



## From the Principal

Kia ora Koutou

This week marks the end of semester one. Year 9 and 10 students will begin second semester option subject next week. We are looking forward to the senior mentoring conferences on Tuesday June 27. This is an opportunity for families, students, and teacher mentors to meet and take stock of learning progress, celebrating successes, identifying any issues and necessary next steps for learning in term 3. Information about how to book your conference is included in this newsletter.

While most people understand and support the need to maintain and recognize our high-quality teaching workforce through fair pay and conditions it is disappointing that the negotiations have not been settled. I acknowledge the disruption to family arrangements and to student learning because of the union action which has resulted in rostering home of groups of students. Students can continue with their set home learning on days while they rostered home. Thank you to families for your forbearance. We look forward to a settlement as soon as possible.

This week our Rūpeke Dance Showcase should be a great evening for anyone who is able to come along.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson  
Tumuaki | Principal

## School Board

Kia ora

It is wonderful to see our kura celebrating our ethnic diversity with taura and kaiako sharing their cultural dress during Samoan Language week. There are a number of days and weeks later in the year acknowledging our cultural diversity. The pride that taura feel in their culture and in being part of MRGS is so important to them becoming successful, powerful learners. The connection with whānau is vital to taura success and I am excited that, after a number of delays, we are able to hold our senior mentoring conferences before the end of term.

These conferences are a highly valued opportunity for kaiako, taura and whānau to collaborate, and for each student to know that the support they receive is a combined effort to help them reach their individual heights.

Ngā manaakitanga



Marjet Pot  
Presiding Member

# Calendar

12 - 14 June	Pride Week
13 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 9 and 13 Students at school
14 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 10 and 11 Students at school
15 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 12 and 13 Students at school
19 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 9 and 10 Students at school
20 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 11 and 12 Students at school
21 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 9 and 13 Students at school
22 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 10 and 11 Students at school
22 - 23 June	Rūpeke Dance Showcase
24 June	School Ball
26 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 12 and 13 Students at school
27 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 9 and 10 Students at school
27 June	Mentoring - School closed for instruction and no Junior students on site
28 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 11 and 12 Students at school
28 June	Paid Union Meeting- Year 9, 10 and 13 finish school 11:55am
29 June	PPTA Rostering home - No Year 9 and 13 Students at school
30 June	<b>End of Term 2</b>
17 July	<b>Term 3 Starts</b>

## Mentoring- 27 June

Our next round of senior mentoring will take place on Tuesday 27 June, 11am - 7pm. On that day the School will be closed for instruction and junior students will not come to school. You will have received an email about this earlier today. Our expectation is that all senior students will meet with their mentors in person here at school, and our hope is that you will join them. The discussions will focus on the progress that has been made towards their goals, academic progress, and planning for the future.

To make a booking with your child's mentor, simply book online:

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)

1. Enter the code: 5xs8d
2. Enter your details
3. Select your student's mentor from the list

If you require assistance to make a booking or change an existing booking, you can phone the school on 09 621 0050 with your student's name, ID and mentor's name ready.

## School Ball 2023

Our annual school ball is rapidly approaching. This year it is to be held at the Ellerslie Event Centre on Saturday the 24th of June. The cost is \$125.

It is school policy that students need to pay off any outstanding 2022/23 school fees before they can purchase a ticket to the school ball. This includes camp. If you are unsure about any outstanding fees you can get a printout of these from the accounts department.

We will be accepting an initial deposit of \$50 but the full amount needs to be paid by the end of school on Friday the 16th of June as this is when final numbers are sent to the venue and caterers.

If you wish to take an outside partner you will need to collect a form from accounts and get it filled out and then approved by Mr Skiff or Mr Cornes before you can purchase the tickets.



# Open day 2023– 20 July



**Mount Roskill Grammar School**

Open Day – Thursday 20 July 3:30 – 7pm

Excellence, together

We are excited to invite you to attend the Mt Roskill Grammar School Open Day on Thursday 20 July from 3.30pm – 7.00pm.

