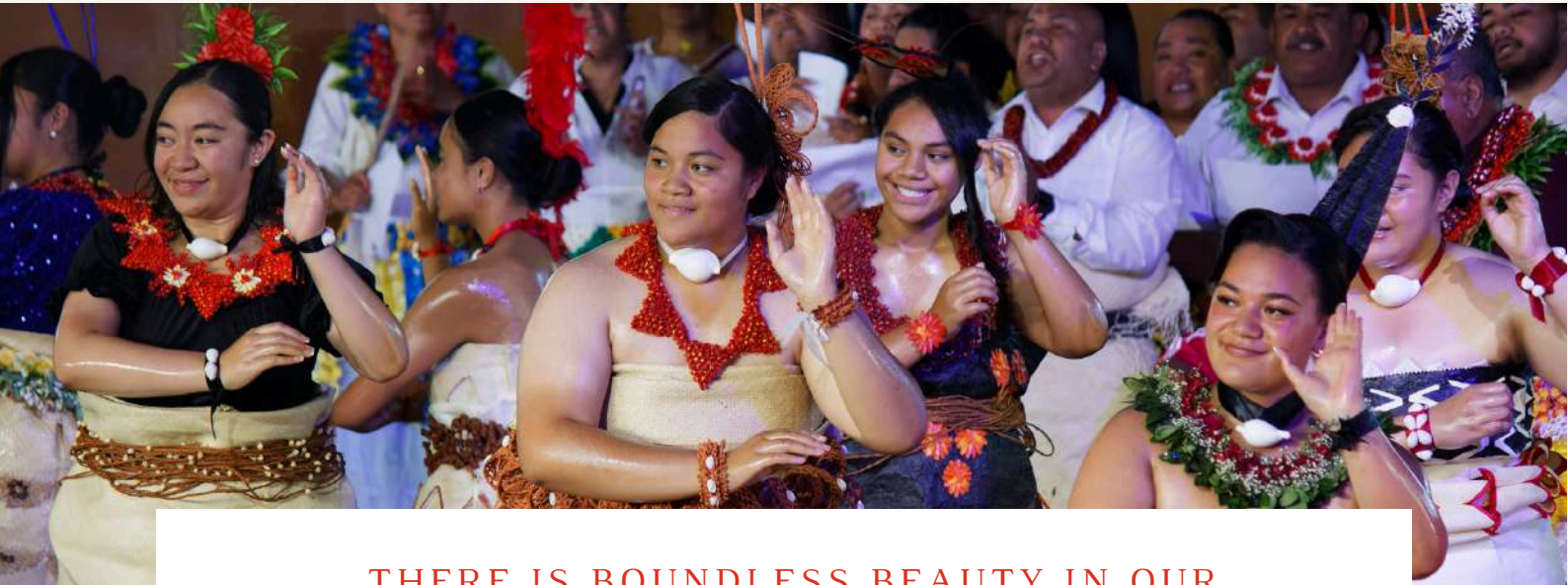




Mount Roskill Grammar School

NEWSLETTER



THERE IS BOUNDLESS BEAUTY IN OUR
Cultures and Traditions



On the road to Polyfest

Mana Taiohi, our Samoan and Tongan Groups showcased weeks of their hard work before taking to the Polyfest stage.



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou,

This week has been busy for our Polyfest groups with our Tongan Fiefia night on Wednesday, 26 March, Samoan Fiafia night on Friday, 28 March and our Kapa Haka dress rehearsal on Saturday, 29 March.

The dedication these groups put into their practices is showing through, and I am amazed by the pride I see in their performances. I wish all our groups the best of luck with their performances at Polyfest this week.

Thank you to those of you who were able to attend our Junior Report Evening on Thursday, 27 March. Bringing whānau into the learning conversations is an important support for our students. At assembly this week, I spoke to junior students about the importance of taking on the feedback from their teachers and using it to improve their learning, and we appreciate your support in this process.

The season is reaching its end for our summer sports teams, and our winter codes are starting up. We had two hard-fought promotion/relegation games of basketball on Thursday, 20 March, with the Girls Basketball team beating Onehunga High School to gain promotion to the Senior A grade. The Boys lost to Dilworth College, which means they will also play in the Senior A grade this year.

Our final promotion/relegation game was on Monday 31 March when our 1st XI Boys Hockey team played Kristin School for a spot in the premier grade. Congratulations on your promotion to the premis!

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb

Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora, talofa lava and greetings,

How quickly the month flies by and, now we are saying haere rā/tofā soifua/see-ya, March!

It's been busy getting my head around the workload as the presiding member/rangatira/afioga.

So far, I've met formally with the tumuaki/principal four times (we meet early before 7am) and informally six times at various events in school. I have also met a few key leaders in the school administration, SLT and have chaired my first board meeting. Still much to learn; it is very exciting!

It was a pleasure to be with our Muslim students for Iftar (a fast-breaking evening meal during Ramadan). Such a special and sacred evening, witnessing prayers to break the fast. The students were so welcoming and hospitable and provided a wonderful meal – Shukran Jazeelan/whakawhetai/fa'afetai lava/thank you.

