

# Mount Roskill Grammar School

## Term 3: Week 7



### From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

So many students have enjoyed representing the school and our values in a range of events and activities over recent week. Congratulations to our musicians, spoken word team and to our senior boys and girl' basketball teams who have all excelled recently in Auckland competitions. This week we are looking forward to meeting and competing with schools from across New Zealand in the national sports Tournaments.

A big focus for the last three weeks of term are the senior practice exams. Students have their exam timetables. Exams take place during lesson time and senior students attend usual classes in between exam sessions. There are four days during the exam period when longer practical exams are being held and senior students not involved will have a study day at home. This provides a great mix of on-going teaching and some time for students to prepare independently trying out their exam planning and study skills. The practice exams provide a great gauge on learning progress and may also be used to derive a final grade if a student misses an NCEA exam for acceptable reasons. Year 9 and 10 students continue with usual classes throughout and will have their school exams toward the end of term 4.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson  
Tumuaki | Principal

### School Board

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

A reminder that nominations for the student representative on the School Board close on Tuesday 29th August. When election time comes make sure that you vote – each of you have the right to vote and choose who you want to be your voice helping to govern our kura.

I regularly comment on the diverse range of opportunities offered at our kura. it is wonderful to see our musicians, sports people, chess masters, performing artists and social justices advocates all exemplifying our value of tūmanakotanga in the past fortnight. Of particular note is the Jazz band's award for exemplifying the spirit of the KBB festival - manaakitanga in action!

As our senior tauira prepare for exams I know that tūmanakotanga is at the forefront of their minds and preparation

Ngā manaakitanga



Marjet Pot  
Presiding Member

# Calendar

Date	Event
28 August - 1 September	Winter Tournament Week
30 August	Out of zone enrolment applications close
<b>4 - 20 September</b>	<b>Senior Exams</b>
4 - 8 September	Tongan Language Week
11 - 15 September	Te Wiki o te Reo Māori
14 - 15 September	Board Student Elections
20 September	Sports Awards Evening
<b>22 September</b>	<b>End of Term</b>
<b>9 October</b>	<b>Start of Term</b>

## Exams

Please click on the link below for information on Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 exam schedules

[MRGS Curriculum - Senior Exams \(google.com\)](#)

## How To Study

Studying can be a difficult activity. Simply, it consists of knowing what to do and when you're going to do it.

The first part "what to do" is where all those Learning Objectives and practise papers come into play. Through knowing and practising all the things that could come up you will be in an excellent position to succeed. If you don't know what you should know, ask your teachers.

The second part "when you're doing it" can be as simple as using a calendar. The simple idea is to find out when your exam is, backmap to now, and fill in the intervening time with the skills and ideas that you'll need. For example, if I have three weeks before an exam and 12 concepts I need to be comfortable with I will have to cover, on average, four concepts a week. With this in mind I can carve out time on Mon-Thurs for these concepts, allowing time for reflection on Friday.

For a deeper dive on these ideas, please refer to this youtube [playlist](#).

## Attendance

Attendance is incredibly important, our expectation is that students are here at school every day, unless they are sick or for another valid reason.

If your child is away, please contact [attendance@mrqs.school.nz](mailto:attendance@mrqs.school.nz)



# KBB Music Competition

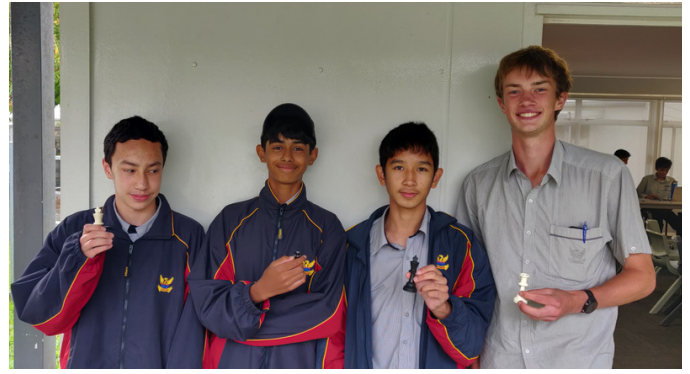


Three ensembles competed recently in the KBB competition. String Orchestra received a highly commended, award and the Concert Band a Bronze award, the Jazz Band also received a Bronze award. And in addition to its award for its performance, the Jazz band also received the Peter Goddard Memorial Trophy for embodiment of the “spirit of the Festival”.

