



Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



WELCOME TO 2024

A year of successful learning



Introducing our new principal

Nō reira anei he tōku pepeha

Ko Southdowns te maunga,

Ko Rover te awa,

I tipu ake au ki Hampshire kei
Ingarangi.

Kei te noho au kei Tāmaki Makaurau,

I raro i te maru o te maunga o
Maungakiekie.

Ko Tom Webb tōku ingoa,

He Tumuaki ahau o te Kura Tuarua o
Puketāpapa.

From our Principal

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou katoa.

It is an honour to join the Mount Roskill Grammar School community and to start my work here this year. I want to thank the staff and students for welcoming me to the school last week. In my short time here I am already getting to know the school well and seeing the passion and care that the staff have for our students.

I would like to welcome our new students to the school and thank their whānau for choosing Mount Roskill Grammar School. I have lived and worked in the local area for the past 25 years and I have always admired this school for the diversity of the people, the environment that celebrates that diversity and the excellent staff who care about the students and support them to achieve excellent results.

To do this we need to build a partnership with you - the whānau at home. We value this partnership because we know what a positive impact it can have on our students when we work closely together. We need to hear from you when we are not doing our job well enough or if there are things that you are concerned about - we value your opinion and we want to hear it.

Our school values of Manaakitanga, Tūmanakotanga and Whanaungatanga guide us in respecting others, striving for excellence and creating a sense of family at our school and I am looking forward to seeing this in action over the coming weeks and terms.

I would like to congratulate our new Head Prefects for 2024 Ansh Trivedi and Joyce Wang and our Deputy Head Prefects Frances Damu and Dzidzor Nanedo. These are four outstanding young leaders who are well supported by our whole prefect team.

I am looking forward to meeting you in the coming weeks including at our New Whānau Evening on Thursday 15th of February.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb

Tumuaki | Principal of Mount Roskill Grammar School



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora koutou

It is exciting to start a new year and to welcome our new taura and kaiako to our MRGS whānau. A special welcome to our new tumuaki, Mr Webb.

Our kura is one of the best in the country and every taura has the opportunity to learn something new every day.

I also recommend being open to joining a co-curricular activity to help create additional connections.

We are a kura that celebrates our active, responsible citizens and I look forward to hearing about the leadership across a wide range of contexts shown by our taura.

With the support of our kaiako and whānau, our taura will reach “to the heights.”

Ngā mihi mahana

Marjet Pot
 Presiding Member
 School Board



A new group of inspirers

We welcomed our new tumuaki, kaiako and support staff at a pōwhiri on Tuesday 30th of January.

Our thanks to the kaiako and taura from Mangere College for supporting Mr Webb's welcome.

We are excited to have such a passionate group of educators join our kura. Our new kaiako come with a wide range of experience and will add to the energy we already have supporting our successful and powerful learners.

Attendance

Attendance is one of the most important factors in building a student's sense of belonging, progress in their learning and achievement at school. There is a direct link between high attendance and achievement. The table below shows the impact of absence from school.

Our aim is for students to be at school 90% or more of the time. Every minute of learning is crucial to your child's success. Please support your child to attend school every day, and please contact us to report your child's absence via attendance@mrgs.school.nz

%	Per 2 weeks	Per term	Year	Total lessons missed (hours)	Total lessons missed (per subject)
100%	★	★	★	★	★
95%	½ day 😊	2 ½ days 😊	2 weeks 😊	50 hours 😊	10 (2 days) 😊
90%	1 day 😊	1 week 😊	1 month 😊	100 hours 😊	20 hours (4 days) 😊
80%	2 days 😊	2 weeks 😊	2 months 😊	200 hours 😊	40 hours (almost 2 weeks) 😊
70%	3 days 😊	3 weeks 😊	3 months 😊	300 hours 😊	60 hours 😊
50%	5 days 😊	5 weeks 😊	5 months 😊	500 hours 😊	100 (3 ½ weeks) 😊



Head Prefects

This week we announced our 2024 Head Prefect Team each of whom have contributed immensely to the life of the school over their time at MRGS. At assemblies this week, they introduced themselves to the student body alongside their prefect team. We are looking forward to what their leadership will bring to our kura this year.

Pictured from left to right: **Frances Damu** (Deputy Head Prefect), **Joyce Wang** (Head Prefect), **Ansh Trivedi** (Head Prefect) and **Dzidzor Nanedo** (Deputy Head Prefect)

Key Dates

Mon 12th - Tues 13th Feb: ID Photos

Thurs 15th Feb: New Parents' Evening
(6.30pm in the Hall)

Wed 21st Feb: Achievement Teams New Parents Evening

Thurs 22nd Feb: Swimming Sports / NCEA Awards Evening

Tues 12th March: Progress Reports Sent

Thurs 14th Mar: Mentoring 1 - Juniors work from home

Tues 19th Mar: Junior Report Evening

Wed 20th - Sat 23rd Mar: Polyfest

Fri 29th Mar: Good Friday - School Closed

Mon 1st - Tues 2nd Apr: Easter - School Closed

Thurs 4th Apr: Mahurangi Sports Exchange @ MRGS

Thurs 11th Apr: Pukekohe Sports Exchange @ Pukekohe

Fri 12th Apr: END OF TERM 1

Uniforms

Uniforms can now **only** be purchased online or at the Elizabeth Michael's physical store.

To purchase online:

Visit www.elizabethmichael.co.nz

Click the 'Login/Register' tab at the top right of the page.

