

June 2022: Term 2, Week 8



## From the Principal

Kia ora koutou

Congratulations to our Board Chair Marjet Pot on being recognised with the huge honour of Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Marjet has worked with our school community for over 20 years long after her three children, Nicholas, Rion and Anton finished here at school. She has led our school board expertly for the last 17 years and this is just a part of her contribution to our wider community. Marjet has been primarily recognised for her national leadership in womens' health. Thank you Marjet, we all appreciate your wisdom and service.

Our senior students are halfway through the academic year. The mentoring meetings in week 9 will be an excellent opportunity to take stock, celebrating successes and firming up plans to meet goals set.

The biggest factor in learning success is consistent attendance in lessons. Many families have struggled with illness over recent months, and students who are ill must stay home to recover, but wherever possible family encouragement and an expectation for regular attendance is essential.

This week we are looking forward to the campus Matariki celebrations which is hosted by Mount Roskill Intermediate School.

Recently we have opened our new Dance room in H Block. Students are enjoying learning in the 'fit for purpose' space. Our Learning Extension Department has also moved into warmer new accommodation in H Block. This will allow the removal of the ageing L Block Building at the end of the year. Building of the new student hub is proceeding satisfactorily and we expect it to be open for the start of 2023.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson  
Tumuaki | Principal

## Queen's Birthday Honour



Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit:

**Ms Marjet Pot**

For services to women's health

Congratulations to our Board Chair, Ms Marjet Pot, who was awarded an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit. Ms Pot's award is for services to women's health in recognition of her significant contributions to women's health professionally and voluntarily.

Ms Pot volunteered with the Auckland Home Birth Association and helped set up the Midwifery Standards Review Committee (MSRC) peer review forum.

She has worked for Auckland DHB in several roles making significant contributions to a range of initiatives at National Women's Health, including improving services to women and their babies and information technology.

She was Project Manager of the National Women's Health Annual Clinical Report in 2003 ensuring maternity information is accurately recorded and had a lead role in the closure of National Women's Hospital and the move to Auckland City Hospital in 2004. She led a team on the project '100 Percent Equity of Access to Newborn Metabolic Screening- A National First'. She was made a Life Member of the College of Midwives for her work in helping establish the national midwifery review framework.

In her Queen's Birthday honour it is also acknowledged that Ms Pot also had a senior leadership role with a school board for 17 years focusing on student equity outcomes.

## Alumni News



Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit:

**Doctor Linita Manuatu**

For services to Pacific education and the Tongan community

Doctor Linita Manuatu has been made a Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit for the services to Pacific education and the Tongan community.

Dr Linita Manu'atu has been involved with Pacific educational research since the 1980s across an academic career with Auckland universities, and her current executive leadership role at 'Api Fakakoloa Homebased Educational Services ('AFES).

Dr Manu'atu runs ongoing professional development for educators through 'AFES. She has published in the areas of indigenous and migrant education, and language, culture and education. She has worked with Pacific, Māori and indigenous academics nationally and internationally to develop research frameworks for multi-disciplinary research with Pacific peoples. She has chaired the Tongan Language Year organising committee since 2012. She has co-hosted weekly Tongan radio talk shows covering current events and education on a voluntary basis. She has written the book "Tonga Koloa'ia" on the contributions of Tongan language and culture in New Zealand. She led the development of the Bachelor of Education (Pasifika Early Childhood Teaching) degree based on research using indigenous Tongan concepts, which was endorsed by the New Zealand Teachers Council in 2013. From 2015 to 2018 she worked for the Tongan government to lead the development of a new degree for Tongan Early Childhood Teaching in the Tongan language. Dr Manu'atu has contributed to the New Zealand Association for Research in Education (NZARE) on the Pasifika Caucus.

Linita was a conscientious, kind, generous and helpful student. She was focused and knew exactly where her future lay.

The 1980 Mt Roskill Grammar School Seventh Form salute you.

## School Board

The number of whānau who attended our Open Day speaks volumes about the education we provide at our kura. The feedback from whānau highlighted our passionate staff and the kindness of our tauira. Many students left feeling reassured that our kura is the right place for them. Thank you to all who contributed to this event.

My Queen's Birthday Honour acknowledged my work in school governance and I would like to take this opportunity to thank those who have supported me over the years. I am indebted to the Boards of Trustees and Senior Leadership Teams I have worked alongside throughout my time in governance at Mt Roskill Grammar School.



