



## From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

I hope you have been able to spend time with whānau and friends during Matariki. It is a time for us to reflect, connect, and plan for the future.

At assembly last week I talked about how each student's approach to learning is pivotal for their success. There is still time to pick things up if achievement hasn't been satisfactory, and there's still time to waste a good start. It's time for each student to reflect and to take stock of their progress and achievement. Being clear about the success criteria and attending every lesson are big factors in learning success. Our teachers are working hard to ensure every student knows exactly what is required to enable success, step by step. We need 100% attendance from everyone who expects to achieve.

I have advised our School Board that I will be retiring at the end of the year. It has been an immense privilege to lead Mount Roskill Grammar School and witness so many outstanding achievements by our students and staff over the years. I am proud of our success in providing a nurturing environment that has enabled so many students to grow into successful, powerful learners.

Thank you to everyone one who came along to our Open Day last week, and to so many students who were guides for our visitors on the day. Next week is our drama showcase. Everyone is welcome to come along.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson  
Tumuaki | Principal

## School Board

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

This week Mr Watson has given his resignation as Tumuaki / Principal effective January 2024.

Greg started at Mt Roskill Grammar in 2006 and has been an outstanding Tumuaki. The Board are enormously grateful for Greg's leadership of this kura. He has led the kura tirelessly with strength and passion. He never wavered from the strategic plan, enabling all students to reach their potential and succeed to their ability and become successful and powerful leaders. Being Tumuaki of a large kura is both challenging and enormously rewarding but Greg now wishes to retire.

Greg is always thinking about the school and planning for what is best for the school and to this end he has given the Board time to undertake a robust recruitment process. Greg will remain as Tumuaki until January 2024. He will continue to lead this kura with the same high leadership skills that he has utilised for the past 17 years.

There will be time later this year to really celebrate and thank Greg for his leadership. Leadership comes in all different forms and it is now time for the Board to lead the recruitment process. The shape and process for this will be determined by the Board and we will employ a recruitment consultant to assist us with this important process.

This kura is fortunate to have a very experienced Board who are ready and committed to making the right decision for this kura. The strategic planning process which the Board has started will provide us with useful information to assist us with the appointment of a new Tumuaki.

Ngā manaakitanga



Marjet Pot  
Presiding Member

# Year 9 MRGS Speech Competition

Well done to all of our year 9 students who shared their speeches in class and to those who made the final! The Head of Department, Mr Gray, has commented on his pride in the high quality of work presented. Thanks to our hosts, our judges (Mrs Fleming, Deputy Principal at MRIS; Mrs Ross, MRGS Learning Hub Manager; Mr Reweti, MRGS Deputy Principal), to Ms Brown for her organisation and to all of the English Department for their support of our students learning the art of public speaking.

Congratulations to:

- 1st Finlay Dodd (Nuclear Power)
- 2nd Halle Kaufusi (Dawn Raids)
- 3rd Violette Ramsay (Twins)

Other finalists:

- Loujayne Al-badry (Palestine)
- Tanu Kolio (Pacific Stereotypes)
- Natalia Mouravleva (Social Media)
- Rana Soliman (Islamophobia)



Violette Ramsay (Left), Halle Kaufusi (Middle), Finlay Dodd (Right)

## Debating

Mount Roskill Grammar School hosted the Auckland Schools Debating Junior Championship on Saturday 22nd July. Thirty six teams from across Auckland competed on the day. At the end of the preliminary rounds, Mount Roskill 1 (Aanya Shukla, Natalia Sanchez and Jennifer Lee) finished with 3/3 wins and finished the competition ranked 3rd. In the quarter finals, hosted at the University of Auckland the next day, Mount Roskill defeated St Cuthberts by successfully negating the motion 'This house would ban Tik Tok'. Unfortunately, they lost in a close debate to Auckland Grammar in the semi-finals.



Aanya Shukla



Aanya Shukla (Left), Jennifer Lee (Middle), Natalia Sanchez (Right)

## Youth Summit 2023

The Puketāpapa Youth Summit returned after a short hiatus. It is a wonderful day showcasing both the organisational skills of the Youth Foundation, as well as the zeal and care our students show in regards to their community.

It was well attended with students from both Mt Roskill Grammar School and Lynfield College.