Our students represented MRGS with excellence and pride, demonstrating manaakitanga in their support of each other and other schools.



# Chess



The MRGS Chess Team of 2023 are continuing a streak of dominance after impressive performances in both major tournaments we've participated in this year.

First was the Chess Power Central Auckland Clusters, where we competed against Mount Albert Grammar and Lynfield College for a place in the Auckland Regionals. The tournament was a triumph for MRGS, as we finished first place, 1.5 points ahead of a strong MAGS team, with Seven out of the Top Ten individuals being students of MRGS. A special mention to Year 9 Pranav Shenoy whose 6/7 points put him in second place overall.

Next was the Auckland Regional Finals, where Cluster winners from around Auckland fought for Three spots in the National Finals. We sent Ten players, and our MRGS team consisted of Ansh Trivedi, Sourav Dhungel, Pratyush Khatiwada, Mantra Bhatt, Pranav Shenoy, Abraham Chanwong, Dean Saunders, Nathan Carpendale, Jia Ming Tian and Allie O'Callaghan. Throughout the tournament, hosted in our new Learning Hub, our students were in a tight race for 1st place with rivals ACG Sunderland and One Tree Hill College, just losing to One Tree Hill in the final round, finishing in second place by 1.5 points.

This was more than enough to qualify us for the Chess Power National Finals in Auckland later this year, which we hope to win.

Between these two tournaments was the Auckland Girls Chess Championship, where we had three students compete. Maya Ali, Allie O'Callaghan and Shahana Kulathungar. We are proud of these girls for continuing the long-standing tradition of housing strong female chess players.

Ansh Trivedi, Club Captain

## Phone Use

Our expectation of phones in lessons is:

Phones need to be on silent, in students' bags during lessons, unless directed by the teacher to be used for learning

Teachers will continue to communicate the schools expectations of phones. If phones are seen during lessons, students will be reminded of the expectations and asked to put phones in their bags. If a student is seen with their phone again, students will be asked to hand the phone to the teacher. At the end of the lesson, students will have a brief conversation with the teacher and their phone will be returned to them.

Teachers will record the phone use and confiscation of the phone via kamar. For students who have multiple reports from teachers of phone use, they will first have a conversation with their Dean. The second and subsequent times teachers report a student's phone use in lessons, whānau will be contacted and will be asked to meet with the Deputy Principal of their child's House. In conversation with whānau, students' privilege to have their phone in school will be removed for a certain period of time.

In order to support us with phone use in lessons, and maximise teaching and learning time. We ask for parents to only communicate with their child during break times. If there is an urgent matter, please contact admin and we will communicate with your child as soon as possible. This also enables us to support students with upsetting situations in the best possible way.





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

Out of Zone Applications Close: **Wednesday 30th August 2023 at 4pm.**

Ballot day is Wednesday 6th September 2023.

Results of the ballot will be emailed by Friday 8th September.

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.



# Peace Week



We had a wonderful Peace week a few weeks ago, bringing peace, kindness, community connection, unity and inclusiveness to our Roskill community. White ribbons, Random Acts of Kindness, Peace Quotes, Peace Tshirts, Peace Banners and an Assembly presentation were all part of a wonderful week.

On Monday, we had Dr Andrea Edwards facilitate a Race Relations workshop for our Mediators, discussing research informed ideas on how to tackle the racism in our society.

On Tuesday we had our fun and creative face & rock painting.

On Wednesday, our "Celebrating Diversity & Anti-violence Stall Day" had inspiring student- led stalls: Skittles/PSSP/SYNC/NETSAFE/ Amnesty/It's Not Ok Campaign/Japanese Origami as well as stalls from YOUTHLINE/YOUTHLAW/RPE/Odyssey House & Puketapapa Youth Board. The Hall was full of students having fun engaging with the stall activities.

On Thursday, we had our fund raiser BBQ halal/vegetarian/meat sausage sizzle raising funds for our local community.

On Friday, 35 Mediators visited the Ranfurly Retirement village and had an incredible time talking with the retirees. Both generations learnt so much from each other! So much so that some Mediators would like to continue these relationships through volunteer work.

