

February 2023: Term 1, Week 4



From the Principal

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou

The NCEA Excellence Awards held last week were a fantastic celebration of academic success. It was a pleasure to recognise 126 students who gained the excellence endorsement for their NCEA qualification in 2022. Our guest presenter was our school Doctor Vanisi Prescott. She gave an excellent speech describing her pathway to success and impressing on everyone the importance of persisting in finding ways to achieve academic and career goals. Thank you to families and friends who made the evening such a warm celebration of each student's success.

The 2023 academic year is well underway, and we are looking forward to review progress with families of senior students in the mentoring conferences on March 29 and families of year 9 and 10 students at the report evening on April 4.

We are looking forward to opening the new learning hub next month. It will be a great space for students to share ideas, learn and talk together, as well as learning and researching individually, supported by an expert librarian. We will also be opening the year 13 common room which is part of the learning hub facility.

Ngā manaakitanga



Greg Watson
Tumuaki | Principal

School Board

Kia Ora Koutou

In addition to celebrating academic excellence at our Excellence Awards it has been wonderful to see so many tauria signing up for co-curricular activities. There is significant value in creating connections outside of the classroom with other tauria. Given that we are a large kura there really is something for everyone. Creating connections in class and outside of it is a way for our tauria to enact our value of Whānaungatanga.

Ngā mihi mahana



Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board

NCEA Excellence Awards



Excellence in NCEA Level 1	Excellence in NCEA Level 2	Excellence in NCEA Level 3
Shreyas Reddy Adavalli	Eric Li	Ansh Angurala
Frances Damu	Jas Rathod	Labiqa Ansari
Jessica Huang	Nell Dempsey	HyunSeo Cho
Adalia Lobo	Alyna Mithani	Shinichi Shun Yat Choy
Rayyan Mohamed Faizal	Aarushi Sehajpal	Asi Cruz
Sumayyah Parker	Alison Wu	Cynaika D'Costa
JB Rana	Muznah Siddiqi	Theo Dodd
Maaiasepi Samuelu	Joshlyn Iyekekepolo	Manya Goswami
Benjamin Wong	Lydia Liu	Zainab Hameedi
Rachel Bao	Bliss Bizosa	Thi My Ha Ho
Asil Kutty	Shania D'Mello	Mohammad Tousif Kabir
Christopher Mara	Ayesha Ibrahim	Dashik Kumar
Raphael Mara	Arwa Laxmidhar	Chris Lobo
Earl Soriano	Lily Mao	Shravya Machipeddi
Ofa Tuuefiafi	Jannet Xu	Sophie Madgwick
Rabia Khan	Ayesha Ali	Nisha Manthramoorthy
Samaira Mani	Rhea Bhonsle	Riley Mara
Labeeqa Abdul	Arya Parab	Sylvia McDougall
Anurag Bobbili	Sioeli Tutone	Aaron Mendonca
Antacia D'Costa	Ze Xi Wang	Apoor Miller
Renesh Devanand	Hazik Chaudhry	Aydin Mustahib
Asma Ibrahim	Alfie Mackenzie	Roopali Nandini
Raina Singh	Rayyan Malik	Aarya Patel
Alex Winn	Tom Watkinson	Jatan Patel
Chanakya Yamalapalli	Melanie Sands	Rishi Shanthosh
Redeyet Zeleke	Hargun Singh	Faadhilah Shiraz
Fatima Asfia	Jim Zhou	Joie Ting
Akshay Punwani	Sofia Familara	Fatima Tualau
Ziad Shammout	Louise Gray	Mercy Tuifao
Ming Bi	Zahlia Prasad	Jumaanah Vahora
Hargun Chhabra	Phebe Sukanob	Joe Wang
Kavin Nathoo	Sudiksha Ravooru	Karen Wang
Sneha Safayet	Nathan Carpendale	Grace Xu
Aanisha Shiraz	Kaveesha Piramanage	Lydias Yong
Sri Ram Vishwanath	Rohit Balaji	Justin Tao Zeng
Jeff Li	Jireh Stitt	Christy Zhou
Ilsa Mujeeb	Anna Duesing	
Joseph Ng	Andy Pham	
Alena Thankachan	Tessa Bolland	
Peyton Velpula	Vrishank Patlolla	
Excellence in NCEA Level 1 and 2	April Hartmann	
Sean Rigg	Kate Yizhou Wang	
Ansh Trivedi	Excellence in NCEA Level 2 and 3	
Joyce Wang	Fateema Islam	
Zoe Chen		
Amie Mao		
Prithi Sharma		

