

July 2022: Term 2, Week 10



From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

Thank you to everyone who has supported students and staff not only getting through this term but enjoying and achieving as they go.

We have enjoyed meeting with families and students at the report evening, mentoring day and option evening. Events such as the Matariki celebration, the school ball, and the Year 13 production have been especially memorable.

The winter holiday break is a time to reset for the remainder of the school year. Students should

- Refresh and recover from the long term
- Find new ways to help out around the home
- Prepare and plan for their learning in term 3

We look forward to seeing everyone back, excited to be learning next term.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson
Tumuaki | Principal

School Board

As we head into the end of term break I would like to thank the taura and staff for their resilience this term. I wish them well as they prepare for the next steps in NCEA alongside an opportunity to recharge over the break.

With the School Board elections coming up next term I encourage members of our MRGS community to consider if you want to be a Board member or encourage those you believe would represent our community and values well. Board members are active leaders in our schools. They have an important role of supporting strong professional leadership and ensuring effective teaching for all students through informed governance.

If you are thinking about becoming a Board member then please contact the Presiding Member, Marjet Pot or any of the School Board members on the website to find out what is involved in being a Board member. The School Board should have a range of skills and people who are committed to work together as a team. These skills could include but not limited to people skills, financial, engineering, leadership or marketing skills.

We also need Board members who represent their community and want to be part of the team which raises educational outcomes for students. Training is provided on what is required of a Board member to help those people who are new to the role. Parents/caregivers and people in the wider community can be Board members. We want the MRGS Board to represent the diversity of our school community.

At the MRGS Board member elections, five people are elected onto the School Board which leaves the opportunity to co-opt a further four people. This co-option process aims to ensure we have the right skills and cultural diversity around the table to make the decisions required to govern the school. The Principal is a member of the School Board and combined with the staff Board member they bring the educational expertise to the School Board discussions. The student Board member brings a student perspective to the discussions.

People often ask me what the School Board does and so here is a list below of some responsibilities.

- Working with the principal and consult with staff, students and the community
- Setting the educational goals and strategic direction of the school
- Monitoring progress and inform parents on how the school is progressing against its annual targets and on the development of the students
- Deciding how the school's funding will be spent
- Support the development of all staff
- Ensuring the school is a physically and emotionally safe place for all students and staff, and is inclusive of and caters for students with differing needs
- Overseeing the management of staff, property, finances, curriculum and administration.

Being a Board member requires time as there are many meetings and public events which require Board member presence. The School Board elections are the opportunity to vote for candidates who will make a positive difference for your children's education.

On Wednesday 31st August at 7.00pm in the Butler Hall there is a meet the candidates evening. This is a public meeting so come along and meet the candidates and hear how they will represent the school community. It is equally as important that you take the time to vote. Your vote counts. It is preferable that you post your election papers early as the post is often quite unreliable, or drop them off at the school yourself.

Nominations and votes must be on site at the office by the deadline, not posted/post-dated. Please take the time to vote and get your voting papers back to school before the deadline.

Key election dates: Nominations close at noon on Wednesday 17 August; Meet the candidates, 7.00pm in the Butler Hall on Wednesday 31 August; Voting closes 4pm on Wednesday 21 September.



Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board

New Board Member



Who Am I?

My name is Toleafoa Lotumali'i Leatua Larry Tupa'i-Lavea. My mother's parents are Lavea Feterika and Matauaina from Safotu, Savai'i and my father's parents are Tupa'i Logovi'i and Ana from Niusuatia, Upolu. I am married to Helen Samuel and together we have four children Phoenix, Jahvan, Lincoln and Paige Tupa'i Samuel. I hold a Bachelor of Theology and Diploma in Practical Theology from The University of Auckland.

I am on the School board to represent the voice of Pasefika parents and their children. To work with the school to ensure there is a greater percentage of Pasefika students make it to Year 13 and they achieve a minimum NCEA Level 3 Merit achievement.

What I'm into?

- An entrepreneur of several businesses in Auckland.
- Creating pathway(s) for Pasefika people, particularly young persons/adults to be business owners and seeking financial security in NZ and Pacific Islands.
- Mentor young people to break cycles, expectations and become better human-beings contributing positively to communities and society.
- Ordained priest (Non-Stipendiary) in the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia and as the non-stipendiary Archdeacon of the Episcopal Unit of the Diocese of Polynesia in Aotearoa, New Zealand.
- Sit on and chair various religious, community and organisation boards (unpaid).
- Volunteer in various communities and projects.