The Peace Foundation Youth Ambassadors presented the REACT programme (Responding to Armed Conflict) talking about global and local peace initiatives. And the finale was our PEACE MARCH which was a joyous event in the sun, marching through the community chanting: " What do we want?" " World Peace" "When do we want it?" "NOW!!"

The theme this year: "CommunityConnect: Project4Peace" is extremely relevant given the world we live in today with wars, covid, and the inequities and divisions within our society. We need to support and look after each other more than ever before.

As Theodore Roosevelt said:

" This country will not be a good place for any of us to live unless we make it a good place for all of us to live in".

A BIG THANK YOU to all the Mediators who worked hard together as a family to make Peace Week the enjoyable week it was

A special thank you to Mr Carter, Iti, Peter & the Property Team and the Food & Hospitality Department for all your support.





# Peace Week





# Performing Arts



## Attila the Hun – Level 2 Drama Production

Venturing into a fast food restaurant past midnight might feel like you are entering into a dangerous, alien world. But the audiences of our Level 2 Drama production had a hilarious look behind the grill as they met the poor souls who flip the burgers for the masses.

The play is a hilarious commentary on what it takes to be a leader and to know who you really are, where a bunch of misfits negotiate awkward workplace relationships, and discover the true identity of legendary warrior Attila the Hun, true leader of the late night crew.

Thanks to our impressive cast and crew, and Miss Nagarajan who led the Level 2 actors to glory.



## Academy performance at MRPS

A group of very keen Year 9 Performing Arts and Academy students were asked to prepare a performance for the Mount Roskill Primary Arts Daze Assembly in Week 5. This assembly was a celebration of the arts including Drama, Dance and Music. Half of our students rehearsed and extended some Sasa choreography we have done in class, and the other half prepared a vampire 'What we do in the Shadows' performance which was very funny and included some hilarious audience participation.

We loved making connections with the primary students who performed some music and their Pasifika group performed a beautiful medley of dances.

Thanks to our student performers for all their hard work preparing for this great assembly.





### **Year 12 THT – Face painting**

Our Level 2 Theatre Technology students have spent the first half of the year making props and costumes for our productions at Mount Roskill Grammar, but our recent learning has been makeup! Our Year 12 Theatre Technology students have learnt about stage makeup for performance, prepared glamour makeup for our Senior Ball and went to Mount Roskill Primary to paint the faces of Room 20, their year 1 students. Each of our Level 2 THT students had a buddy they met, got to know, then spent weeks preparing designs and practicing for the big day.

In Week 4 we met back with our buddies and did their facepainting, then our little buddies got to face paint their older buddies too. It was a wonderful experience to make such a lovely connection with the primary school and hope we can visit our buddies again soon.



### **Level 3 Drama performance with No.3 Theatre Company**

Our Level 3 Drama performers were invited to the newly opened '1234 Theatre' which is on the site of the old Bank at the Dominion Road/Mt Albert Road shops. 1234 is a local theatre which celebrates Roskill stories and creativity. Four of MRGS Performing Arts alumni are the creative residents of this theatre and call themselves No.3 Theatre Company, inspired by their first work they did at No.2 Roseman Ave, the site of the famous movie 'No.2'. Now that the company have a permanent site to create work from they are looking forward to further refurbishments which will allow for large audiences to attend in future.

Our Level 3 actors performed the work they've been rehearsing in class for the No.3 creatives and also got to watch one of their pieces. It was awesome to connect with our local theatre and hopefully our current MRGS actors will be performing publicly on this stage soon. Thanks to our Level 3 actors for their performances and the No.3 team for their hospitality.

# Sports

## Winter Sports - Seasons coming to an end

With the winter Sports seasons coming to an end can we please remind students and families that all school playing uniforms need to be returned to their coach/manager or the Sports Department after their last game. It is imperative that this is done to ensure our students have playing uniforms for next season.