You will meet with the staff who will be supporting your child and find out more about our co-curricular opportunities. You can also take a tour of our school, visit our new Learning Hub, have a closer look at what departments teach and students can try exciting activities in a range of subjects. I will give a presentation at 3.30pm, 4.30pm and 6pm about our school.

At Mt Roskill Grammar School, the vision for our students is for them to become successful and powerful learners, equipped with the attitudes, qualities and qualifications to excel. Our teachers are experts in their subject and are skilled facilitators. Our students also excel in NCEA, well in advance of national averages.

## Samoan Language Week





# Jazz Camp



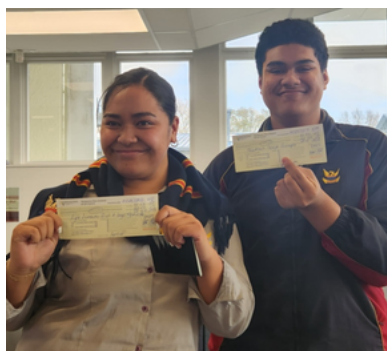
We had three days away rehearsing in preparation for the KBB Festival and thoroughly enjoyed ourselves. Excellent progress was made and there was also an opportunity to enjoy a trip to the beach at Te Henga, roast marshmallows over the campfire and hang out with Bella, the camp goat!

Thanks to Mrs Haddock and all the staff who supported this fantastic opportunity.

# Driver's License Programme

Last week 50 senior students took part in a three-day Driver's License programme run by Rule Education Trust and funded by the Ministry of Social Development. After two intense days of learning the road code and completing practice tests and activities, 37 students sat and passed their Learners Drivers license. The rest of the students will be sitting their Restricted Driver's license after they have successfully completed two driving lessons with Rule Education Trust. These practical driving lessons are designed to get the students ready for their practical driving test. The first of these lessons are this week so we are looking forward to hearing about the student's success with gaining their restricted license over the next few weeks.

We would like to thank Enuia and Tai from Rule Education Trust for the work they did teaching the students the essentials of driving and VTNZ for coming in on the third day to administer the Learner's License tests.





# Leadership Diversity Day

On Wednesday 24th seven rangitahi headed off to the Te Noho Kotahitanga Marae at the Mt Albert Unitec Campus. The day was a focus on World Religions.

The day was spent thinking about the challenges and thoughts about leadership and then working together with seven other secondary schools in Auckland to discuss the issues they face from a perspective of World Religions

Our students became in engaged in robust conversations around two issues.

The first one was “our environment, our home, our future.” How to preserve Aotereoa for future generations. This was thought about in very practical ways with all the groups coming up with small changes they could implement immediately.

The second topic was “Ko tatou tatou, He waka eke noa” You are us: We are all in this together. How to ensure everyone has enough to live a good life. Once again, they came up with some enlightening ideas of how to share and care for everyone.

## Legal Mooting Team

Congratulations to the two Junior MRGS Legal Mooting teams who are through to the Semi-Finals of the 2023 ASLM competition, 15th June, to be held at Dio. Well done Lenaya Aumua, Sophia Visessio, Paula Paliak, Dalton Smith, Naailah Riaz, Ilma Ismail, and Aanya Shukla (Club captain) Jennifer Li, Natalia Sanchez, Una Gasic, and Angelique Li-Rossolatos.



## Curling

Over Kings' birthday weekend Abraham Chanwong, Micky Ng and Maia Collins competed over two days at the National Mixed Curling Championships at Paradise, Avondale. They competed against a range of teams including under 21, adult and masters national representatives. The team Maia was in finished 10th and the team Abraham and Micky were in (with alumni Oscar Cao) finished 12th.