## Calendar

25 July	Course Information evening - 6:30pm - 7:45pm in the Learning Hub
27 July	Traditional Cultural Dress Day
27 July	NCEA Fono evening- 6:00pm - 7:30pm in the Learning Hub
3 - 4 August	Attila the Hun - Year 12 Drama Showcase
25 August	School Holiday - No students or staff onsite
28 August - 1 Sept	Tournament Week
4 - 8 Sept	Tongan Language Week
11 - 15 Sept	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori week
22 Sept	<b>End of Term</b>

# Course Information Evening

This coming Tuesday, the 25th of July from 6:30pm - 7:45pm in the Learning Hub, MRGS will be having it's Course Information Evening. With the deadline for 2024 subject selection approaching this Friday! (30/7) it's important that our students have a clear idea of what it is they're wanting to do. Course Information Evening is an excellent time to do. You will be able to ask questions of Heads of Departments and Academic Deans to ensure that the subjects they taking next year set this, particularly if a student is still unsure, them up for success later in life.



## NCEA Fono

On the 27th of July from 6:00pm - 7:30pm in the Learning Hub, MRGS will have its NCEA Fono. With both a Samoan, Tongan, and English presentation, it is a good space to ask any of those questions you may have about NCEA. The presentation is designed for year 10 and 11 students. If you are interested in coming along, please in the following Google Form: <https://tinyurl.com/NCEAFono>

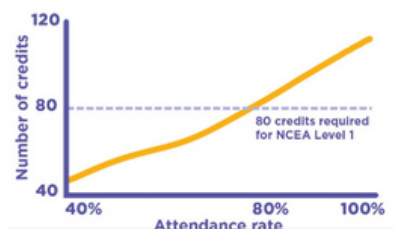
# Attendance

In assembly this week, students were presented with the following graph

Whilst this graph is for Level 1, it is indicative of the direct correlation between high attendance and high attainment of credits. We encourage students to aim to attend every day, to be in class on time and make every minute of learning matter.

Term 3 is an incredibly important term in preparation for NCEA practice exams in weeks 8, 9 and 10, which provide students with the opportunity to implement study and revision techniques for exam purposes and gain crucial feedback in the lead up to the external exams

### Relationship between attendance and attainment (Level 1 credits)



## Achievement

Term 3 is a crucial time in regard to senior student achievement. With the last internal assessments underway and many students now preparing for external assessments in their classes, asking your learners to map out their remaining assessments by creating an assessment planner for Term 3 is a great way to support them. Information about assessments in each of their courses should be available via google classroom. For seniors, a good Term 3 assessment plan would also include time to revise for school exams which will be happening in weeks 8, 9, and 10.

It was wonderful to have senior mentoring at the end of Term 2 and for whānau to engage in conversations around assessment, next steps, and plans for the future. It is important that students think about the next steps that were part of those mentoring conversations and talk to their subject teachers if they need any further clarification about what to focus on.



# Preparation for Exams

At the end of Term 3 our senior students will be undertaking their Senior Subject Exams. These exams are important both for class placement in 2024 and in case they are unable to sit their NCEA External Exams in November. We know that staying up the night before an exam not only doesn't work but will actually make you perform worse. With this in mind we appreciate when families check in with their rangatahi to ensure they are regularly studying in preparation.

## Chromebooks

With important examinations coming up for our seniors at the end of Term 3 and in Term 4, we have a reminder about the importance of your child bringing their device for learning. MRGS is an established BYOD school, meaning that we expect your child to have a device to support their learning in the classroom every day. The ideal device for learning is lightweight with a keyboard. MRGS' teachers use the Google Classroom platform for all their classes as a way of distributing information, assigning classwork and homework tasks, and giving feedback on assessments.

Through our ICT partners New Era, we give our community access to a purchasing portal called Acquire <https://newera-byod.acquire.co.nz/>. New Era seeks to provide our community with the most competitive pricing for any new device purchases, but if you are struggling to provide a device for learning and you have a community services card, we do have a limited number of Chromebooks available for loan for the 2023 academic year. To access these devices, a \$50 deposit will need to be paid; you or your child will need to present a community services card at the time that you or they make the deposit.

## Uniforms

Our uniform has looked fantastic as we have returned to school this term. Thank you for your support in ensuring your child is meeting our uniform expectations and wearing our uniform with pride.

## Traditional Cultural Dress – 27 July

We are excited to announce a Cultural Diversity Celebration at Mt Roskill Grammar School on the 27 of July. This event will highlight the richness of our school community's cultural backgrounds through various activities such as food, dance, calligraphy, and traditional dress.

