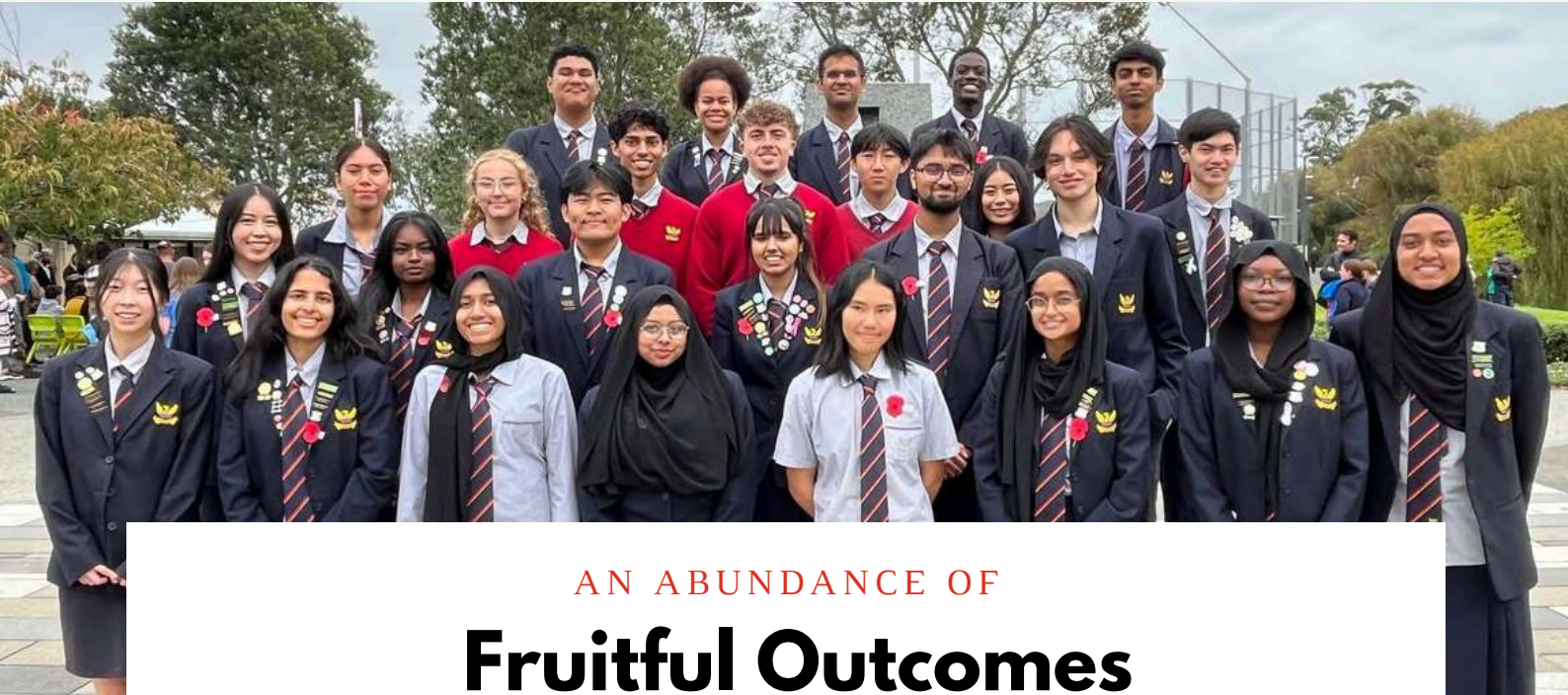




Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



AN ABUNDANCE OF
Fruitful Outcomes



Hauhake - Harvest time

The MRGS Mara Kumara Project bears its first harvest.



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou

During the term break I attended the Mount Roskill ANZAC Parade and Service along with other staff and prefects.

This was my first experience of an ANZAC parade in Mount Roskill and I would like to thank our prefects for representing our school so well and honouring the occasion by laying a wreath on behalf of the school community. I would also like to thank our Deputy Head Boy, Dzidzor Nanedo, for doing a reading during the service.

We have had a smooth start to Term 2. This is a crucial term with many internal assessments taking place for our senior students.

In assemblies I have been encouraging all students to take control of their own learning and ensure that they are aware of their next steps for learning in each of their subjects.

This week our Level 3 Drama students performed in the production “Ed Sheeran Tastes Like Chicken”.

As the title suggests it was a bizarre and hilarious play but it also has a serious message. There were many outstanding performances from the students and I want to congratulate all of the staff and students who put on an excellent production.

Our new expectations for phones started this term and I would like to thank students for responding so well in the first two weeks. Students are keeping their phones away for the day and despite a few grumbles this has gone very smoothly.