# Learning Hub Review



Gina Cole lives in Tāmaki Makaurau. She is a qualified lawyer, holds a PhD in creative writing from Massey University and is an Honorary Fellow in Writing at the University of Iowa and Na Viro is her first full novel



Never heard of Pasifikafuturism? That is probably because former barrister turned novelist, Fijian-New Zealander Gina Cole has just invented it! Her first novel is set 200 years in the future, where rising sea levels have swamped the low-lying Pacific archipelagos and the Water Wars of a century ago have turned the city of Tāmaki Makaurau into a broken, smoking landscape.

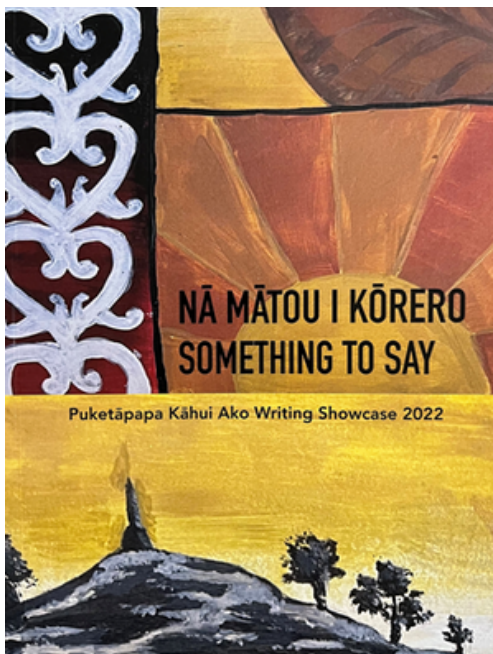
Our teenage main character, Tia Grom-Eddy plans to join the Global Indigenous Alliance to map terrestrial ocean currents, rather than follow her mother and sister in joining the military regime, who are focused on space exploration and mining to keep the broken and dying Earth going. While most humans are focused on exploiting space, Tia turns her back on space and steers her carved kauri drua into the ocean currents and begins the long journey from Aotearoa along the Kermadec Trench and on, to the Lau archipelago, learning and developing her ancestral navigation skills. But when Tia's sister Leilani goes missing on her latest exploration mission in space, Tia finds herself navigating the currents and swells of a massive galactic whirlpool in space to rescue Leilani.

Don't let the slightly nasty cover art put you off, it is rare these days to find a truly unique story, and this definitely is one! Cole is perfectly placed to be able to bring together the Māori and Pasifika traditions of waka-building and oceanic navigation to represent indigenous culture and knowledge in this futuristic space-based story. You wouldn't think it would be a natural combination, but it is actually a very good fit.

Cole's focus on the non-exploitative relationship the Pasifika cultures have with the planet is a good lesson in this story set in a future destroyed by climate change, as is her lessons on the impact of colonisation and environmental exploitation on indigenous peoples. In Cole's story the Kaumātua recite a karakia as a spacecraft leaves Earth; the pastel lights of the Tijen whirlpool remind Tia of the coral reefs around inundated Namu Island and by including details like this in a story set in space, Cole not only brings a uniquely Pasifika voice to science fiction but also uses her space-based story to celebrate the traditions and challenges of the Pacific.

This book is available in the school library but don't forget these books are also available for free from Auckland Public libraries – all you need to do is register for a (free) library card and you can access a huge collection. If your local branch doesn't have a copy, they will order one for you into the branch. And don't forget they have a huge online catalogue, including newspapers, magazines, e-books and audiobooks that you can access on your phone. You just need your library card number. [Auckland Libraries](#)

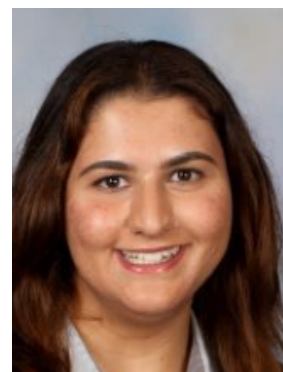
## English



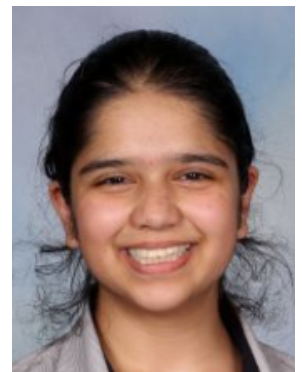
Congratulations to Grace Xu, Aliza Khambatta and Rubina Sidhu for having their writing published in the Puketāpapa Kāhui Ako Writing showcase.