Fa'afetai lava, ia manuia.

Student Representative



Kia Ora, Ko Tom toku ingoa,

I am in Year 12 and heavily involved in many areas of MRGS and continue to look for new ways in which to develop my own understanding of this school as well provide myself with opportunities to support my peers at school.

I was honoured to be voted on as the student representative on the School Board earlier this year, and have been enjoying my involvement within this group so far. My main role on the Board is to provide student perspective on school life and help facilitate conversations regarding MRGS students. My reasons for being on the Board are not limited, by mainly focusing on being someone students can rely on to make a difference. I want to be able to initiate positive growth within the school that provides current and future students with positive learning environments.

I hope to be able to be a voice for all MRGS students.

Tom Watkinson





Parent Election Notice

Nominations are open for the election of 5 (five) parent representatives to the school board.

All eligible voters will receive a nomination form via email at the start of term 3. Use this form to nominate yourself or someone in your community. You will also receive a nomination cover letter calling for nominations. Information on who is not eligible to be a board member is provided on the back of the nomination form.

Nomination forms can also be obtained from the school office.

Nominations close at **noon** on **Wednesday 17 August 2022**. You may provide a signed candidate statement and photograph with your nomination.

The electoral roll is held at the school and can be viewed during normal school hours.

An evening for prospective candidates to speak to voters will be on **Wednesday 31 August** at **7.00pm** in the Butler Hall.

As nominations are received, there will be a list of candidates' names kept at the school up until Election Day, which you can view.

Voting forms and candidate information will be posted on or by Wednesday 24 August 2022.

Voting closes at **4pm** on **Wednesday 21 September 2022**.

Any queries can be sent to the returning officer, returningofficer@mrgs.school.nz.

Learn more about the role of school boards

The NZSTA, New Zealand School Trustees Association, [Community Member Guide to the Role of School Boards](#) provides information on what school boards are, the role of members, and how to become a board member.

On **Thursday July 21st at 7.00pm** NZSTA will also be hosting a Kōrari Question and Answers session. This will provide an opportunity for people ask questions directly from our regional advisors. This is a free event, anyone with an interest in the work of school boards can register online [here](#).

Calendar Dates

Mon 25 July	Term 3 Starts
Mon 1 – Fri 5 Aug	Cook Island Language Week
Thurs 4 – Fri 5 Aug	Tahi Showcase
Fri 12 Aug	Class Photos
Wed 17 Aug	Nominations for School Board close (Noon)
Tues 16 – Wed 17 Aug	Drama Showcase
Wed 18 – Thurs 19 Aug	Sports team photos
Wed 24 Aug	Teacher only day (NCEA Accord Day)
Mon 29 Aug – Fri 2 Sept	Winter Tournament Week
Wed 31 Aug	Prospective School Board candidates evening
Mon 5 – Fri 9 Sept	Tongan Language Week
Wed 7 Sept	Campus Fiafia Night
Wed 7 Sept	Out-of-zone enrolment deadline 2023
Mon 12 – Fri 16 Sept	Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori
Wed 21 Sept	School Board Voting closes 4pm
Mon 12 – Tues 27 Sept	Senior External Practice Assessments (In Class)
Thurs 29 Sept	Sports Awards
Fri 16 Sept	School Holiday, school closed
Fri 30 Sept	End of Term 3

Enrolments for 2023 now open

Mt Roskill Grammar School enrolments for 2023 are open! Applications can be submitted online through the links below or hardcopy forms can be handed in at Reception in the MRGS Administration Building. The MRGS office will be open in the second week of the school holidays (Monday 18th – Friday 22nd) so please feel free to bring in your application forms or if you have any questions please just pop in for a chat.

REMINDER: Out of Zone applications close on Wednesday 7th September

IN ZONE: <https://www.mrgs.school.nz/in-zone>

OUT OF ZONE: <https://www.mrgs.school.nz/out-of-zone>

We look forward to welcoming your child to our Mt Roskill Grammar School whānau in 2023.

YouDance

On Thursday 23rd June Year 13 Dance performed as part of YouDance Festival at Mangere Arts Centre. YouDance is a festival where schools from across Auckland come together to share dance performances. The students had an amazing day arriving at the venue in the morning for the technical and dress rehearsals. The students grew as performers and learnt about how a professional dance show comes together.