Winter sport has started and our teams are competing throughout this term and next. I want to wish all of our teams the best as they start their competitive matches and I look forward to seeing you on the sideline.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb
Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora koutou

We hope that everyone had a refreshing break and is ready to take on the new school term.

As we head into Term 2, I just want to highlight several events that will be going on in our school for families and students.

We look forward to connecting with our whānau and hāpori at the Māori Whānau Hui. This event provides a chance for us to share what we have been doing with our taura, some key events, talk through NCEA and answer questions you may have.

There is also our school's Open Day where we invite future students and whānau to learn about what we offer at our kura and how we can enrich their child's academic journey.

It is also a great opportunity to gain first hand experience from our teachers and students of school life at MRGS.

For students, Blood Day is a way to demonstrate our school's values of whanaungatanga by choosing to become a blood donor and helping others in their time of need.

With winter sports and co-curricular clubs getting underway, it is exciting to see the wide range of activities our taura can participate in and I thank them for representing MRGS with pride.

Ngā mihi mahana

Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board



MRGS Open Day 2024 - Thursday 23 May



Please RSVP your interest [here](#).

We invite future students and their whānau to our Open Day.

You will have the opportunity to hear the principal speak to students and families at 3.30pm, 4.30pm and 6pm in the Butler Hall.

Following each presentation, our MRGS students will lead you on a school tour where you will meet our expert teachers from various departments as well as speak with our fantastic students and student leaders.

We are excited to meet many new faces and hope to see you all there!



Phone use

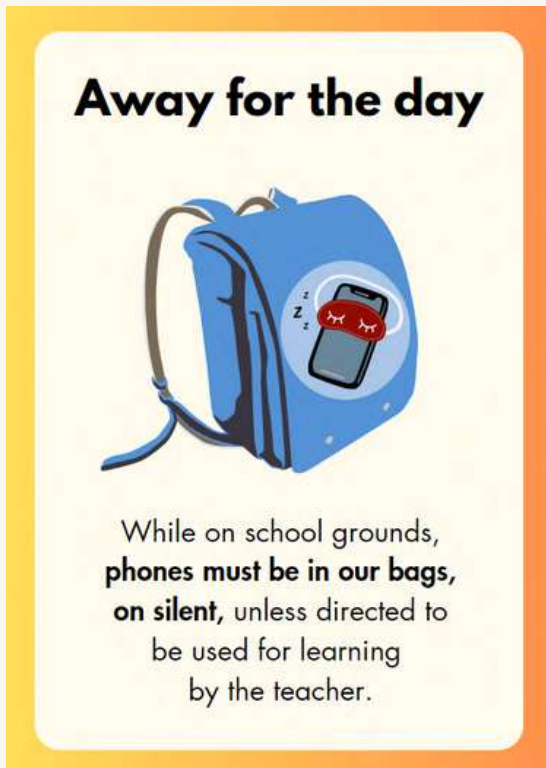
Students have done a fantastic job of adhering to the “Away for the Day” expectations which came into force at the start of Term 2.

“Away for the Day” also includes headphones and earphones as well, therefore on school grounds, these must be in students’ bag.

We are grateful for our students' support of this government initiative, and we will continue to uphold this expectation with reminders to students.

MRGS should be very proud of how we have gone about this change.

A friendly reminder that if any parent or caregiver urgently need to get a hold of their child during school time, please contact the administration team at 09 621 0050 (ext 0).



Attendance

Our current attendance percentage is **80.6%**.

Punctuality is a critical life skill.

Unfortunately, lateness is a concern for us as a school, both at the start of the day, and between lessons. It is possible to move between classes all over the school, within 4 minutes.

Every minute of learning counts, and every time someone is late to a lesson it is disruptive to the other students and teachers.

It is critically important for students to demonstrate punctuality at all times.

Key Dates

Tues 14th May	Māori Whānau Hui
Thurs 16th May	School finishes at 11.55am
Fri 17th May	Blood Day
Mon 20th May	Teacher Only Day
Thurs 23 May	Open Day 3.30-7pm
Mon 27th - Fri 31st May	Samoa Language Week
Wed 29th - Fri 31st May	Jazz Band Camp
Mon 3rd June	King’s Birthday - School Closed
Sat 8th June	MRGS School Ball
Wed 19th - Fri 21st June	Dance Showcase
Thurs 20th June	Mentoring 2



Literacy and Numeracy Co-requisite

In Week 5, senior students who don't have Level 1 Numeracy and/or Literacy, including Year 11's who did not pass one or more of the Literacy and Numeracy Co-requisite assessments in Year 10, will have the opportunity to sit the Literacy and Numeracy assessments.

