



March 2022: Term 1, Week 8



From the Principal

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

Our aim is to provide the opportunity for each student to build back their learning by the end of the term following the disruption of the omicron outbreak. For the remainder of the term we are offering a range of workshops after school for students to select from so that any gaps can be addressed.

We encourage students to consider registering for winter sports and welcome any help families are able to provide with team coaching and managing.



Ngā manaakitanga
Greg Watson
Principal

School Board

We are all optimistic that the worst of the omicron is behind us and we can see the light at the end of the tunnel. It has been a tough few months but it is great to see our taura starting to return to kura in greater numbers. It is important that taura and kaiako pace themselves, especially when they have been unwell. The kaiako are here to help each learner find ways not just to catch up but to move forward in a way that works for each individual.

The kura has remained open, but on a shortened day, to enable all students to come to school if they are well. Thank you to the kaiako and senior leadership team for finding creative solutions to keep the school open as much as possible.

On another note the Board elections for student representative is occurring on the 12th and 13th April. I encourage all taura to vote in the upcoming election to ensure that you have a voice on the School Board.

In September 2022, there will be the Board elections for parent representatives. These elections are held every 3 years. Please consider if you wish to stand for the Board. It is essential that our Board is representative of the rich and diverse ethnicities we have in the school community. At the moment we have a vacancy for a Pasifika representative.

Please contact me if you have any patai/questions about being on the Board. I have found it to be a very rewarding role.

E whiwhi ai koe I nga hua a Tangaroa, me maku koe (In order for you to receive the treasures of Tangaroa, you need to get wet)



Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board

Timetable Change

A reminder of times of the day and how your child can be supervised until 3.00pm on site if they are unable to go home at 1.30pm.

Times of the day

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday First bell 8.55am		Wednesday First bell 9.15am	
Period 1	9.00-9.55am	Period 1	9.20-10.15am
Period 2	9.55-10.50am	Period 2	10.15-11.10am
Hui ako	10.50-11.15am	Break	11.10-11.40am
Break	11.15-11.45am	Period 3	11.40-12.35pm
Period 3	11.45-12.40pm	Period 4	12.35-1.30pm
Period 4	12.40-1.35pm		

Supervision: if your child needs supervising after school please complete this form
<https://forms.gle/3ab9icv9HvFerEra7>

Health and Safety

Mask wearing continues to be an important tool to stop the spread of Covid-19 and it continues to be a requirement for everyone to wear one while they are indoors.

Please make sure your child brings a mask to school every day and talk through the proper way to wear a mask. A mask should cover their nose, mouth and chin without gaps above, below or on the sides.

Masks for sale in Accounts:

Top mask \$10.00 each with adjustable straps and room for a filter
 Logo and non-Logo (bottom two) \$4.00 each



Calendar Dates

Term 1	
Tue 12 Apr	Mahurangi Sports Exchange @ MRGS
Thurs 14 Apr	END OF TERM 1
Term 2	
Mon 2 May	Start of Term 2

Covid-19 Absences and Opportunities to Catch Up

Many of our students and families have had to be isolated due to being a household contact or being sick with Covid-19. This has impacted students' ability to attend school resulting in missed learning and/or assessments.

For the last weeks of term we are offering catch up sessions from 1.45pm-3.00pm to give students the opportunity to fill gaps in their learning, complete missed assessments or go over any other aspects of the course content that they are struggling with.

Departments have been asked to identify the year levels where the absences have caused the most disruptions and the need is greatest, and tailor their offerings to suit.

We strongly encourage students who have had periods of time away from school to use these sessions to ensure they are well placed to succeed in Term 2. Below is a schedule of when these catch ups will be held and what is on each afternoon.

2022 Term 1 Covid Catch up sessions

The period 5 catch up sessions are from 1.45pm -3.00pm. Students should speak with their classroom teacher about where to go for the sessions.

Week	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Week 9 March 28 - April 1	Languages Years 11-13.	Mathematics Years 11 and 13.	Classical Studies Years 12 and 13.	Science Years 11-13.	Commerce Years 11-13.
AND	Food and Hospitality Years 11-13.	Health Science Year 11 only.	English Years 11-13.	Early Childhood Year 12 only.	ESL Years 11-13.
Week 10 April 4 - April 8	LXTN - Literacy Years 9 and 10.	Geography / History Years 11-13.	Music Studies Years 9-13.	Drama - Year 13 only. Theatre Technologies Year 12 and 13.	Photography Year 12 and 13 only.
	Visual Arts Years 12 and 13.	Dance - Years 11- 13. Drama - Years 11-12.	Design Years 12 and 13.	Technology Years 11 -13.	
		Art - Year 11 only.	Learning Extension support available.	Media Studies Years 10-13.	
		Digital Technologies Years 12 and 13 only.			
		Technology - Electronics Years 12 and 13 only.			
		English Years 9 and 10.			
		Languages Years 9 and 10.			
		Learning Extension support available.			
Week 11 April 11 - 13	Same as above.	Same as above except Mathematics is Year 12 only.	Same as above.		