Scholarships	
Ansh Angurala	Scholarship in Statistics
Tessa Bolland	Scholarship in Biology
Shinichi Shun Yat Choy	Scholarship in Calculus
Cynaika D'Costa	Scholarship in Biology
Theo Dodd	Scholarship in Statistics and Calculus
Anna Duesing	Scholarship in Biology
Mohammad Tousif Kabir	Scholarship in Biology and Statistics
Dashik Kumar	Scholarship in Technology
Chris Lobo	Scholarship in Physics and Statistics
Sylvia McDougall	Scholarship in Accounting, Biology and Calculus
Anannya Parthasarthy	Scholarship in Biology
Faadhilah Shiraz	Scholarship in Biology
Prayna Varma	Scholarship in Biology
Joe Wang	Scholarship in Accounting
Karen Wang	Scholarship in Biology and Statistics
Grace Xu	Scholarship in Biology, Calculus, Chemistry, Economics, Health & Physical Education and Physics
Lydias Yong	Scholarship in English



Calendar

8 – 10 March	Polyfest
13 March	School Holiday – No students on site
20 – 24 March	Year 13 Camp
29 March	Mentoring 1- Year 11, 12 & 13. Half day for Year 9 & 10
30 March	Sports Exchange - Mahurangi
1 April	70 th Reunion
4 April	Sports Exchange - Pukekohe
4 April	Junior Report Evening
6 April	End of Term 1
26 April	Term 2 Starts

Attendance

We know the best place for students to learn is here with us at school. Alongside the Ministry of Education expectation, we also aspire to students being with us 90% or more of the time. Please support your child to be here every day. Every minute of learning counts.

You will receive a fortnightly update of your child's attendance via email, please discuss this with your child so they are aware of their attendance levels regularly.

Start of the Day:

- **Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday** classes start at 9am with a 8.55am bell to signal 5 minutes to the start of the lesson
- **Wednesday** classes start at 9.20am with a 9.15am bell to signal 5 minutes to the start of the lesson

Phone Use in Lessons

We are working hard to build and maintain the most effective learning environments for our students. It has been identified both at MRGS and internationally in schools that phones are creating a lot of distraction from engagement and learning, and therefore hindering progress.

We have reinforced with students in School Assemblies and classes our school policy that phones are not to be used in class unless directed by the teacher. Students will be asked to have their phones away in their bags, on silent during lessons. Please support us by discussing this at home with your child and reinforcing a focus on learning.

Out of School for Lunch

Year 13's are afforded the privilege of leaving school at lunch time to use the local eating places - Fiesta Lunch Bar, Baked and Beans, Delux and the closeby supermarket. Students should leave via the Science exit gate, buy food and return to school straight away. All students must be back inside school grounds prior to 2.10pm in order to be at period 5 on time.

Jubilee

MRGS 70th Reunion [1953-2023]

Saturday April 1 2023

A range of ways to connect starting at 10am.

We look forward to seeing you as you reconnect with your place, your friends, and your memories. Please share this information with any alumni who might not see this post.

Registration and ticketing information below for those wanting to attend. Please complete the registration form if you are attending any of the events. All events on the day will be at MRGS.

1. Please follow the link <https://forms.gle/wRyADC54uSvZiuzcA> to complete the registration form by Tuesday 14 March 2023.

2. If you would like to attend the lunch you need to purchase tickets by following the separate link at the bottom of the registration form as these are being processed by an external company.

We will have professional photographers on site and will share any photos taken.