Marjet Pot  
Presiding Member  
School Board

## Calendar Dates

Wed 22 June	Campus Matariki (at MRI)
Fri 24 June	<b>Matariki</b>
Sat 25 June	School Ball
Wed 29 June - Fri 1 July	Year 13 Production
Thur 30 June	Mentoring 2 (No school for juniors. Seniors in Mentoring Appointments)
Tue 5 July	Options Evening – School Hall
Fri 8 July	<b>End of Term 2</b>

## Term 2 Mentoring

Our next round of senior mentoring will take place on **Thursday June 30th**. On that day the School will be closed for instruction and junior students will not come to school. You will have received an email communication about this earlier this week. Our expectation is that all senior students will meet with their mentors in person here at school, and our hope is that you will join them. The discussions will focus on the progress that has been made towards their goals, academic progress, and planning for the future.

To make a booking with your child's mentor, simply Book online:

Go to [www.schoolinterviews.co.nz](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.nz)

1. Enter the code **a6yqs**
2. Enter your details
3. Select your student's mentor from the list

If you require assistance to make a booking or change an existing booking, you can phone the school on 09 621 0050 with your student's name, ID and mentor's name ready.



# Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa- Samoan Language Week

This year's theme for Vaiaso o le Gagana Sāmoa was *"Fa'aauau le Folauga i le Va'a o Tautai – Continue the Voyage with Competent Wayfinders of the Ocean"*. Mount Roskill Grammar School celebrated Vaiaso o le Gagana Sāmoa by sharing the richness of our culture through speaking, singing, fashion, and what everyone loves best - food! One of our Sāmoan prefects Thomas Tuliaupupu delivered a passionate speech during our virtual school Assembly followed by a performance of a Sāmoan melody sung by Junior Iosia accompanied by Jahvan Tupa'i Samuel on the guitar and presented themselves as strong tama toa of Sāmoa. Phrases of the day were sent out to all staff members. To celebrate 60 years of regaining our independence, breakfast goodie boxes filled with Sāmoan breakfast delicacies were delivered to staff and positively received! We finished Vaiaso o le Gagana Sāmoa with our annual La'ēi Sāmoa Day where all MRGS students were to dress in Sāmoan attire to represent who they are as tama ma tama'ita'i Sāmoa of MRGS. We had prizes for the best dressed staff members and students. Best dressed students' prizes went to: Mercy Tuifao, Simon Paulo, Vavega Tuiutuloa, Esther Robertson and VJ Hamo. Fa'afetai tele lava to the staff members and students that worked tirelessly to make Vaiaso o le Gagana Sāmoa a success.



# Sports Update

## Winter Sport Draws:

If you are looking to find out when your child is playing you can check the Mount Roskill Grammar School Sports Draws page on our Website which has the fixtures for all of our Winter Sports Teams. Please double check this on the day of competition as there are sometimes some last minute changes to games.

<https://www.mrgs.school.nz/draws-results/>

## 2nd XV Rugby Coach Required:

We are currently looking for a Rugby Coach who can support our 2nd XV Rugby team by attending their games on Saturday mornings and also helping out at practices 1 or 2 times a week in the afternoon. If anyone is available on Saturday mornings to help coach this team please email the Director of Sport [cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz).

## Fitness Centre Opening Up!

**Fitness Centre Lunch Times:** The fitness centre will be open to anyone to use during lunch times on Tuesdays and Thursdays. During these periods there will be a maximum of 15 students allowed in the Fitness Centre, and it is first in first served.

**We please ask that students bring a towel, water bottle and change of clothes to exercise in when using the fitness centre.**

**Girls Only Fitness Centre Sessions** - Mondays and Wednesdays during lunch time. The fitness centre will be open for Girls only sessions during the times mentioned for any girls who would like to come and exercise in the space. There are a variety of cardio and strength machines available to be used, with a staff member on hand to support you with any questions.

## Sports Results:

Some highlights from the latest rounds in Winter Sport:

<b>Football</b> 2nd XI Girls Football had a great 1-0 win over Auckland Grammar Girls 14A Boys Football team continue their great form beating Macleans 2-1 1st XI Boys notched up their first regular season win again Avondale College winning 5-0	<b>Rugby</b> 1st XV Boys had a great win over Waitakere College playing away winning 41-3
<b>Netball</b> Year 10A beat Howick College 28-20 Year 9B beat Pakuranga College 26-22	<b>Premier Netball</b> drew 31-31 with Massey in an impressive come from behind final quarter to tie the game
<b>Basketball</b> Junior Year 10 Boys beat St Paul's 49-22	<b>Hockey</b> 1st XI Girls beat St Cuthbert's 2-1

## 2022 North Island Secondary Schools Swimming Championship Results

After a very bumpy flight to Wellington and two team members having their flight turned back to Auckland on Friday night and having to fly down again on Saturday morning – managing to arrive just in time for their first race, we had a successful weekend in the water.