Register your details and use the school code RG299 when prompted at the bottom of the page. You will receive a registration email and access to the online uniform shop.

Alternatively, you can visit Elizabeth Michael's uniform shop located at 65 New North Road, Eden Terrace.

Mon - Thurs: 9 am-5 pm

Fri: 9 am-4 pm and Sat: 9 am-1 pm

For any WINZ clients, please give your account manager **Elizabeth Michael** as your CPU reference.

Details are CUR001215763

Pōwhiri for our new principal and staff



Pōwhiri for our Year 9s and new students



Year 9 Induction - Learning about Puketāpapa





Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Swimming Sports - Thursday 22nd February Period 5

Any students wanting to participate in the MRGS Annual Swimming Sports competition need to register to participate in the Sports Office by Monday 19th February.

Everyone is welcome to participate however, you cannot just show up on the day. Any students who want to qualify to attend the College Sport Swimming Zone competitions must compete in the Swimming Sports to qualify for zones. **Please contact sports.department@mrgs.school.nz for more information.**

2024 Summer Sport Registration

All students who are interested in participating in a summer sport or recreation activity please complete the **[Summer Sport 2024 Registration Google form](#)**. Take a look at all of the different options and get involved in something new at Mount Roskill Grammar School. This registration form will be open until Wednesday 14th February as most Summer Competitions will be getting started by then. There will be a Winter Sport Registration form coming out later in the term.



[@mrgs.sport](#)

Follow the MRGS Sports page on Instagram for up-to-date information regarding sports and recreational activities happening at the school during lunch and after school.

Social Tennis Club Thursday 15th February onwards

The Social Tennis Club will start up next Thursday 15th February after school and run every Thursday throughout Term 1. Anyone interested in playing some tennis is welcome to come and have a hit around. Students just need to meet in the Sports Foyer outside the sports office straight after school. The students play on the courts at Mt Roskill Intermediate and finish at 4.45 pm.

Swimming Success



Over the summer holidays, some of our swimmers have been making a real splash.

Ethan Stocks travelled to Australia as part of a Swimming NZ Open Water Team to compete in the New South Wales Open Water Championships and finished 5th in his age group in the 7.5km event and 6th in the 5km event.

He followed these impressive results up in Taupo in the New Zealand Open Water Championships by coming 2nd in both the 15-17 year age group and overall in the 7.5km event and 1st in 15-17 year age group in the 2.5km event and 2nd overall.

Daniel Kregting also swam in the New Zealand Open Water Championships and placed 5th in the 7.5km 15-17 age group.

Nemanya Markovic also travelled to Australia as part of a Swimming New Zealand Age Group Team to compete in the Queensland State Championships and received two bronze medals, one for 200m breaststroke and one for 200m Individual Medley.

He also had two other top ten placings of 8th in 100m breaststroke and 400m Individual Medley. He completed the trip with three further top twenty placings.

Alumni News

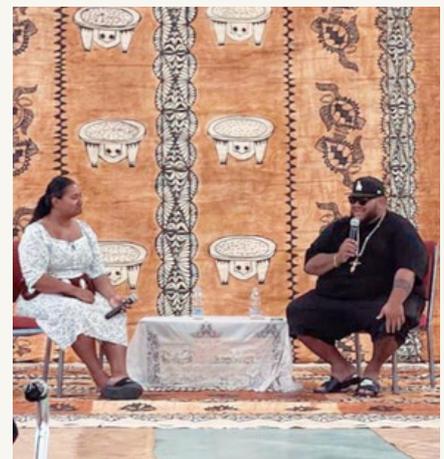


Ala Vailala (pictured third from the left above) is an ex-student of MRGS. Last year, she was part of the 2023 Te Rito Journalism Project cohort.

This project is in partnership with NZME, Whakaata Māori, Newshub and Pacific Media Network to ensure newsrooms reflect a multicultural Aotearoa.

She currently works as a journalist at the NZ Herald and also provides content to Newshub and other publications.

As an exceptional leader when she was at MRGS, and her subsequent work as Youth MP and supporting young people in Tonga to learn the violin, it is wonderful that Ala continues to tell stories that matter.





Purchasing lockers

Students can purchase lockers from the accounts office in the admin block during Weeks 2 and 3.

Lockers will be allocated to students outside the admin block from Tuesday the 13th Feb to Wednesday the 21st Feb.

\$15 - Regular locker | \$30 - Sports locker

Student Devices

MRGS is an established BYOD school, meaning that our students need to have a device to support their learning in the classroom. MRGS' teachers use the Google Classroom platform with all their classes as a way of distributing information, assigning classwork and homework tasks, and giving feedback on assessments.

Through our ICT partner New Era, we give our community access to a purchasing portal called Acquire.

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 2024 academic year.



Students have until **Friday the 1st of March** to apply for these by presenting their parent or guardian's community services card and filling out a letter that outlines their responsibilities as a borrower.

ID Photos

This is a reminder to all students that school ID photos will be taken on Monday 12th of February. It is important that each student has their photo taken and that they are meeting our uniform expectations.



Stay up to date with everything in the school



[@mountroskillgrammarschool](https://www.instagram.com/mountroskillgrammarschool)



[Mount Roskill Grammar School](https://www.facebook.com/MountRoskillGrammarSchool)

An opportunity to
meet the Senior
Leadership Team,
Academic and
Pastoral Leaders.

NEW PARENTS' EVENING



**FEB
15th
6.30 PM**



**SCHOOL
HALL**