



Mount Roskill Grammar School NEWSLETTER



HARD WORK IS THE Staircase to Success



Believe in your potential

Our students have been working hard, putting in the effort now to celebrate their success later!



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou,

NCEA external exams are into their second week and continue to go smoothly for our senior students. Our senior exams finish on Friday, 28 November, and our revision workshops continue in school to help students with their preparation. We wish all our senior students the best for the rest of their exams.

On Monday, 17 November, we start our Junior Exams. In addition to providing a summary of the year's learning, these exams give a good opportunity to get exam practice for NCEA in the years to come. I encourage all Year 9 and 10 students to prepare well to get the most out of these exams.

In the last few weeks of term, we have some exciting opportunities for our junior students. On Thursday 4 December and Friday 5 December, we will be hosting our Wider Education activities with students travelling to venues around Auckland or participating in our school-based programme.

The final day of the school year is Wednesday, 10 December, when we celebrate our Junior students with our Junior prizegiving. I look forward to seeing many of you there.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb

Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora and talofa lava MRGS whānau,

As this newsletter is written, we find ourselves in the heart of exam season for our Senior students and for our Junior students in the next week.

To our senior students, especially our Year 13s, this moment marks the closing chapter of your schooling years at MRGS. You've walked these grounds with purpose, led in classrooms, on sports fields, in cultural spaces, and through service/tautua.

You've helped shape the spirit of our kura, our aoga kolisi, with your energy, your voice, and your presence. Now, as you sit your final exams, know that you carry not just academic knowledge, but you also bring the friendships, values, and resilience that will guide you into the next season of life.

Whether your next step is university, work, travel, or simply taking time to breathe and reflect, the School Board wishes you a future filled with courage, curiosity, joy, kindness, and meaning. You are ready. You are capable. You are forever part of the MRGS whānau/aiga.

To our junior students preparing for exams, this is your time to rise. Give your best, not just for the grades, but for your growth.

Every bit of effort you invest now builds a stronger foundation for 2026.

Believe in yourself, and know that your teachers and peers are behind you every step of the way.

Leatuao Larry Tupa'i-Lavea
School Board Presiding Member



Health Notice: Measles

Health New Zealand is alerting schools to an escalating risk of measles as it responds to a measles outbreak following confirmation of new cases of measles.

Measles is a serious and highly contagious disease. It makes most people very sick and can cause severe complications.

Measles symptoms can include:

- an illness that begins with a high fever (over 38 C), cough, runny nose, and sore red eyes (conjunctivitis)
- a rash, beginning on the face and gradually spreading down the body to the arms and legs, which can last up to one week

If you suspect you may have measles, please phone ahead before visiting your doctor so they can take precautions to prevent measles from spreading. You can call Healthline for free anytime on **0800 611 116** for information and advice.

A few important things to note:

- We will keep you informed as required.
- If there are no measles cases at our school, students and staff should attend school regardless of vaccination status.
- If your child is diagnosed with measles, please inform Mrs Gaitau immediately at **meagan.gaitau@mr.gs.school.nz**
- If there is a case, we will contact Public Health, who will provide advice. Public Health will check school rolls against the Aotearoa Immunisation Register.



School uniform donations

We have several students and families in need every year, and your generosity enables us to help them.

Please donate junior and senior shirts, skirts, shorts, trousers, ties, scarves, PE uniforms and school blazers.



Please bring them to the front office (once you've finished using them for your exams).

Appointments



We request that, whenever possible, appointments be scheduled outside of school hours.

If your child has an appointment during school time, please let us know in advance by letting our attendance officer know before 9 am so we can arrange for the student to be ready at the time you require.

Please be mindful that sometimes it can take time to get your child from class, so letting us know in advance ensures you can make the appointment on time.

Nurses at MRGS

We are very lucky to have an enhanced based health service, with a fantastic team of nurses to support our students.



Learning remains the priority, and **students are encouraged to utilise the nurses during break times, seeking support only during class time if they are extremely unwell.**

Please keep your child home if they are unwell.

Reporting attendance

If your child is unable to attend school, please get in touch with us as soon as possible. The fastest way to do this is via the Schoolbridge app. You can also email us - attendance@mrgs.school.nz. Please ensure you include your child's ID number in email.



