lend them one. [Please see our website](#) for a copy of the loan agreement.

If needed we can use Google Meets but throughout the year there are two main threads to our online learning approach at MRGS; Google Classroom and the Blended Learning Framework.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom is where our online learning takes place. All our teachers have made classrooms available for all our students in all classes. On their Google Classroom page, they will find the class work that is being taught in-class on a daily basis. If you would like access to a Google Classroom to see what your student should be doing, then please email the teacher directly and they can give you access.



Blended Learning Framework

Every Google Classroom has a copy of that class' Blended Learning Framework. This is a document that reminds students about prior learning, instructs students on current learning, provides opportunities to practice their work, and encourages them to review their learning to embed it as new knowledge. Students should refer to it to make sure they understand what they are meant to be learning and how it relates to their prior learning and next steps. It is not meant as an exhaustive step-by-step lesson plan, but rather as an indicator of what is being learned.

Learning intention:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHAT am I learning ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Where Māori and Pacific Islanders ancestors came from - How these ancestors navigated the Pacific Ocean and settled in Aotearoa • WHY am I learning this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identifies the techniques and hardships Island voyagers had to use and overcome in exploring the Pacific - Introduces ideas around why people migrate and challenges they face 		
Learning tasks	Links to learning tasks	
Remember  Check in on the Google Classroom for announcements and any Google Meets if you are still working from home. Please make sure you have access to TVNZ ON DEMAND as we are going to watch an episode of the show Origins with Scotty Morrison.	 Introduction to Ancient Pacific Migration	
Learn  Topic overview Key vocabulary - Migration, culture, environment Where Maori and Pacific Islanders came from How they navigated the Pacific Ocean What challenges they needed to overcome when voyaging	See Google Classroom under classwork for the slides you will need for this week	
Do  Find out the Difference between Near and Remote Oceania Cartoon on ocean exploration Complete TWO questions around Scotty Morrisons journey to discover where Hawaki is Record different navigation techniques	See the slides for details on these activities	
Review You will know you are successful if... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You can explain the terms migration, culture, environment • You understand where the ancestors of Pacific Islanders and Maori came 	Submit your work through Classroom.	

Sport Update



Student Sport Vaccination Changes Update:

All children and young people, regardless of their vaccination status, can participate in school-organised teams and groups, or as an individual representing the school in a competition or event. This applies whether on or off the school site, and to all students of Mount Roskill Grammar School.

Winter Sports Coaches and Managers Needed:

Mount Roskill Grammar is looking for a number of coaches and managers for all of our winter sports. We need support with the following sports codes: Badminton, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Rugby Union, Netball, Girls Lacrosse and Gym sports. If you are able to coach or manage any of these sports codes, please contact the Director of Sport today! Please email cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz

Premier Netball Coach Vacancy:

Mount Roskill Grammar is seeking to appoint a new Premier Netball Coach to lead our Senior Team in the Premier Netball Waitakere competition. The ideal coach will have experience coaching Netball, great interpersonal and communication skills, and have a passion for the game. It is essential that you are available on Tuesdays (late afternoon/evening) for games and to take 2X training sessions each week. This is a paid position and one that we are looking to fill as soon as possible. Please send any expressions of interest and requests for more information to the Director of Sport; cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz by Friday 22nd April.

Winter Sport Registrations:

Winter Sport Registrations are now open online and students can register for their winter sports through the following google form link - <https://forms.gle/jmQtptwxigZBZrn28>

This registration link can also be found on the school website. Most winter codes have started trials and practices but it is not too late for students to join teams. If students have any questions, they can come and see the Sports Department during break times located in between Gym 2 and 3.

Sports Results:

Cricket Term 1 Final Placings:

1st XI Boys	3rd place
Junior Boys Colts	1st place
Junior Boys A T20	4th place
Junior Boys B T20	3rd place
Girls 9 Aside (T20 grade)	4th place



Archery

Archery League Final Placings

Two Mount Roskill Grammar Archery Teams competed in the Auckland Archery Match Play Championship on Sunday. The hard work of the coaches, team captain Celia Chanwong and the students continues to grow the sport in the school. The competition is open to all schools in Auckland and is the final fixture of the season. All students participated in the individual match play with Tessa Bolland placing third overall in a competitive field. The team competition was challenging for us after a long day of shooting but we continue to improve our placing year on year.



Congratulations to - Tessa Bolland who finished in 3rd place in the Individual Recurve division in College Sport Auckland's Archery League this term. Tessa finished with a total of 638 just 7 points behind the 1st placed student. Mt Roskill Archery Team A finished in 5th place in division 4 while the Mt Roskill Archery Team B finished in 1st place in division 5. Good luck to all of the Archery teams who are competing in the Match play competition this Sunday.



Regional Debating Championships

MRGS sent our top four teams to compete in the Auckland Regional Debating Championships.

Most notably our Advanced Premier team of Karen Wang, Pranav Kumar and Lydias Yong (special mention of Sylvia McDougall who subbed in for the last debate) won 3/4 debates and just narrowly missed out on qualifying for the quarter finals.

This was the final tournament of the term and we look forward to a successful term 2 for debating at MRGS in the Auckland Schools Debating competition rounds.



Water Polo

Senior Water Polo Mixed team had another convincing win last weekend against Northcote College winning 13-1. They also won their final game of the season 7-4.

Results of Junior games were: Won 4-2 against Kings Alpha
Won 8-6 against Whangaparaoa
Won 6-4 against Kings Omega