We are so proud of their first performance for this year and look forward to seeing more of their works at Rūpeke Showcase in Term 3.




We look forward to seeing you at our Performing Art performance in week 2 term 3.

MT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS

RŪPEKE

A PERFORMING ARTS SHOWCASE



**THURS 4 AND FRI 5 AUGUST
7PM - BUTLER HALL**

TICKETS \$5 ON THE DOOR

Japanese Trivia Night



On Friday 17th June, eight students from our Year 10 Japanese classes went to compete in the New Zealand secondary schools Japanese Trivia Championships. Two of our senior students of Japanese, Ansh Trivedi and Racey Ferris were there as MC at the Auckland venue.

The Japanese Trivia Tournament is an annual competition among junior students, where teams of four compete against other schools and their teams, across five rounds, to test their knowledge of Japan. Over 100 school teams nationwide at eight different venues across New Zealand competed at the same time to answer a variety of Japanese questions. Both MRGS teams practised and studied prior to the Championship. All the team members and Kojima Sensei took this opportunity to dress up in yukatas (summer kimono) to take pride in our study of Japan and its culture.

MRGS came 5th place overall in Auckland - Team 1 with 34 points placing 7th and Team 2 with 35 points placing 5th, although they only had 1 point apart. This experience was a lot of fun and the students all had a wonderful time. We are very grateful for our wonderful Japanese teacher Ms Kojima, as this event would have never been possible without her as she was the national organiser of the event.

Melody Liang

Pasifika Prefects & Families Celebrations

On June 16 Mr Leatua Tupa'i Lavea, Ms Helen Samuel and family invited the Pasifika Prefects, their parents, Principal, Presiding member of the School Board and MRGS staff to dinner to celebrate their achievements as prefects.



Year 13 School Production

The Level 3 Drama class performed their production of 'Second Afterlife' to sold out audiences for three nights last week. Their production was about Dan, an 18 year old who had explored many profiles and personalities over his time in high school, and finally decides to give up the internet. But, his internet history will not let him, and the ghosts of his internet history come back to haunt him. The Tumblr emo, Warcraft gamer, and his inner Tinder seductress do not intend to go down without a fight. The play, 'Second Afterlife' is a dark kiwi comedy about life (and death) in the digital age and inspired by Dante's Inferno.

The crew was made up of Theatre Technology students who were responsible for designing lighting, costumes, makeup, sound and set. It was great to see our Theatre Tech students working on an authentic performance for their assessments – they loved being a part of the experience. Miss Gillies was super proud of both the cast and crew for their huge mahi on this project – it kept her laughing all term and she knows that their performances made the audience laugh too.

Cast: Fatema Al-Ali, Ghiékma Abrahams, Harshita Bheema, Zane Ferguson, Dante Halafihi, Tapu'osi Latunipulu, David Lust, Owais Saiyad, Mika Ting.

Crew: Sana Krishnan, Asi Cruz, Haixin Tang, Lopeti Lomu, Megan Booth, Molly Joseph, Cy Hellier, Preenal Kumar, Kanako Misaki



Peer Mediation Training

Against the odds of Covid, we still managed to train 79 new Mediators and 30+ Advanced Mediators in June.

The Peace Foundation spent three days with us teaching our Mediators the important life skills of effective communication, conflict resolution, rapport building, 'listening to understand' and mediation skills.

One cannot learn to help others without becoming more aware of themselves, and this training provides the opportunity to do both.

It also builds communities so that we can all support each other and look after each other.

A BIG thank you to all you incredible students who put yourselves out of your comfort zone to embrace these incredible skills and work together as a community.

A heartfelt thank you to not only the Peace Foundation, but to Iti Peraua, Jan Pace and student Nathan Kestle who without their support, this training would not have happened.

We have also had informative Advanced Mediation Training sessions on 'Positive Race Relations' and NETSAFE this term. A big thank you to our YAS (Youth Action Squad) leaders who supported the NETSAFE Facilitator on how to keep safe on the internet.



International Peace Week is coming up

This year's theme is **"The Power of Unity"**: 8th – 12th AUGUST! Be involved in this great week of spreading Peace, Kindness, Inclusion and Understanding throughout our school community.