Any queries to alumni@mrgs.school.nz

See you there/here!



Chromebooks

MRGS is an established BYOD school, meaning that your child needs to have a device to support their learning in the classroom. The ideal device for learning is lightweight with a keyboard. MRGS' teachers use the Google Classroom platform for all their classes as a way of distributing information, assigning classwork and homework tasks, and giving feedback on assessments.

Through our ICT partners New Era, we give our community access to a purchasing portal called Acquire <https://newera-byod.acquire.co.nz/>. New Era seeks to provide our community with the most competitive pricing for any new device purchases, but if you are struggling to provide a device for learning and you have a community services card, we do have a limited number of Chromebooks available for loan for the 2023 academic year. To access these devices, a \$50 deposit will need to be paid; you or your child will need to present a community services card at the time that you or they make the deposit

Students Driving to School

Students who are driving to school are reminded of the following expectations:

- There is no parking on campus grounds which includes the Intermediate and Primary schools
- Vehicles are not to be used during school hours (unless permission from a member of SLT)
- Students are not permitted to transport other students unless on a full NZ Drivers Licence
- Students are to drive safely around school, with particular consideration of the younger members of our campus
- Year 13's cannot drive their cars at lunch time

We will be sending students a google form to register to drive their cars to school. Please complete this as soon as possible

Sports

Volleyball Senior A Boys & Girls:

The volleyball season has started off on a high with many students showing interest and talent in the sport. We have a boys' team coached by Alejandro who is doing a great job with this team of Seniors & Juniors

The girls team who is coached by Mrs M Toutai with some new players and many returning players.

Both teams are playing really good volleyball with our girls recently beating Auckland Girls Grammar 2-1 in a most exciting game of many challenges and difficulties. We looked forward to seeing our players continue to grow and succeed in their sport.

Senior A Boys	Marcellin	Onehunga 1	2-0 WIN
	Dilworth	Onehunga 1	2-0 WIN
Senior A Girls	Western Springs	Mt Roskill Gym 3	2-0 WIN
	Auckland Girls Blue	Mt Roskill Gym 3	2-1 WIN

Tag Senior A Boys & Girls:

We are very lucky to have the opportunity to take both of the girls and boys teams to compete in a one day tournament at Moire Park on Tuesday 28th of Feb. We have many talented players coming along with the promise of showing great sportsmanship and skill out there on the field.

Next Week Fixtures:

Term 1 / Week 5 / February 28 to March 5						
Head of Code	Grade	Teams	Opposition	Date	Venue	Time
<i>Cameron Bitchener</i>	Cricket Boys					
Shoruban Pasupati	Premier/1A T20 Pool C Competition	1st XI	Rangitoto 1st XI	Tuesday 28 February	Mt Roskill G1	4.00pm
<i>Cameron Bitchener</i>	Cricket Girls					
	Girls 1B Pool 1	1st XI	Macleans 1st XI	Wednesday 01 March	Mt Roskill G1	4.15pm
<i>Mardia Te Whiu</i>	Volleyball					
Ana Lu/Alejandro	Central Boys Green	Senior A Boys	St Paul's	Thursday 02 March	Onehunga 2	4.00pm
Mardia Te Whiu/Mrs M Toutai	Central Girls Grey	Senior A Girls	Mt Albert B	Thursday 02 March	Mt Roskill Gym 2	4.00pm
			Baradene B	Thursday 02 March	Mt Roskill Gym 2	5.30pm
<i>Cameron Bitchener</i>	Cricket Boys					
Shoruban Pasupati	1A 2023 LIMITED OVER	1st XI	Rosmini College	Saturday 04 March	Mt Roskill G1	10.30am
Leon Nates	SENIOR B MORNING T20 Pool 1	Senior T20	Glendowie Senior Navy	Saturday 04 March	Hillsborough 1a	9.00am
Nisheeth/Brent Hargreeves	YR 9 & 10 2023 COLTS 2	Colts	Selwyn College	Saturday 04 March	Mt Roskill 1a	12.30pm
Chad Wright	Junior A Morning T20 Pool C	Junior A	Selwyn College	Saturday 04 March	Selwyn 1a	9.00am
<i>Cindy Good</i>	Waterpolo					
Oscar	Senior C Boys/Mixed Pool1	Senior Mixed Red	Senior Mixed Blue	Sunday 05 March	Sacred Heart	5.30pm
	Senior C Boys/Mixed Pool1	Senior Mixed Blue	Senior Mixed Red	Sunday 05 March	Sacred Heart	5.30pm