We placed 8<sup>th</sup> out of 41 Co-ed Schools, earning five medals in total, one gold, one silver and three bronze. The mixed Water polo relay team of Saniru Hewa, Jinitha Hewa, Alex Winn and Emma Winn placed first earning a gold medal. Alex Winn placed second in the 15 year old girls 100m backstroke and third in the 15 year old girls 50m backstroke, Emma Winn placed third in the 14 year old girls 50m butterfly and Saniru Hewa third in the 17-18 year old boys 50m freestyle.

Thanks to Roskill Swim Club head coach Joshua Munro for accompanying and coaching the team and to Ms Good for her ongoing leadership of our swim team. Medal photos courtesy of Swimming NZ. (From Facebook page and able to be used)

## Attendance

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

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

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

- [Kamarportal.mrgs.school.nz](http://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.

## 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>

## International Students

We are expecting a number of new International students in July, October and January. Some of these students are short term (4 weeks or 1 term) and some are long term.

If you or anyone who lives close to the school would like to be a host family for our international students, please contact **Jade Harris**: [jade.harris@mrgs.school.nz](mailto:jade.harris@mrgs.school.nz)

There is a 21-day police vetting process for anyone not working at Mount Roskill Grammar School. This will be organised by the school. Guidelines and support are provided.



Full results of the 2022 North Island Secondary Schools Swimming championship were:

<p><b>Leah Crowie</b>            13<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 50m Breaststroke            13<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 100m Breaststroke            20<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 50m Freestyle            24<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 100m Freestyle            29<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 50m Butterfly            33<sup>rd</sup> 14 year old girls 100m Individual Medley</p>	<p><b>Alex Winn</b>            2<sup>nd</sup> 15 year old girls 100m Backstroke            3<sup>rd</sup> 15 year old girls 50m Backstroke            9<sup>th</sup> 15 year old girls 100 Individual Medley            12<sup>th</sup> 15 year old girls 100m Freestyle            13<sup>th</sup> 15 year old girls 50m Freestyle            14<sup>th</sup> 15 year old girls 50m Breaststroke</p>
<p><b>Emma Winn</b>            3<sup>rd</sup> 14 year old girls 50m Butterfly            5<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 100m Butterfly            25<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 50m Backstroke            25<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 100m Freestyle            27<sup>th</sup> 14 year old girls 100 Individual Medley</p>	<p><b>Jinitha Hewa</b>            11<sup>th</sup> 15 year old boys 100m Freestyle            14<sup>th</sup> 15 year old boys 50m Backstroke            15<sup>th</sup> 15 year old boys 100m Butterfly            20<sup>th</sup> 15 year old boys 100 Individual Medley            21<sup>st</sup> 15 year old boys 50m Butterfly            22<sup>nd</sup> 15 year old boys 50m Freestyle</p>
<p><b>Daniel Kregting</b>            5<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 100m Backstroke            5<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 100m Butterfly            6<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 50m Butterfly            6<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 100m Individual Medley            8<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 100m Breaststroke            8<sup>th</sup> 14 year old boys 100m Freestyle</p>	<p><b>Saniru Hewa</b>            3<sup>rd</sup> 17-18 year old boys 50m Freestyle            4<sup>th</sup> 17-18 year old boys 100m Freestyle            4<sup>th</sup> 17-18 year old boys 50m Backstroke            6<sup>th</sup> 17-18 year old boys 100m Butterfly            8<sup>th</sup> 17-18 year old boys 50m Butterfly            9<sup>th</sup> 17-18 year old boys 100 Individual Medley</p>

### Relays

1<sup>st</sup> Mixed Water polo Relay (Jinitha Hewa, Saniru Hewa, Daniel Kregting, Alex Winn, Emma Winn)

4<sup>th</sup> 13-18 year old 6 x 50m Freestyle Mixed Relay (Leah Crowie, Jinitha Hewa, Saniru Hewa, Daniel Kregting, Alex Winn, Emma Winn)