Grace Xu (2022)



Aliza Khambatta (2022)



Rubina Sidhu (2022)



# Tikanga Art Work

Below are some works from our Year 9 Hui Ako Classes in Tikanga. We are currently exploring our local taonga that are part of our School Pepeha. Our akonga were given the task to explore a chosen taonga further to promote it as a special part of our school identity.



We made this poster to encourage people to protect, respect and embrace our Maunga as a taonga. Our poster includes ways to make the most of the Maunga, whilst demonstrating ways to improve, respect and care for it. We strongly believe that if our Maunga was treasured and treated like the taonga that it is, then our community will value it even more.

- Pranav Shenoy and George Maplesden



This poster shows you the things you can enjoy at Te Auaunga and information about its history. The human intervention like deepening and straightening damaged the creek, it led to the loss of animal life and contributed to the unhealthy waters we have now. Oakley Creek Te Auaunga can be a place that many people can enjoy, but we need to protect it now for future generations.

- Damian Dao, Selena Meng, Jotham Yu

Taonga that are worth protecting on our Maunga: [A presentation](#) by Edna Sly, Chloe Boyd, Lofa Palu and Abi Rajamoohan (RSHC 906).



# Sports

## Winter Sports Draw:

You can find draw information for all Mount Roskill Grammar Sports teams on the link below. Please double check this the day before in case of any last minute changes to the draw.

[2023 MRGS SPORT TERM 2 - WEEKLY SPORT DRAWS & RESULTS](#)

## Winter Sports Results:

Girls Lacrosse: 9-2 win over Botany Downs

Basketball:

Senior Boys - 85-59 win over Dilworth

Under 17 Boys - 86-24 win over Liston

Senior Girls - 70-29 win over Massey High

Junior Boys - 37-24 win over Rutherford

Curling:

Sursum - 6-1 win over Papatoetoe

Football:

1st XI Girls - 2-0 win over Epsom Girls

Boys Year 13 Social - 4-1 win over ACG Parnell

13A Boys - 9-1 win over St Peter's

Netball:

Year 10 A - 24-16 win over Auckland Girls

Rugby:

1st XV Boys - 22-17 win over Mangere College

Hockey:

1st XI Boys - 13-0 win over Rosehill College

1st XI Girls - 3-1 win over Rosehill College



MRGS Students playing kī o Rahi during lunch time

## Lunchtime Sport and Recreation Activities:

We will have a variety of activities taking place across all three gyms and the Fitness Centre during lunchtimes each day throughout Term 2. Please check our Sports Instagram page ([mrgs.sport](#)) and the school notices for what is happening each day or come along to the Sports/PE departments and the gyms to find out and get involved!

Football and Hockey Socks:

All students who participate in Hockey or Football for the school are required to wear the MRGS Sports socks. These can be purchased from the school uniform shop for \$15 which is open on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 8am-9am.

# ALUMNI

We were very lucky to have a visit from our first ever MRGS Head Boy and his wife, Bob and Margaret Coldham. Unfortunately they could not attend the 70th Reunion so we wanted to acknowledge them in this weeks Newsletter.

Bob was the first ever head boy of MRGS and both Bob and Margaret are alumni- they met here and 64 years later are still going strong thanks to the Roskill cupid. You will note that the older photo shows Bob wearing the original MRGS cap. We decided not to retain the lion as our emblem so as to differentiate ourselves from MAGS and Auckland Grammar, this is how the Phoenix arose.