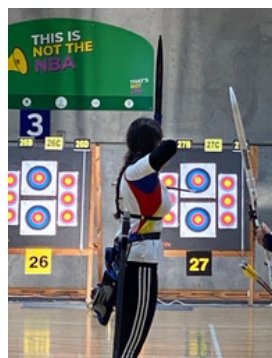
## Winter Sports Draw:

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](#)

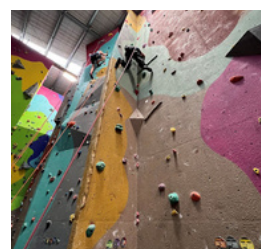
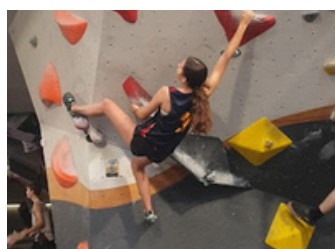
## Archery Success

Congratulations to Tessa Bolland in Year 13 who recently competed in the National Indoor Archery Competition in Palmerston North and placed 1st in the Under 21 Women's target shooting category. Tessa also reached the quarter finals of the match play however was knocked out in a single arrow shoot off! Congratulations on your Gold Medal Tessa!



## College Sport Rock Climbing Success

A big congratulations to Stella Boyd - Year 11 who has finished in 3rd place in the overall College Sport Rock Climbing series in the Senior Girls division. There were 4 events throughout the year including top rope climbing and bouldering events where Stella has competed exceptionally well across all events. We also had two other students competing, Grace Alaimoana who finished 18th in the Junior Girls Division in her first competitive season and Aidan Kerr who finished 27th in the Junior Boys Division. Stella will also be competing in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Climbing Cup National Championship in Mount Maunganui during Winter Tournament Week - good luck Stella!



## E-Sports News

The Mount Roskill Grammar E-Sports teams have been having a successful year with one of our teams playing in the final of Fortnite last week and two of our teams placed in the Top 6 in the recent NZEHL Valorant Tournament. Big thanks to Year 13 Hazik Chaudhry who coordinates these teams with Mrs Chavez.

## Lunchtime Sport and Recreation Activities:

We will have a variety of activities taking place across all 3 gyms and the Fitness Centre during lunchtimes each day throughout Term 3. Please check our Sports Instagram page ([mrgs.sport](https://www.instagram.com/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!



## Winter Sports Results Term 3:

### Final Football Results:

**13B Boys** finished in 3rd place in the Central West 13B Grade  
**14B Boys** finished in 11th place in the Central 14B Grade  
**14A Boys** finished in 3rd place in the 14A2 Central West Plate Grade  
**Senior Social Boys** finished in 1st place in the Senior C Central Plate Grade  
**2nd XI Boys** finished in 2nd place in the Senior B Central Plate Grade  
**1st XI Boys** finished 7th in the Senior A2 Grade  
**2nd XI Girls** finished 1st in the Senior C Bowl Grade  
**1st XI Girls** finished 7th place in the Central Senior A2 Grade

### Basketball

**Senior Boys** beat Dilworth 82-62 in their Semi-final and will play Liston in the final  
**Senior Girls** lost 62-78 in their Semi-final to the unbeaten Rangitoto  
**Junior boys** finished 9th in the Central West Junior A grade  
**Under 17 Boys** finished 4th place in the Central West U17 B Grade

**Girls Lacrosse** finished in 2nd place losing their Division 3 Final against Avondale College

### Hockey

**Under 15 Boys** finished 1st place in the U15 B/C grade  
**1st XI Girls** finished 4th place in the Girls B grade  
**2nd XI Girls**



### Netball

**Senior A** finished 5th place in Senior B Reserve Section 1  
**Year 10 A** finished 1st place in Year 10 C Section 1  
**Year 9 A** finished in 6th place in Year 9 D Section 1

### Rugby

**1st XV Boys** finished in 6th place in the 1B Pool B grade  
**Under 15 Boys** finished in 6th place in the U15 B Pool B grade  
**10 aside Girls** finished in 5th place in the Girls 10s Pool B grade

# Board Election

MOUNT ROSKILL  
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

**STUDENT ELECTION NOTICE**

**Student representative election for the School Board.**

Nominations are invited for the election of one student representative to the School Board.

Nomination Forms and more information are available from the school office.