[Schoolbridge App Download Instructions](#)

Key dates

Mon 17 th - Fri 21 st Nov	Junior Exams
Mon 1 st Dec	Year 9 Junior Diploma Assembly
Mon 2 nd Dec	Year 10 Junior Diploma Assembly
Thurs 4 th - Fri 5 th Dec	Wider Ed
Mon 8 th Dec	Amazing Race
Tues 9 th Dec	Final Junior Reports sent to caregivers Junior Prize giving practice Students finish early
Wed 10 th Dec	Junior Prize giving 9.30AM End of 2025 School Year
Fri 12 th Dec	School office closed from 12PM

Education Perfect Science World Series Championships

There were over 1,413 schools worldwide that competed. Over five days, Mt Roskill Grammar students were engaged in Science learning by answering 86,934 questions, earning 54,447 points, which is a tremendous effort! Our School's ranking in the championship is as follows:

- 9th overall globally out of 1,413 schools
- 2nd overall in New Zealand out of 309 schools
- 3rd overall in the 1001-2500 students category out of 191 schools
- 2nd in New Zealand for the 1001-2500 students category out of 51 schools

Our Elite Award winners were awarded a Certificate and a Badge and were in the top 1% of all competitors. Kamil Muhammad (Yr 9) with an overall individual score of 7,692, gaining 1st place in school and Kingsley Li (Yr 9) with a score of 7,007 points in 2nd place. Manha Ahmed (Yr 10) and Jiaqi Guo (Yr 9) gained an Emerald Award (3,500+ points).

The students who gained a GOLD Award (2,000+ points) are Elsa Culham (Yr 11), Jiya Patel (Yr 9) and Shreeya Prabhu (Yr 10).

We are proud of all the award winners as they have demonstrated our school value of tūmanakotanga!



Homestay Families Wanted!

In Term One 2026, we will welcome many new international students who will start their short-term or long-term studies with us.

A significant aspect of their time in New Zealand is the family they stay with. It can be a great cultural exchange experience for the whole family, and relationships often last beyond the student's departure.

If you have a spare room and a warm heart to welcome a student from overseas, we'd love to hear from you.

Payment to host families in 2026 will be \$385 per week.
A police vet is necessary before hosting commences.



For more info, contact Rachael Fullerton
rachael.fullerton@mrgs.school.nz

MacLean Centre Talent Show

On Friday, 7th November, the MacLean Centre held its much-loved annual Talent Show — and what a fantastic event it was! The students put on an incredible display of talent, confidence, and creativity, leaving the audience thoroughly entertained from start to finish.

There was something for everyone: solo and group singing, energetic dance performances, impressive keyboard playing, and even a lightning-fast jigsaw puzzle challenge that had everyone cheering. The atmosphere was buzzing with excitement and pride as each act took the stage.

Not to be outdone, some of the staff also joined in the fun, with four brave staff members dressing up as Mrs Shiers and performing their own act. Let's just say the students got quite a fright seeing four of her at once (one is usually quite enough!).

It was a joyful celebration of the talents and spirit that make the MacLean Centre such a special place. A huge thank-you to all the students, staff, and supporters who made the day so memorable!



CAREERS

NZMA Trades Academy Prizegiving

NZMA celebrated its Trades Academy Prizegiving on Wednesday, 12th of November, at their awesome Mt Wellington campus. This was a special event to celebrate the achievements of our 'Nailed it' students of 2025. After spending Thursdays and Fridays at NZMA from Terms 1 to 4 learning their chosen trades (carpentry and electrical), eleven MRGS students proudly received their NZMA Trades Academy certificates in front of their teachers and peers.

The construction tutor, Waisake Junior Vukalokalo, presented the awards to 9 of our BCATS students, and 2 of our electrical students were awarded by their tutor, Sam Manaia.

Chris Enoy, one of our very own students, took home the coveted Best BCATS Trades Academy Student Award for 2025! We were incredibly proud to see him receive another certificate, a beautiful lei, and a fantastic toolbox prize.

A huge congratulations to the Nailed it Students of 2025:

BCATS Students:

Stirling Apa

Chris Enoy

Edmund Fa'apoi

Tyrece Fuimaono

VJ Hamo

Nelly Ioane

Lisiate Seau

Jay Strickland

Justin Trussell

Taniela 'Unga

Ausage Vao

Electrical Students:

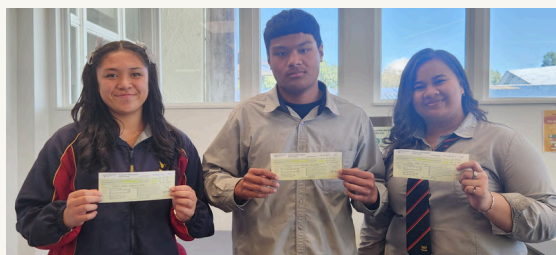
David Gataua

Reuben Pikaahu

Katalina Fisifau



Learner Licence Course



On Thursday, 30th October and Friday, 31st October, we had Dion and Lucy from the Auckland Business Chamber host another Learner Licence course for 33 of our senior students in the Learning Hub. We had many nervous students in the group, however, our guests made everyone feel welcome and relaxed during their presentation and the theory. We are pleased to report that 33 students now have their Learner Driver's Licence.