KIA TAU TE RANGIMĀRIE - 07-13 HERE-TURI-KŌKĀ 2022 - KIA HOHOU TE RANGIMĀRIE

YOUTH PEACE WEEK 2022

The Power of Unity • Te Mana o te Kotahitanga

7th-13th August 2022

To register for free, visit www.peacefoundation.org.nz
Your school will receive a toolkit and updates.

#YOUTHPEACEWEEK2022

Matariki Planting

On Tuesday we had a group of our junior taura supporting the planting of native trees along our Te Auaunga (Oakley Creek) that runs alongside the school. The area that was focused on was near the football field where the group of 15 MRGS and 10 MRI & MRPS taura planted around 300 native rakau. It was a great opportunity for students from our campus to connect and support this shared kaupapa. We were able to share a hangi lunch together alongside Senior Te Reo students to end what was an awesome day. Ngā mihi mahana particularly to Matua David Syme for creating this opportunity.



Pā Harakeke

Early June we had the opportunity to take a group of 12 rangatahi to the Manurewa Botanical Gardens to learn about Kaitiakitanga and Harakeke. This was the first part of a Raranga project where students will establish a Pā Harakeke at school from different rare taonga varieties from a Harakeke collection. Students will also attend wānanga on weaving and have online access to the Hetet Weaving School. At this stage the new Pā Harakeke is planned to be blessed in conjunction with the re-opening of the Whare. Ngā mihi mahana to Mrs Pringle and Mr Syme for taking this trip.



Breakfast Club

Open every morning from 7.45am (Wednesday - 8.15am) in Learning Extension. All are welcome, to come enjoy Weet-Bix, toast and Milo in a warm, friendly atmosphere. Haere mai koutou!

Student Vehicles

Students are allowed to drive a vehicle to school where they have parent/caregiver permission and hold the required NZ Drivers Licence. It is important that student drivers follow our guidelines to keep themselves and our campus community safe.

We ask that students abide by the following

- Not parking on campus grounds which includes the Primary and Intermediate schools
- Only using your vehicle **outside school hours** (unless permission from a member of SLT)
- Students are not permitted to transport other students unless on a full NZ Drivers Licence

To support the safety of students we would like parents/caregivers of student drivers to fill in the following form which acknowledges an understanding of the school guidelines and expectations.

<https://forms.gle/psVjH9G5YqGr46vBA>

Attendance

If your child is absent for any reason, please contact us:

- via email - attendance@mrgs.school.nz
- Via phone (09) 621 0069

You can check your child's attendance via the Kamar portal:

- [Kamarportal.mrgs.school.nz](https://kamarportal.mrgs.school.nz)

Please contact us if you need your username and password for the Kamar portal.

ISOLATION INFORMATION

- A reminder to keep your children at home if they show any signs of being unwell for the safety of the whole school community.
- Please notify the school immediately at <https://attendance.mrgs.school.nz/> if your child has a **positive COVID-19 test result** or is notified as a **household contact** and has been advised to self-isolate.
- It is really important that your child does not return to school before their isolation period has finished. Positive cases should isolate for **7 days**. Household contacts should isolate for 7 days from the date of the first person testing positive or showing symptoms. You do not have to isolate if you have already had COVID-19 in the last 90 days.

School Uniform

Our school expectations are that students will wear the school uniform correctly to and from school. We ask that whānau support this. Uniform checks will continue at the gate and parents will be contacted if there are concerns.

A particular focus will be on

- Correct footwear - sandals are not permitted
- Regulation jumpers and jackets - no hoodies
- MRGS hats only
- Facial hair - clean shaven
- Hair styles - must be reasonably conventional. Unnatural colours, streaks, highlights or patches of unnatural colour are not permitted.

[MRGS Uniform Regulations](#) can be found here.

The uniform shop is open Monday, Wednesday, Thursday from 8am-9am.

Incorrect uniform items worn in school will be **confiscated** and returned to students on Friday after 3.05pm as per the school guidelines.