Departments will be using their scheduled days to deliver catch up learning and/or assessments. Students will be notified of assessments ahead of time. In some cases we will ask whole classes to attend that afternoon session to complete assessments that have been difficult to fit in this term due to the shortened day model. Students and families of those students will be contacted directly by the departments involved.

NCEA Assessments

When students are absent from an internal NCEA assessment due to being unwell or being a household contact of someone with Covid-19, they are eligible to access a further assessment opportunity held at a later date. Teachers will check the attendance entries to ascertain the reason for absence. If your student is absent please ensure that the school is informed of the reasons for the absence so that we are able to apply our processes fairly. Students with unexplained absences will be ineligible for catch up assessments.

If your child is absent for Covid-19 reasons – with a positive test or they are a household contact, please complete the form in the following link: <https://forms.gle/LQ7E13wjBESmCZa28>

For all other attendance reporting, please continue to report this via email: attendance@mrgs.school.nz; Schoolstream via the School app or Phone: +64 9 621 0069

Grand Opening of MacLean Centre Toilets

The toilets, which have been specifically designed for students with additional needs, were opened on Monday 21st March.



Flora Gorton cut the ribbon for the Girls section with George Russell cutting the ribbon for the Boys. A huge thank you to all those involved in bringing this project together.

Mentoring

Recently on 9th March, students in Years 11, 12 and 13 were invited to take part in mentoring conferences with their teacher-mentors, and with whānau online if they were available. If they couldn't make the conference time on the day, mentors and mentees have been arranging to meet over the past fortnight.

At these meetings the mentees have been setting academic goals for themselves. If you have the chance it can be really helpful to ask your student what the academic goals are that they set in those meetings. Your student should have a plan to achieve their goals; this might involve putting all of their NCEA internal assessments into their calendar so that they know what they have coming up.

If you have any questions about your student's progress or achievement, please contact their Kaiako (form teacher) or their House Dean.

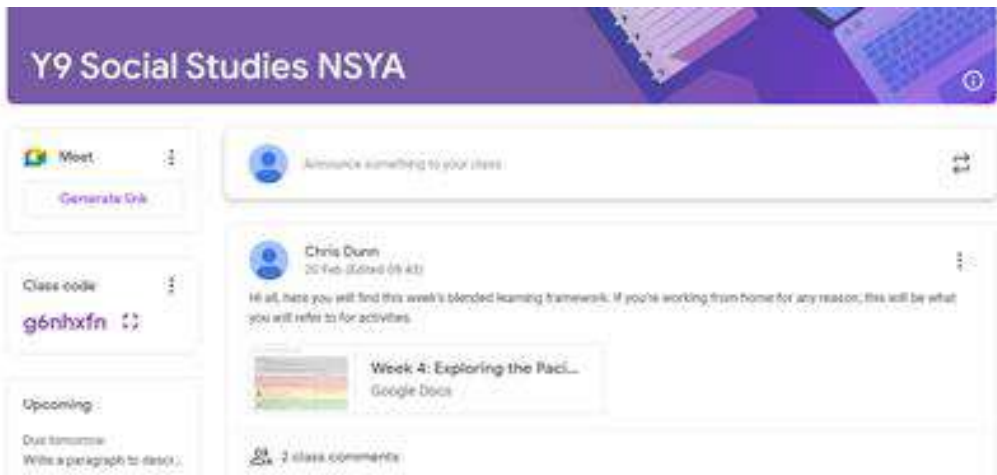
Online Learning

Important: If your student does not yet have a device to use, then we can arrange to lend them one. Please see our website for a copy of the loan agreement.

If needed we can use Google Meets but throughout the year there are two main threads to our online learning approach at MRGS; Google Classroom and the Blended Learning Framework.



Google Classroom

Google Classroom is where our online learning takes place. All our teachers have made classrooms available for all our students in all classes. On their Google Classroom page, they will find the class work that is being taught in-class on a daily basis. If you would like access to a Google Classroom to see what your student should be doing, then please email the teacher directly and they can give you access.



Blended Learning Framework

Every Google Classroom has a copy of that class' Blended Learning Framework. This is a document that reminds students about prior learning, instructs students on current learning, provides opportunities to practice their work, and encourages them to review their learning to embed it as new knowledge. Students should refer to it to make sure they understand what they are meant to be learning and how it relates to their prior learning and next steps. It is not meant as an exhaustive step-by-step lesson plan, but rather as an indicator of what is being learned.