**Nominations close at noon on**

**Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August**

Keep an eye out on the student notices for up-to-date information

**Voting is during interval and lunch breaks on**  
**Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September, and**  
**Friday 15<sup>th</sup> September**

# History



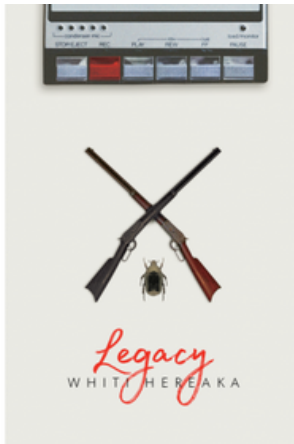
On the 7th of August, the year 11 Japanese class and the year 13 History class were fortunate enough to meet Mr and Mrs Kuroda, who are both survivors of the Hiroshima bombing in 1945. They shared their experience during that day of the bombing, talking about how they were impacted and what the aftermath was like. They even shared information about the impacts of the survivors' health, the destruction the bomb caused and the side effects of it. Mrs Kuroda was even kind enough to show us a book which her friend wrote about the Hiroshima bombing called "Blue Sky". The writer wrote down the story based on what he heard from his mother.

After their talk, we asked some questions individually. We also took some photos together.

We were glad to hear that they liked our thank you card.

Thank you to Mr and Mrs Kuroda for visiting our school and Ms Kojima for organising this experience

## Learning Hub Review



### Legacy By Whiti Hereaka

Riki is a 15-year-old boy living in Wellington. His Koro and mum are obsessed with history, in particular their family history. His great-great-grandfather was a legendary war hero, one of the members of the 1st Māori Battalion who fought in Gallipoli, France, and Egypt. His Koro took the chance to record his father's memories 43 years earlier, and his mother is writing her thesis on the records. Riki, named after his illustrious, heroic ancestor, is actually rather sick of the whole thing, he has other things (pretty major!) occupying his thoughts lately. But when a distracted Riki steps out in front of a bus, he's about to get to know his great-great-grandfather well ... VERY well and Riki finds himself in the middle of history with no idea how to get home.

This is such a brilliant and different concept, beautifully executed and engaging. Hereaka has clearly done a lot of research and captures both life in the Māori Battalion and on the beaches of Gallipoli in harrowing detail. As if the carefully thought-out time travelling story line wasn't enough, she has thrown in an intriguing mystery too. Hereaka is a genuine talent with a strong, unique voice and this young adult novel for girls and boys is unputdownable.

Things to note: occasional use of strong, explicit language.

## Family Host



If anyone would like to be a host family for our international students, please contact Amanda Wong: [amanda.wong@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:amanda.wong@mrgs.school.nz)

We have short-term and long-term students coming all year round from different countries. Please note that there is a 21-day police vetting process for anyone who has not been vetted. This will be organised by the school.



# Sponsorship



## Helping fuel school sports

We reckon every kid deserves to play their part in school sports. So, we're proud to play our part in helping them get there.



Thanks to Caltex Dominion Road for their ongoing support of our sports teams.

# Community Partnerships

MOE Community Partnerships Team  
invites you to Term 3 Webinar

## UNDERSTANDING RELATIONSHIPS & SEXUALITY EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Join us to know more!

Gain insights into what our ākonga are being taught at school, and understand your rights as a parent in this space.

Monday 11 September 2023

6.30 PM - 8.30 PM

Online/Microsoft Teams

PANELIST

### Shawn Cooper

Senior Curriculum Lead at Ministry of Education with a focus on equity, agency, and enriching teaching.

PANELIST

### Liese van Dam

Experienced primary school teacher specialising in years 3-6, currently lead teacher for inclusion & diversity unit.

PANELIST

### Kat Wells

NCEA Implementation Facilitator at Ministry of Education (Health and Physical Education) with 15 years experience as a secondary school teacher.

PANELIST

### Raesha Ismail

Educator, counsellor, and trainer with expertise in teacher training, primary school teaching and culturally responsive relationships and sexuality education.

The Community Partnerships team will be hosting the third webinar for our ethnic communities on September 11th. It's titled "Understanding Relationships & Sexuality Education Curriculum Webinar".

We have a panel of four experts who will be discussing this important topic. Families who are interested in knowing about this topic for their children can join the webinar, listen and to ask any questions you may have.

The flyer is attached, and you can also access it through [this link](#).