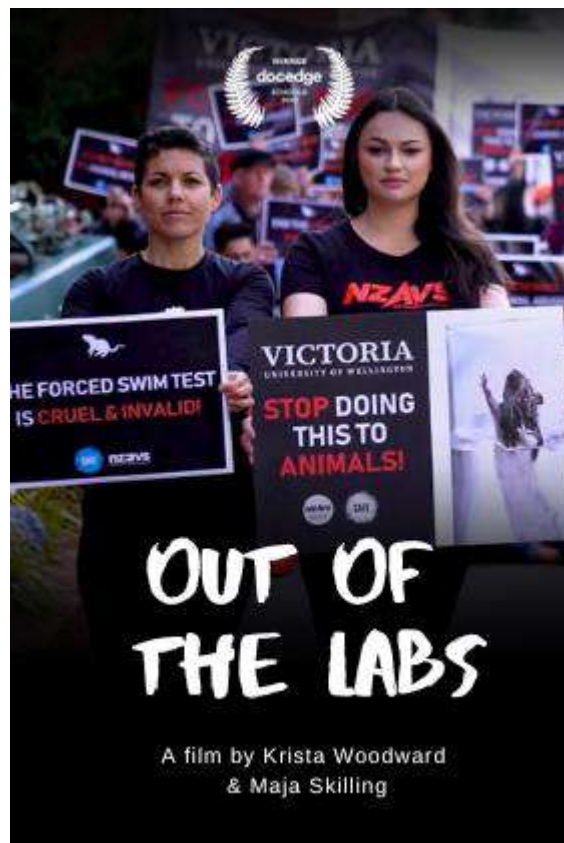
2022 Student Short Documentary Competition

Congratulations to Krista Woodward and Maja Skilling and their winning film for the 2022 Student Short Documentary Competition:

Out of the Labs

A short documentary on the Executive Director of the 'New Zealand Anti Vivisection Society', Tara Jackson, who is working to end animal testing in New Zealand.

2022 High School Winner of the Student Short Documentary Competition, made by Mount Roskill Grammar School students, Krista Woodward & Maja Skilling.



Alumni News



Congratulations to alumni Ben Deverell (2015) and Vaughan Thompson (2013) for selection to the NZ Lacrosse Asia Pacific Qualifiers.

Andrew Tuala 🇻🇵



Congratulations Andrew Tuala (2009) for selection for Manu Samoa. We wish Andrew well as he represents his country.



Otumaka Mausia (2014) has been named in the 'Ikale Tahi Tongan Rugby side for the first time. We wish Otu all the best on his debut.

Samoa plays Tonga Saturday 9 July. We look forward to the alumni competing!

Swimming

It was another good day at the pool for our team of eight swimmers at the College Sport Swimming Individual Championships; 17 medals – 8 Gold, 4 Silver and 5 Bronze.

Thanks to Ms Good for her continued support of this team.



<p><u>Junior Girls</u> Emma Winn 2nd 200m Butterfly 3rd 100m Backstroke</p>	<p><u>Junior Boys</u> Nemanja Markovic 1st 50m Freestyle 1st 100m Individual Medley 1st 200m Individual Medley 2nd 200m Freestyle</p>
<p><u>Intermediate Boys</u> Daniel Kregting 1st 100m Butterfly 1st 200m Butterfly</p>	<p><u>Intermediate Boys</u> Ethan Stocks 1st 100m Backstroke 1st 200m Backstroke 2nd 200m Freestyle</p>
<p><u>Senior Girls</u> Astrid Kyle 3rd 400m Freestyle 3rd 200 Individual Medley</p>	<p><u>Senior Boys</u> Saniru Hewa 1st 100m Freestyle 2nd 50m Freestyle 3rd 200m Freestyle 3rd 200 Individual Medley</p>

PE Camp





MT ROSKILL INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL

Parents and Prospective Students are invited to

Mt Roskill Intermediate Open Day – Information Tours

Wednesday 10 August & Thursday 11 August 2022



Prospective students and their families are invited to join us on one of our school information tours.

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.

These are open to anyone interested in knowing more about our school.

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:



To book in for a tour, please go to schoolinterviews.co.nz click on **Make A Booking**, then enter in the code: **9uj7s**

Tour time options:

WEDNESDAY 10 AUGUST:

THURSDAY 11 AUGUST:

Tour #1: 9.15-10.30am

Tour #4: 9.15-10.30am

Tour #2: 4.00-5.15pm

Tour #5: 4.00-5.15pm

Tour #3: 6.00-7.15pm

Tour #6: 6.00 -7.15pm



Alternatively, you can contact the school office by either email:

enrolment@mri.school.nz or phone: (09) 620 8508

Once booked, a confirmation email will be sent to you.

On arrival, please come to the school office administration area where you will be guided to the School Library.

Although we encourage you to book, you are welcome to turn up on the day, 10 minutes prior to the tour and register at the school administration office.



We look forward to welcoming you and showing you our great school!

www.mri.school.nz