

Newsletter



MOUNT ROSKILL
GRAMMAR SCHOOL

November 2022: Term 4, Week 7

From the Principal

Our year 9 and 10 students are to be congratulated on their application to learning during the last few weeks of term. Final exams have been completed, and feedback and grades given. The academic year will conclude with our junior prize giving celebrating the capabilities and achievement of our students. For the first three days next week during wider education everyone is participating in activities of their choice, followed by grappling with a relay of challenges in House teams in the Amazing Race.

There are a number of staff leaving at the end the year. Some are moving out of Auckland, or to a school closer to home, and some are retiring. In particular I would like recognise Head of Commerce Gavin Parratt who is moving to Kings College after twenty years of distinguished service, and Timetabler David Dix, Social Science teacher Telesia Tongia, and Science Technician Liz McKay who are retiring. Deputy Principal Rowan Johansen is leaving to join an education consultancy, and we look forward to working with him in his new role. Thank you all of these staff for your wonderful service to our school, and best wishes for the next phase.

We look forward to welcoming parents and caregivers to the junior school prize-giving in the Butler Hall all at 9.30 am on Friday December 9. School will finish for the year at the end of the morning. We look forward to acknowledging the commitment to excellence and successes of students with you. We wish everyone a safe, refreshing and restful Christmas with your whānau and friends.



Kia ora koutou

Greg Watson

Tumuaki | Principal

School Board

Tena koutou MRGS whānau

Congratulations to all the taura who have received prizes at the prize givings. You have worked hard to achieve this and have made you and your whānau proud of your achievements. It was wonderful to have those in person celebrations again. Congratulations to all taura who have completed the 2022 school year. I know it has not been easy to come back from all those Covid lock downs and settle down at the kura into a routine of study.

Thank you to the kaiako and support staff for your time and energy you have put into supporting our taura to come back to kura. Many of have also had to juggle Covid for yourself and in your whānau. It has been tough for all of us.

I would like to acknowledge Susan Ratana who recently stood down from the Board of Trustees. Susan has been on the Board for the past three years and also a member of the MRGS Whānau Advisory group for many years. She has ensured that the voice of Māori is heard at the School Board table. She has worked with the Board on how to meet our obligations of the Treaty of Waitangi and what that looks like at a Board level. The Board has valued her strong advocacy for Māori students and her guidance on Tikanga Māori. We wish you well Susan and look forward to working with you in the future through the Whānau Advisory group.

Meri Kirimete to you all and enjoy the holidays. 2023 is already looking like a better year.



Marjet Pot

Presiding Member

Calendar

2022

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Mon 5 – Wed 7 Dec | Wider Education Activities for Years 9 and 10 |
| Thurs 8 Dec | Years 9 and 10 Early Finish 11:45am |
| Fri 9 Dec | Junior Prize Giving 9:30am start. End of School Year 11:30am. |

2023

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Wed 1 Feb | Y9, Y13 and all new students Pōwhiri |
| Thu 2 Feb | Y9 students and Peer Mentors |
| Fri 3 Feb | First day for all students |
| Mon 6 Feb | Waitangi Day – School Closed |
| Tue 7 Feb | All students on site and regular school hours |

Community Donations

An annual tradition at MRGS is to donate non-perishable food and new toys to our community.

We line the stage at Junior prize giving, not with flowers, but with the generous donations from and for our community.

Please donate via the office from now and until 3pm Wednesday 7 December.

Thank you in advance for your contributions and generosity as we walk the talk of our values.



Chromebook Returns

If your child has borrowed a Chromebook and has not yet returned it, they need to do so as soon as possible. All school-supplied Chromebooks will be deactivated on Monday 7 December.

School Photos

If you have paid for School Photos these are now ready to be picked up from Admin anytime from 8:30am to 4:30pm Monday to Friday till Tuesday 13 December 2022.

Graduation Dinner



Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), 2023

MRGS is an established BYOD school, meaning that we recommend that your child brings 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 will need to present your card and make the deposit with your child in order for them to receive an MRGS Chromebook.

Ōrākei Visit



On Thursday 24 November a group of our students visited Ōrākei Marae to visit an art exhibition and take part in a rāranga workshop with mana whenua Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei. We were also joined by Year 8 students from Mt Roskill Intermediate who will be joining our Mt Roskill Grammar School whānau in 2023.

International

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 arriving late January 2023. There is a weekly payment of \$310 to cover costs.

Please note that there is a 21-day police vetting process for anyone who has not been vetted. This will be organized by the school.