### Key Details:

- Date: Thursday 27th July 2023
- Purpose: Celebrate the cultural diversity of our school community
- Activities: Food, dance, calligraphy, and traditional dress

### Dress Code:

- Students may wear either full school uniform or full traditional cultural wear
- Examples of traditional cultural wear include Māori, Filipino, Tongan, Samoan, Middle Eastern, Sub Saharan African, South Asian, Thai, East Asian, Irish, and European (Swedish/Danish/Norwegian) attire
- Students not dressed in line with the spirit of the day (e.g., sports jerseys, "pop" culture clothing) or incomplete school uniform will not be allowed
- Students not meeting expectations of either traditional cultural wear or full school uniform will be asked to return home to change into appropriate attire

We appreciate your support in encouraging our students to participate in this celebration by showcasing their cultural heritage. By doing so, we can foster a greater sense of belonging, understanding, and appreciation within our school community.



# Open Day

Last week we had the privilege of meeting our future MRGS students. Our prefects and MRGS students did an incredible job of representing our school. If you or someone you know missed out on Open Day, we will be holding tours over the coming weeks. Please contact [enrolment@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:enrolment@mrgs.school.nz).

Thank you to all of the staff and students that were involved in making this a successful Open Day.



# Sport

## Season and Commitment Reminders

The winter Sports Seasons resumes again in Term 3. A reminder that if you are part of a team, you need to show commitment to that team throughout the whole season by attending all practices and games, and being there in a timely manner. If you can't make it to practices or games, communicate with your coach or manager early so they know why you are not there.

## 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:

### Football

1st XI Girls won 1-0 over St Dominics

### Netball

Premier Girls won 27-19 over Hoani Kahu

### Girls' Lacrosse

won 12-6 over Mt Albert Grammar

### Curling

MRGS Sursum won 3-2 over Lynfield  
MRGS Phoenix won by default

### Hockey

1st XI Boys drew 1-1 with Orewa College  
1st XI Girls lost 2-1 to Western Springs

## 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 3. Please check our Sports Instagram page ([mrgs.sport](#)) for what is happening each day or come along to the Sports/PE departments and the gyms to find out and get involved!

# Swimming

Results from NZ Secondary Schools Swimming Championships held in Wellington from 20-23 July 2023.

The highlights were four medals to Daniel Kregting, gold for 100 and 200m Butterfly, silver for 400m Freestyle and bronze for 200m Individual Medley

### Naia Tagiilima 14 Year Old Boys

16th 100m Breaststroke  
17th 50m Breaststroke  
27th 100m Individual Medley  
28th 50m Backstroke  
37th 50m Butterfly  
39th 50m Freestyle

### Jinitha Hewa 16 Year Old Boys

28th 50m Backstroke  
30th 50m Breaststroke  
33rd 50m Butterfly  
41st 50m Freestyle

### Leah Crowie 15 Year Old Girls

39th 50m Breaststroke  
50th 50m Butterfly  
51st 50m Freestyle  
53rd 50m Backstroke

### Relays 2 x 50m Mixed Open Relay

7th Daniel Kregting & Emma Winn  
15th Jinitha Hewa & Alex Winn  
17th Naia Tagiilima & Leach Crowie

### Emma Winn 15 Year Old Girls

10th 100m Butterfly  
12th 50m Butterfly  
24th 200m Backstroke  
29th 100m Backstroke  
32nd 50m Backstroke  
34th 50m Freestyle  
37th 50m Breaststroke

### Alex Winn 17-18 Year Old Girls

8th 200m Backstroke  
12th 100m Backstroke  
13th 50m Backstroke  
28th 100m Freestyle  
31st 50m Freestyle

### Daniel Kregting 15 Year Old Boys

1st 100m Butterfly  
1st 200m Butterfly  
2nd 400m Freestyle  
3rd 200m Individual Medley  
5th 50m Butterfly  
5th 100m Backstroke  
5th 200m Backstroke  
6th 100m Freestyle  
8th 50m Freestyle  
8th 50m Backstroke  
8th 100m Individual Medley



Daniel Kregting



# Hockey

Congratulations to Year 13 Alex Thomson and alumni Shakeel Kanji who represented in the Auckland A Under 18 Team at the National Tournament in Dunedin in the holidays with the team taking out 3rd place.

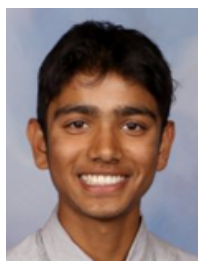
Congratulations to Hamish Thomson who also took part in the same tournament representing Auckland in the Auckland B Under 18 team



Hamish Thomson (Left), Alex Thomson (Middle), Shakeel Kanji (Right, 2022)

# Cricket

Congratulations to a number of current and former Mount Roskill Grammar students who have been selected into the Auckland Cricket A, Under 17 and Under 19 Academy squads.