A big thank you to Dion and Lucy for their time and to VTNZ for bringing their mobile testing station to MRGS. Good luck to our future drivers.

Keystone Trust Scholarship 2026

A massive congratulations to our Year 13 student **Reza Mohsini**, for being awarded the Keystone Trust Scholarship for 2026.

This scholarship consists of \$5500 per year for three years towards his university fees as well as mentoring, work experience and internship opportunities. Reza intends to study a Bachelor of Construction majoring in Construction Management at AUT.

We wish Reza the best of luck with his future studies.



Auckland Marathon Success



Congratulations to **Asha Chand** (Year 10 student), who competed in the 5km Auckland Marathon on Sunday, 2 November and achieved first place in the Under-16s category. She also came 13th in the Under-20s category.

Well done Asha! We can't wait to see what else you will achieve in the future.

Te Auaunga Maramataka – Curious Minds

An exciting new cross-school initiative focused on reconnecting students to their local environment through mātauranga Māori and environmental science is happening on our awa. A collective of schools from the upper catchment – Mt Roskill Grammar, Intermediate & Primary, and Dominion Road have come together to take part in a pilot programme that is being coordinated by COMET, with support from Boffa Miskell and Glasgow Contractors, and Ngā Ringa o Te Auaunga – Friends of Oakley Creek.

The project presents a unique opportunity for students with 'huge potential for cultural and STEM learning'. After initial training in water monitoring – a key part of the project, the students are doing water monitoring and observations at three sites along the awa – the waterfall, Walmsley Park and Molley Green Reserve. The first session, at the waterfall, was a great success, with lots of learning and fun.



Article by Wendy John
from Oakley Creek News





Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Wider Education 2025

A friendly reminder to please complete any outstanding permission slips and/or payments for Wider Ed!

Paper permission slips can be collected from the Sports Department, and payments can be made online or in person at the Accounts Office. Please check your emails for online payment details.



Meeting the Blackcaps

On Tuesday 4th November, a group of our junior students had the opportunity to visit Eden Park and meet the New Zealand Blackcaps.

They enjoyed a Q&A session, asking all of their cricketing questions, toured the locker rooms, watched the team train, and got signatures and photos with their favourite players.

It was an inspiring and unforgettable experience for our young cricketers. A huge thank you to NZ Cricket, the Blackcaps, Ford, and Variety - the Children's Charity for making this experience possible for our students.

Old Boys v 1st XI Hockey Match

On Friday 31st October, we hosted the Old Boys v 1st XI Hockey Match. The 1st XI led 2-0 at halftime, but the Old Boys rallied in the second half to end the game in a 3-3 draw.

It was awesome to host our alumni and celebrate the strong MRGS Hockey community. A huge thank you to Jimmy for organising the match, and to Alex, Hamish, Jo & Jamie Thomson for their service to our 1st XI Boys team.



Chess Power National Tournament



On the 25th of October, MRGS competed in the Chess Power Nationals Tournament at Alfriston College. Our team of six - **Adrian Mayo, Alec Cruz, Dean Saunders, Sanay Pai, Shauryya Gupta, and Spike Murray** - fought nine rounds against some of the strongest senior chess teams New Zealand had to offer.

With great performances from Adrian, Alec, Dean, who all scored 6 points, and Sanay, who scored 5 points, MRGS managed to secure a strong 4th place, just half a point away from 3rd place. A thank you to our six chess players who competed, who gave MRGS such a strong finish for the year, and to Mr Du Plessis and Mrs Burns, who helped manage the team.



The end of this tournament marks the last chess event in which MRGS will be competing in 2025. Unfortunately, this means farewell to our Year 13 chess players. We thank you for dedicating the time and effort to compete in all these tournaments and hope you continue to make time for chess in the future. We also thank our Chess Captain, Alec Cruz, whose devotion to the club was appreciated by all.

A special thank you to Mr Du Plessis and Mrs Burns, who have done so much for the chess club. Chess at MRGS wouldn't be the same without you. Thank you again to everyone who participated in chess this year. We're looking forward to seeing how the Chess Club will grow with the arrival of new students in 2026.

Stationery List

Mount Roskill Grammar School Stationery Lists are available now.

If you wish to purchase from OfficeMax and take advantage of their free shipping with orders over \$70, including GST, please click this [link](#).

All stationery lists for all year levels can also be found on our MRGS website [here](#).

OfficeMax
MySchool

Order Back to
School stationery
now and
beat the rush!

Class lists are
ready to view at
myschool.co.nz



Mosque Open Day

Al Rahman Masjid



72 Carr Road, Mt Roskill, 1041



Sunday, 16th of November 2025
9am to 3pm

Balloons for kids, food, ice cream,
henna for women, Arabic calligraphy,
refreshments (all free), and separate
areas for men / women

Dr Mazher
0273025646

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