Watching the Kapa Haka, Tongan and Samoan Polyfest practices to understand the cultural stories and the why behind every movement over the past five weeks has been a privilege!

What I wasn't prepared for was being reconnected to ancestral essence of past tipuna/tua'a/ancestors through each group kapa haka/fiefia/fiafia performances! Each group brought different types of energy, vibe and mana. Kia ora/Malo 'aupito, Malo lava/Thanks for your efforts to represent our kura/kolisi/school at this year's 50th Polyfest anniversary. Bring home the winning trophies!

The end of term is close by, so finish school strongly and enjoy the holiday and Easter break. Be safe, be well, be kind and keep smiling.

Remember: *"Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can."*

- Rev. John Wesley.

Ngā manaakitanga,
Ia manuia, blessings.

Leatuao Larry Tupa'i-Lavea
School Board Presiding Member



Trip to China in September Holidays

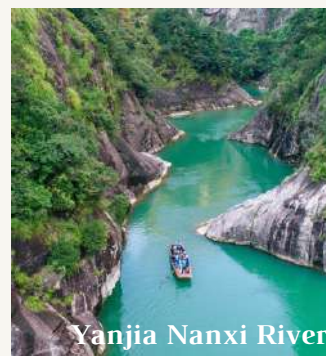
Mount Roskill Grammar School is intending to take a group of approximately 15 students (Year 10 – 13) to Wenzhou, China, from 18 – 29 September 2025.

The trip is being organised in conjunction with our sister school, Wenzhou High School, to foster cultural understanding and educational collaboration through a reciprocal exchange.

We believe this program will provide an invaluable opportunity for students to learn about the latest technology, go sightseeing, build lasting friendships, and enhance global perspectives.

For more information, please pick up the form from the accounts office or access the document [here](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs Reid - wendy.reid@mrgs.school.nz



Tongan Fiefia Night



Samoan Fiafia Night



Kapa Haka Rehearsal



Phones & Earphones

“Away for the Day”, is a government implementation for all schools in New Zealand. Once students are at school, they will be required to have their phone and headphones in their bags, on silent, at all times.

If your child were to be seen with their phone, they will firstly be reminded of the expectations of phones and asked to put it away. The next step would be a conversation with their Dean. For subsequent times, you may be required to meet with the Senior Leader of your child's House, and your child will lose the privilege of having their phone with them at school for a certain number of days.

“Away for the Day” enables students to strengthen their interpersonal skills and relationships, actively participate in lunch time activities, and remove themselves from the negative aspects of phone use while at school.

If you urgently need to get hold of your child during the school day, please contact the administration team at 09 621 0050 (ext 0).



Attendance - Appointments

It is important that our students are at school every day, as any missed learning has an impact on students' achievement and belonging at school.

Our request is that as much as possible, appointments are scheduled for outside the school day. If you are unable to manage this, please inform attendance@mr.gs.school.nz as soon as possible.

If you intend for your child to leave school at a particular time, please inform us in advance so we can request the child out of class, leaving ample time for you to attend the appointment.

Key dates

Wed 2nd - Sat 5th April	Polyfest - Performance times Kapa Haka: Thurs 3rd, 11am Tongan Group: Fri 4th, 8.30am & 12.40pm Samoan Group: Sat 5th, 2.55pm
Thurs 10th April	Mahurangi Exchange (Away)
Fri 11th April	End of Term 1
Mon 28th April	Start of Term 2
Wed 30th April	Pukekohe Exchange @ MRGS
Tues 6th May	NCEA Information Event
Tues 13th May	Senior Literacy and Numeracy Co-requisite Information Event
Wed 14th May	Open Day

Japanese Restaurant Trip

On Thursday, 27th February, Year 11 & 12 Japanese students visited a famous Japanese cuisine restaurant, Nishiki, in Freeman's Bay.

Once we arrived by school van, we took a few pictures and headed inside to sit at a massive table. The Japanese staff welcomed us cheerfully. Not long afterwards, our food came out on a platter, consisting of salad, fish cake, sushi, miso soup, rice, tempura, dumplings, steak and beef.

The food was so delicious, and my tastebuds felt as if they were back in Japan.

After we had finished the huge platter of food each, we had a choice of sesame, matcha, chocolate and vanilla ice cream for dessert.

I got matcha and it was very rich.

The trip was filled with so much authentic Japanese experiences, and it was amazing. All students enjoyed the special experience. Thank you Kojima Sensei for organising this experience. Thanks to Mr McAlpine for driving the school van.

*Written by Harry Mellor
Year 11 Japanese student*



A week at MRGS



Congratulations to the 61 new peer mediators who trained with the Peace Foundation on Monday 24th of March.



Every chess master was once a beginner! Chess Club welcomes beginners and experts weekly.



Music students selling chocolate and soft drinks to raise funds for their Music Camps.



Year 13 Food and Hospitality students preparing cheese and salad wraps for the Tongan Group after their practice.



Enthusiastic Statistics students staying back for one hour every Friday afternoon to do Scholarship Statistics with Mr Singh.