There are three assessments that are offered - Numeracy, Reading, and Writing. Students will only sit the assessments that are relevant to them.

We are offering Literacy and Numeracy workshops in the lead up to these assessments to help students to prepare.

Numeracy workshop:

A10 on Thursdays at lunch

Literacy workshop:

H6 on Tuesdays afterschool



We have emailed students links to Google Classrooms where Education Perfect resources have been collated to support their preparation.

We encourage families to encourage their students to attend the workshops and complete the online tasks over the coming weeks.

Blood Day @ MRGS - Friday 17 May



Rutherford House is partnering with NZ Blood Service and organizing the annual student blood drive on May 17.

It is important that we encourage students into a lifetime habit of donating blood and making a worthwhile contribution to their community.

The Care of Children Act 2004 allows people 16 years and over to make their own decisions about whether or not they wish to give blood.

NZBS recommends that students discuss becoming a blood donor with their family. If families have a particular objection to the student choosing to donate blood, please make this known to the student and to the school before May 17. More information about the blood donation can be found [here](#).

NZBS respects the privacy of all donors and recommends conversations around blood donor eligibility is carried out sensitively. If you require any further information please call 0800 448 325 or visit nzblood.co.nz.

Sign up here by clicking [this link!](#)

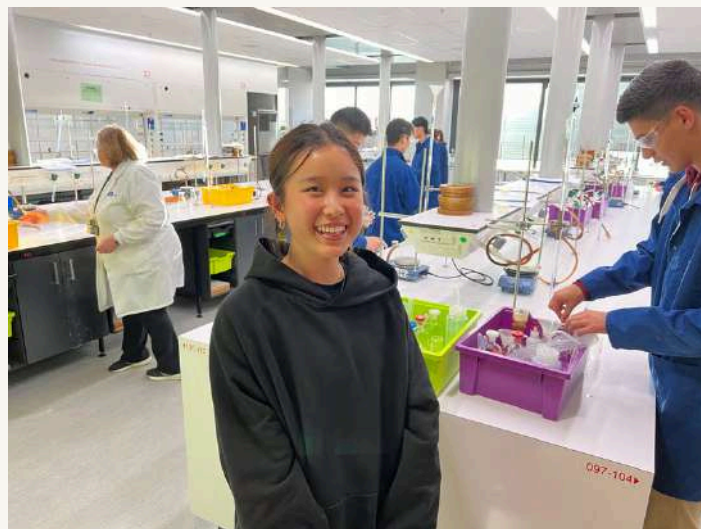
Parents are also welcome to come to the school and donate blood at this blood drive.

Chemistry Olympiad Camp

Joyce Wang attended the NZ training camp for the International Chemistry Olympiad during the Term 1 school holidays.

Throughout this camp, Joyce attended lectures and completed three separate 3 hour practicals. She also competed in the team selection exams which is a 3 hour theory and a 3 hour practical exam.

Joyce was able to make new connections while building her knowledge and skills in chemistry. We are very proud of her representing MRGS and herself in this field!



Anzac Day

“At the going down of the sun, and in the morning, we will remember them.”

On April 24th, MRGS student leaders and staff attended the Anzac Day Memorial Service at Mount Roskill War Memorial Hall.

Thank you to our Head Prefect and Deputy Head Prefect **Ansh Trivedi** and **Frances Damu** for laying down our wreath and **Dzidzor Nanedo** for a reading.



Shakespeare Globe Costume Competition Finalist

Congratulations to **Nicole Sue** who is a finalist at the Shakespeare Globe Costume Competition this year.

She created a stunning design for a Lady Macbeth costume. Her clever concept of a design for a very ‘swish’ Lady Macbeth, along with the comprehensive construction detailing, and apposite rationale, has impressed the judges very much.

Nicole will travel to Wellington next month to find out her placement in the competition and she will see her costume come to life as it will be made by professional costumiers.

We wish Nicole all the best of luck in Wellington!



Kiwi Dragon Cultural Scholarship

你好! 我叫 Sepi. 我是十三年级的学生.

Hello, my name is Maaiasepi Samuelu.

I am a prefect and in my final year at MRGS. During the Term 1 holiday, thanks to Lei Laoshi and the CNSST Foundation, I was a recipient of the Kiwi Dragon Cultural Scholarship, in which 14 students from different schools travelled to China. Since taking Chinese as a subject in Year 9, I dreamt of one day experiencing the rich culture for myself. This trip did exactly this and so much more.