MacLean Centre Prize giving



SURSUM 2022

Each year we publish our school magazine, SURSUM, to showcase all the wonderful effort and involvement of students and staff at our school. This is a great way to remember achievements and friendships, and can now be pre-ordered through the Accounts office. Magazines cost \$30 and will be available for collection in January.

Policies

The Senior Leadership Team and School Board have been working with relevant staff and SchoolDocs over the past 18 months – 2 years to review our school policies.

We have added the link to these to our website.

Our SchoolDocs site (URL) is: <https://mrgs.schooldocs.co.nz>

The Username for our community is mrgs and the password is sursum

Year 13 DVC



North Island Junior Water Polo Championships

Our Junior Water Polo Team competed in the North Island Junior Secondary Schools Water Polo Championships from the 24th – 27th November in the Mixed Division Two grade and finished commendably as the Plate Trophy winners. They played six games in total across the four days and had some very challenging games, saving the best for last winning the final game 16-2 to ensure that they won the closely contested plate competition on goal difference. A big thanks to Mr. Presland and his team of student coaches; Alex Thomson, Lucian Reedy and Alex Winn.

Team Members: Maia Collins, Sourav Dhungel, Austin Dodd, Farah Ikram, Daniel Kregting, Kelly Liu, Finn Orsbourn, Ella Smith, Ethan Stocks, Naia Tagiilima, Hamish Thomson, Anna Watkinson and Emma Winn.



NZ Chinese Calligraphy Competition



There are 26 students from years 9 – 13 Chinese classes who have actively participated in the New Zealand Calligraphy Competition 2022. Nine students achieved Excellence prizes and fifteen achieved Merit prizes. Congratulations to all the prize winners and sincere gratitude to all participants for their great effort and hard work!



Lifesaving

Pictured with their first aid certificates and badges are our first group of MRGS Lifesavers. This year in recognition of the importance of water safety skills we offered students the opportunity to complete the Royal Lifesaving Bronze Star or Bronze Medallion Awards. Students learnt basic first aid and various rescue techniques, all with an emphasis on how to keep themselves safe at the same time as trying to assist someone who is in difficulty. We are very proud of this group of students for all their hard work and being prepared to be part of something new. We are also delighted that one of the group is now already putting these skills in action working as a Lifeguard at the Cameron Pools. If anyone is interested in taking part in Lifesaving next year or would like to know more they can email:

cindy.good@mrgs.school.nz



Alumni News



Congratulations Sammy Salsa, (2002), Right.
NZ TV Awards winner for best costume design for
The Panthers



Congratulations Harry McNaughton (2005) 4th from the Left.
Co-screen writer of *The Pact* which won at the NZ TV Awards:
Best Screenwriter Drama, Best Actress, Best Actor and Best
Supporting Actress!

Sports

2023 Summer Sport and Recreation Activities Registration:

Below you will find a link to express your interest in taking part in a number of different Summer Sport and Social Recreational Activities which the MRGS Sport Department is looking to offer in 2023. Once registered – keep an eye out on your school emails to find out when first practices and meetings will be taking place. If you have any questions, please just contact the Sports Department.

2023 Summer Sport and Social Recreational Activities Registration Link - <https://forms.gle/Di4RFGrqWSC4eng36>

2023 Mount Roskill Grammar School Junior and Senior Cricket Muster and Trial Information:

Can all parents and students please register to play cricket by emailing the Teacher in Charge (Cameron.bitchener@mrgs.school.nz) with the student's first and last name and what year level they will be in 2023. If you have questions about the Cricket Trials, are unable to make a muster date or are able to assist with Cricket in 2023, please contact Cameron. We require a lot of parent assistance with every cricket team, including Coaches, Managers, Umpires and Scorers to ensure our students have a positive experience in Cricket.

Thursday 19 January – Year 9 Cricket Boys Muster (new to school students) 9.30am – 11.30am

Friday 20 January – Year 10 Cricket Boys Muster 9.30am-11.30am

Monday 23 January – Year 9 and 10 Boys catch up muster and training 9.30am – 11.30am

- Senior Cricket Training for all Seniors wanting to play cricket 1.00pm-3.00pm

Tuesday 24 January – All Girls Cricket Muster – 9.30am – 11.00am

- 1st XI Boys Practice/trials 1.00pm-3pm

Thursday 26 January – Year 9 and 10 Trial Game to Select the Colts team. 9.30am start, 35 overs game

Sports Fees and Sports Uniform Returns:

A reminder to students and families that Sports fees from all 2022 Sports Seasons are overdue. Please make these payments as soon as possible to the accounts office. All school sport playing uniforms should be returned to the Sports Department or School office by the end of the week.