Auckland A Squad:  
Neil Patel (2021)



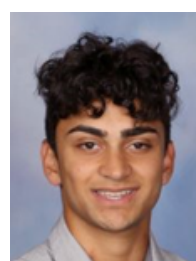
Auckland U19 Squad:  
Rahman Hekmat (2022)



Auckland U19 Squad:  
Sahil Rawat (2022)



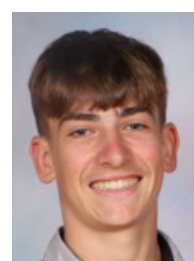
Auckland U19 Squad:  
Abdul Ahmadzai (2022)



Auckland U19 Squad:  
Dev Ratra (2022)



Auckland U17 Squad:  
Muhammad Saad Khan  
(2023)



Auckland U17 Squad:  
Ben Van Laarhoven-  
Hargreaves (2023)

# Curling

Abraham Chanwong and Maia Collins represented Auckland at the NZ Mixed Doubles Championships in Dunedin. They achieved 9th= in their first competition as a team and were the youngest competitors by three years!

# Learning Hub Review



## Dial 'A' for Aunties by Jesse Q. Sutanto

Meddelin Chan is the photographer in the family wedding planning business, with her Chinese-Indonesian mum and three aunts. When Meddy is forced to defend herself when a blind date turns out to be 'less than a gentleman' and accidentally kills him, she rings her mum for help. Her mum and her aunts immediately spring into action, convincing her not to go to the police and reassuring her they will hide the body so no one will ever know. As you can imagine, things don't quite go to plan. And when the dead body ends up getting shipped to the exclusive island resort where Meddie's family are organising the high profile, celebrity wedding that weekend, things are not looking good.

This book is a delicate and unusual balance - yes, her horrible blind date did not go well, but there is a twist halfway through the story that makes everything far less clear cut and raises plenty of ethical and moral questions. Sutanto displays real skill in making the women of the story charming and likeable, despite their extremely questionable ethics and the fact they are trying to get away with murder, as a reader you actually want them to.

This book is largely a slapstick type, laugh out loud farce and yet, there is something about the loving way Sutanto writes her fierce, strong women who would protect Meddy with their lives, that elevates it to more than that. I usually find this kind of humour a bit cringey and uncomfortable, full of near misses and improbable coincidences, but this one is genuinely funny and lovely, if not extremely morally questionable.





We welcome enrolment applications for students intending to start at Mt Roskill Grammar School in 2024. Enrolments are now open.

Online enrolment forms can be found at

<https://www.mrgs.school.nz/out-of-zone/> - <https://www.mrgs.school.nz/in-zone/>

Paper copy forms can be collected from the Mt Roskill Grammar School Reception in the Administration office or from your school office.

If you have any questions please contact Ms. Haines on 09 621 0050 or email

[enrolment@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:enrolment@mrgs.school.nz)

We look forward to receiving your child's application and welcoming you to our Mt Roskill Grammar School family.



# MRIS Open Day 2023– 26/27 July



**MT ROSKILL  
INTERMEDIATE**

# Open Days

**INFORMATION TOURS 2023**

## Wednesday 26th July

- Tour #1: 9.15-10.30am
- Tour #2: 4.00-5.15pm
- Tour #3: 6.00-7.15pm

## Thursday 27th July

- Tour #4: 9.15-10.30am
- Tour #5: 4.00-5.15pm
- Tour #6: 6.00-7.15pm

**Prospective students and their families are invited to join us on one of our school information tours to find out more about our school.**

The tour focuses on highlighting the opportunities on offer at Mt Roskill Intermediate, information about our school, as well as looking around our classrooms and facilities.

You only need to attend one tour as the same content will be covered during each tour.

Please book your place on one of our tours by following the instructions below, then select the tour time you wish to attend:



phone:  
(09) 620 8508

### Book Now

To book in for a tour, please go to  
[schoolinterviews.co.nz](https://schoolinterviews.co.nz)  
click on **Make A Booking**,  
then enter in the code: **z7wmh**

### More Information

[office@mri.school.nz](mailto:office@mri.school.nz)

Denbigh Ave – Mt Roskill (Current entrance is via  
Frost Road) –  
Please come to the Administration Office

[www.mri.school.nz](https://www.mri.school.nz)