Follow us on Instagram: [mrgs.sport](#)

The Sports Department has their very own dedicated sports page on Instagram to share all things sport. You will find information about registrations, practices, games, social activities and student success stories posted weekly. Make sure you follow us @mrgs.sport to keep up to date with all things Sport at Mount Roskill Grammar School.

Sports Department Office Hours:

Students can come to the Sports Office which is location in the Gym 2 & 3 Foyer during break times and after school with any Sport and Recreation questions they have. The team can also be reached at sports.department@mrgs.school.nz

International Students



If anyone would like to be a host family for our international students, please contact Amanda Wong:

amanda.wong@mrgs.school.nz

We have lots of short-term and long-term students coming all year round. Please note that there is a 21-day police vetting process for anyone who has not been vetted. This will be organised by the school.

Alumni News



Congratulations to Levi Ahlquist [2020]

From MRGS kapa haka Mana Taiohi, to the front row of West Auckland group Te Tahu Tu at Te Matatini where kapa haka teams from all over the country battle over four days to be crowned Toa Whakaihūwaka, the champions of Te Matatini.

Iwi: Ngāpuhi, Te Roroa, Ngāti Porou, Ngāti Kahungunu.
Tohu: Mechatronics engineering & Māori studies

Congratulations to Te Tahu Tu on award for best haka!



Katalina Ma (2002) is a past pupil and staff member. She has taught at Onehunga High School, in Rarotonga, at Mount Roskill Grammar School, been assistant HOD Maths at Southern Cross, then HOD Maths and now Assistant Principal at Mangere College.

Katalina's heart for Roskill has never left. She still helps our Tongan Homework Centre alongside her sister Ana. She has set up a Manatu ki Roskill South "run" Club for alumni. She used this club to encourage alumni unable to meet for a reunion in 2022 due to covid to run/walk the school cross country course as a tribute to their time at MRGS.

Those who couldn't make it ran the equivalent distance in Australia and France!

Katalina is looking forward to leading the organisation of our touch game at our 70th Reunion on Saturday 1 April.

Mt Roskill's Safer Communities Work

The next scheduled work as part of the Mt Roskill's Safer Communities is raising the pedestrian crossing on Mt Albert Road near the Three Kings Plaza

Proposed date of works:

- The main construction works commenced on **22 February 2023** and will be for approximately 5 weeks
- Day works will run from **7am to 7pm**
- Night works will from **8pm to 5am**

Please note that these dates may change due to unforeseen circumstances or changing weather conditions. The line marking, pavement, asphalt and signal works may be undertaken during the night.



Auckland Transport has been working alongside community representatives including those from local businesses, nearby schools, and the Puketāpapa Local Board to make improvements in your neighbourhood.

This project is helping us to achieve our goal to reduce death and serious injury on our roads and AT consulted on this work in 2021. Our safety improvements at the intersection of Frost Road and Mt Albert Road are now complete and the changes have made it safer for all road users.

AT will no longer be working on the intersection of Hayr Road, Dornwell Road and Mt Albert Road. AT will only be raising the zebra crossing along Mt Albert Road to make it safer for pedestrians to cross the road and we will also put in two community requested speed humps along Hayr Road.



Raise existing pedestrian crossing: Outside 511 Mt Albert Road



Speed Calming: Hayr Road



For more information visit
[AT.govt.nz/safemtroskill](https://at.govt.nz/safemtroskill)
email us on projects@at.govt.nz
or call us on **09 355 3553**

Auckland Transport