Japan Day was hosted by visiting Fukuoka Jyoto High School students. It was a beautiful day for a taste of Japanese culture. Students enjoyed playing traditional Japanese games.



Careers

Learner Licence Course

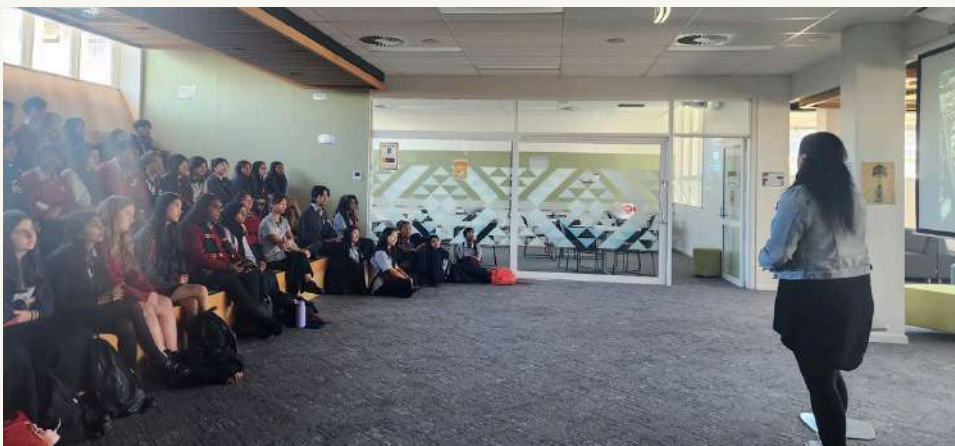
On Monday and Tuesday, 17th and 18th of March, some of our senior students took part in a driver's licence course for the opportunity to gain their Learner Licence.

We had 21 excited Year 12 & 13 students study the road code on the first day under the guidance of Dion and Lucy from the Auckland Business Chamber. Many students appeared nervous before sitting the 35-question computerised theory test.

After a day of learning and preparation, we're thrilled to announce that every student passed their Learner Licence test. Congratulations to all students for their hard work!



University of Otago Presentation



Our school hosted another University liaison visit on Thursday 20th of March.

Our senior students watched and listened to a former staff member of MRGS, showcase an engaging presentation for the University of Otago at lunchtime in the Learning Hub.

Students were shown the impressive range of courses available at The University of Otago such as medicine, dentistry, law, and psychology. As New Zealand's only residential university, it fosters a vibrant community, enhancing the overall student experience.

Ranked among the top 1% of universities globally, Otago is a highly attractive choice for students aspiring to elevate their education.

This was another great opportunity for our senior students to explore potential career paths and plan their educational journeys. A big thank you to Neomai for an informative event at MRGS.



Students can book an appointment with the Career Advisor [here](#).



@mrgs_careers



Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Basketball Girls and Boys Promotion/Relegation Games

Well done to our boys and girls basketball teams, who both fought hard in their promotion/relegation games on Thursday, 20 March.

Congratulations to our girls who beat Onehunga 45-37, meaning they stay in the Senior A Grade.

Our boys played a very strong Dilworth and should be proud, losing 56-83 in the end and being relegated to the Senior A Grade.



FIFA Club World Cup Trophy Tour

On Friday 14th March, 12 of our junior students had the incredible opportunity to attend the FIFA Club World Cup Trophy Tour at Mount Roskill Intermediate.

The trophy, won by the world's best clubs, was welcomed with a powerful pōwhiri from the MRI Students and the invited schools.

With Auckland City FC qualifying for the tournament, our students got to meet the players and even hit the field for three mini-games with them! An unforgettable experience for our future football stars.

Sports Musters for Week 10

Football - Tuesday: 3.15pm - 4:30pm - Front Field

Hockey Girls - Tuesday 3:15-4:30pm

Hockey Boys - Wednesday: 3.15pm - 5pm

Lacrosse Girls - Tuesday & Thursday
3:15-4:30pm - Back Field

Cricket Success

1st XI Girls Cricket at Tournament Week

Well done to our girls Cricketers who took part in the summer series tournament this week at Lloyd Elmore Park. They were a credit to us as they played with determination throughout. The girls ended up playing a tight game against Diocesan to finish in 8th place.

Thank you to Mr Shiers for supporting the girls throughout the season and tournament week.



Century for Eisa Rizni



Congratulations to **Eisa Rizni**, who scored a century last Saturday against Auckland Grammar!

Swimming Success: Swimming NZ Secondary Schools Open Water Champion



On Saturday 29th March, **Daniel Kregting** claimed his third consecutive Swimming NZ Secondary Schools Open Water crown in the 3.5km swim at the Blue Lake in Rotorua. This year, Daniel was pushed to the very end beating a local Rotorua swimmer by just two seconds. The close competition also meant that Daniel now holds the course record in a time of 40 minutes and 27 seconds.

This event was swum as part of the Ocean Swim Series and Daniel was also first out of the water for this event. A fantastic effort, especially given that he left home at 5.00am in the morning to go to the event.