Sports Results

Cricket:

1st XI Boys 4/107 beat Macleans College 9/106 - Saad Khan 3 wickets, Abdul Ahmadzai 52*

1st XI Boys 10/138 Lost to Takapuna Grammar in the 1A Final 10/198 -

Ankur Singh 3 wickets, Rahman Hekmat 66 runs

Junior Boys Colts 10/92 lost to Kings College 9/218

Junior Boys Colts 8/151 lost to Rangitoto College 7/172

Junior Boys A T20 3/149 beat Liston College 6/146 - Aali Awan 50* runs,

Junior Boys B T20 6/93 beat Rutherford College 7/90

Girls 9 Aside T20 5/104 lost to St Mary's 5/111 - Alice Mackey 3 wickets, Elise Bolland 26 runs

North Island Secondary Championships

North Island Secondary School Badminton Championships:

Last week we had several students take part in the Junior North Island Secondary School Badminton Championships which was held at the Auckland Badminton Centre in Epsom. Mount Roskill Grammar entered a Junior Boys and a Junior Girls Team into the competition. Both teams had mixed results with a number of wins and also losses. Both teams had impressive 6-0 wins over the Howick College Boys and Girls teams. Big thanks to departing Year 13 Celia Chanwong who came down to support the teams through their games and congratulations to Christine Xu who received one of only two Sportsmanship Awards.



Mt Roskill Childhood Centre

MRECC Holiday Programme January 2023

WEEK ONE 9 Monday - Friday 13 January

| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|-----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Library Bookmarks | WATER DAY (TOGS) Clay Creations | Gym Games Crayon and | Clip n Climb (Covered Shoes) Canvas Painting | Movies Self Portraits |

WEEK TWO Monday 16 - Friday 20 January

| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Stardome Stars | Arataki Leaf Prints | AMBRUY FARM Collage | Mini Golf Marble | waterview Pump track (bikes/scooters) Carpentry |

WEEK THREE Monday 23 - Friday 27th January

| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Potters Park (Togs) Card Games | Laser Tag Magnets | Western Springs Beads | Skatebowl Talent Show | Movies FREE CHOICE |

CONTACT during the day on 629-0732 at Preschool or on 621 0050 ext 892 for MRECC Holiday Programme
Centre hours are 7.00am -6.00pm Children should arrive no later than 9.30am to ensure they are here for the morning activity
Fees are as follows: 2 days = \$160 3 days = \$180 4 days = \$210 Full week = \$230 Minimum booking is 2 days

By signing this form I consent to my child attending the excursions travelling in the school van with the teacher/child ratio being 1:8

There will be a holiday programme care available for the 1st, 2nd of February please let a teacher know if you wish to book in for those days

YES I would like to book my child/children for the January Holiday Programme (please tick)

| | | | | |
|-----|------|-----|-------|-----|
| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
| Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |

Stationery for 2023

Back to school stationery – order now!

We've teamed up with OfficeMax to make getting school ready faster! Your child's class list is available now on the OfficeMax MySchool website – myschool.co.nz.

We encourage you to order early to ensure your child has all their stationery requirements ready to go in plenty of time for the start of Term 1. Don't wait until mid-January, order now and avoid the back to school rush.

Laybuy* is also available, so you can pay in 6 weekly, interest-free payments - and still get your order right away. Or you can pay by internet banking, credit card or debit card.

When you shop on myschool.co.nz you'll receive free delivery on orders over \$46*. You will also help our school earn school rewards* that we use to purchase much needed extra resources for our school.

* Terms & Conditions apply, see myschool.co.nz for details.

Your school's page on myschool.co.nz

If your newsletter is in a digital format then to make it easy for parents, we highly recommend that you direct them straight to your school's page on the OfficeMax MySchool website so they can find their child's class list quickly.

To locate the URL for your school's page please follow these steps:

1. Go to myschool.co.nz and search for your school
2. Navigate to your school's landing page and copy the URL from the browser address bar - it will look similar to this <https://www.myschool.co.nz/yourschoolname>

In the wording below you just need to change the hyperlink on the text 'myschool.co.nz' with your school's URL by pasting the address you have copied in the previous step.



The advertisement banner features a teal background. On the left, there is a circular inset image showing a smiling man and two children (a boy and a girl) looking at a laptop. The OfficeMax MySchool logo is in the top left corner. The main text on the right reads 'Got five minutes?' in large white font, followed by 'Your child's back to school class list is ready to shop now at myschool.co.nz or call us Mon to Fri, 8.30am - 5pm.' in white font. At the bottom, a yellow bar contains the website URL myschool.co.nz and the phone number 0800 724 440 in teal text.

OfficeMax
MySchool

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