Learning intention:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WHAT am I learning? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where Maori and Pacific Islanders ancestors came from How these ancestors navigated the Pacific Ocean and settled in Aotearoa WHY am I learning this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies the techniques and hardships Island voyagers had to use and overcome in exploring the Pacific Introduces ideas around why people migrate and challenges they face 		
Learning tasks		Links to learning tasks
Remember  Check in on the Google Classroom for announcements and any Google Meets if you are still working from home. Please make sure you have access to TVNZ ON DEMAND as we are going to watch an episode of the show Origins with Scotty Morrison.		Introduction to Ancient Pacific Migration
Learns  Topic overview Key vocabulary - Migration, culture, environment Where Maori and Pacific Islanders came from How they navigated the Pacific Ocean What challenges they needed to overcome when voyaging		See Google Classroom under classwork for the slides you will need for this week
Do  Find out the Difference between Near and Remote Oceania Cartoon on ocean exploration Complete TVO questions around Scotty Morrison's journey to discover where Hawaki is Record different navigation techniques		See the slides for details on these activities
Review You will know you are successful if... <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You can explain the terms migration, culture, environment You understand where the ancestors of Pacific Islanders and Maori came. 		Submit your work through Classroom.

Student Sport Vaccination Changes Update:

All children and young people, regardless of their vaccination status, can participate in school-organised teams and groups, or as an individual representing the school in a competition or event. This applies whether on or off the school site, and to all students of Mount Roskill Grammar School.

Winter Sport Registrations:

Winter Sport Registrations are now open online and students can register for their winter sports through the following google form link - <https://forms.gle/jmQtpwtxigZBZrn28>

This registration link can also be found on the school website. We encourage students to keep an eye out in the school notices for when trials and meetings are on. If students have any questions, they can come and see the Sports Department during break times located in between Gym 2 and 3.

Winter Sport Coaches and Managers Needed:

Mount Roskill Grammar is looking for a number of coaches and managers for all of our winter sports. We need support with the following sports codes: Badminton, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Rugby Union, Netball, and Gym sports.

If you are able to coach or manage any of these sports codes, please contact the Director of Sport today! Please email cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz

Premier Netball Coach Vacancy:

Mount Roskill Grammar is seeking to appoint a new Premier Netball Coach to lead our Senior Team in the Premier Netball Waitakere competition. The ideal coach will have experience coaching Netball, great interpersonal and communication skills, and have a passion for the game. It is essential that you are available on Tuesdays (late afternoon/evening) for games and to take 2x training sessions each week.

This is a paid position and one that we are looking to fill as soon as possible. Please send any expressions of interest and requests for more information to the Director of Sport; cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz by Friday 8th April.

Sports Results:

Some of the highlights from the last two weeks:

Cricket:

1st XI Boys 174/1 beat Howick College 173/10 - **Rahman Hekmat** 6 wickets, **Dev Ratra** 95 not out

2nd XI Boys 240/10 drew with Auckland Grammar Senior Team 240/6 - **Ben van Laarhoven-Hargreaves** 81 runs, **Ishaan Sonar** 70 runs

Girls 9 aside 179/4 beat Western Springs 177/7 - **Anna Watkinson** 22 runs

Junior A T20 140/8 beat Rosmini College 87/8

Junior Colts 121/1 beat Rangitoto College Colts 120/9 - **Abhi Patel** 4 wickets & 56 runs not out

Water Polo:

Senior Water Polo Mixed team had a convincing win on the weekend beating Albany 15-3.

Debating

The Experience:

On Saturday 13th of March, the first debating tournament of the year, the Seasonal Championship, was held via zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions. Despite being over zoom, all schools were still high in energy and debated to the fullest.

In the Seasonal Debating Championships debaters from MAGS, Baradene and Auckland Grammar competed against MRGS. MRGS students participated in a total of four debates in one day and each team had only 30 minutes to prepare.

The overall experience was a lot of fun as we got to expand on our debating skills and got to meet debaters from other schools (with a pizza break for lunch!)

Results:

MRGS had some great overall results. They were in the Novice Division and two of our teams gained placings in the overall team scores.

MRGS 3 came 1st, with 4/4 debates won and MRGS 4 came 3rd.



For individual speaker scores MRGS came out on top in many respects, with three of our student placing in the top 5!

In the Novice Division we achieved the following scores.

Name	Placing	Score
Farah Ikram	1st	75
Annmaria Thomas	3rd	69
Adrian Mayo	4 th	65

Congratulations to our teams on your commitment and expertise!