We started off in Shanghai, and visited famous sights like the Shanghai Tower and took a ferry ride along Huangpu river where we got the chance to admire the city skyline.

Personally, I found the number of people the most shocking. Thousands of people everywhere we went, many riding bikes or scooters due to the strict traffic regulations. It was really interesting to see how such a largely populated city operated, coming from a smaller city like Auckland.

On the third day, we took a bullet train from Shanghai to Beijing, China's capital city. I was in constant awe at the scale of everything when we visited the Forbidden City and the Great Wall. In this trip, I had experienced so much of Chinese culture and made unforgettable memories.

I heavily encourage anyone at MRGS to pick up a new language as it allows you to communicate with more people and opens many doors of opportunities. This was one of my best experiences of school life.



Careers

In Term 2, Week 1, our students got to hear from the University of Waikato and Victoria University of Wellington.

This provided our young people the opportunity to learn about study pathways, subjects, degrees and the exciting careers they lead to.

More careers information can be found [here](#).

Here are some of our up and coming events for the month of May:

- *Auckland University – Engineering Information Evening: May 14th*
- *Girls in Hi Vis Event: May 16th*
- *University of Waikato Open Day: May 24th*
- *University of Otago and Otago Polytechnic Open Days: 26th - 27th May*
- *Media Design School Open Day: May 18th*

Year 13 Drama Production 'Ed Sheeran Tastes like Chicken'



Kumara harvesting

On May 2, rangatahi and mātātahi from campus gathered to harvest kumara and assess the results of the soil trial on kumara production.

Students in the project Te Kete Rukuruku a Whakaotirangi tested the effect of four different soil types on kumara production to see which soil was best for growing kumara.

Students will evaluate results and refine this for 2024 growing season when the pīpīwharau returns and to help guide mātauranga around horticulture this year.



A big thank you to **Matua David, Whaea Jackie** and **Mr. O'Reilly** for hosting this at the Mount Roskill Primary School. Also a big thank you to **Kahu, Harlem, Ethan, Payton, Marley** and **Pualani** our tuakana leaders who passionately worked on this project with whānau and tamariki from campus.

If any whānau wish to be involved in the project for 2024, please contact Matua David Syme - david.syme@mrgs.school.nz for more information.

Peer Mediation Training

Over 90 selected students were lucky enough to receive training from the Peace Foundation and volunteer mediators on May 7 & 8. These were two very intensive days, students work hard to learn about being effective communicators and the best way to deal with conflicts.

Our trained mediators put these skills to use within our school. When there are issues between friends, our students can ask for a peer mediation. These skilled and trained mediators then set up the right conditions for solutions to be found and for the students needs to be met in a healthy way.

I would like to thank all the students involved for their active participation over these two days and the Peace Foundation for their expertise and passion they share with our students.



A week at MRGS



Mr Singh and his advanced debaters planning for their next debate by researching famous debate examples to draw on.

A visit from Te Whatu Ora for our Year 9 immunisations.



Good luck to MRGS pupils who started competing in the Education Perfect Languages Championships from 7-14 May

MRGS staff supporting the Year 13 Drama production and showing off their best hand modelling.



Recruiting blood donors for the school's upcoming blood drive.

The Auckland University Vision Screening Team visited MRGS on May 1st to screen the vision of our Year 9 and MacLean Centre students in Butler Hall.





Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Winter Sport School Sock Requirements



Students who are in Football, Hockey and Rugby Teams are **required to wear MRGS Sports Socks** for all of their games. These can be purchased and picked up from the Accounts Office for \$15 a pair.

Mouthguards

Mouthguards are an essential piece of safety equipment for many winter sports.

All students who participate in the following sports must have a mouthguard and be wearing it in every game - Rugby, Basketball and Hockey.

Mouthguards can be purchased at external retail stores or through the school accounts office for \$8.00.



Volunteers Needed! Coaches, Managers & Officials

The MRGS Sports Department is always on the lookout for volunteers to support in coaching, managing and officiating sports throughout the year in all of our Sports Codes. If you are interested and available to support a sport, please contact the Director of Sport - emma.calcutt@mrgs.school.nz



[@mrgs.sport](https://www.instagram.com/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.

Sports Draw & Results

Please use the link below for the MRGS Sports Draw for Term 2. Please ensure you double-check the draw the day before a game or event as this document is updated regularly with any last-minute venue or time changes.

[MRGS Sports T2 - Weekly Sports Draw & Results](#)

Smooth start to Winter Sport Season

Our Boys Football and Boys and Girls Basketball Teams kicked off our winter season last weekend. The Boys Football Team played against Massey High School, drawing two all in their match.



Our Senior A Girls Basketball Team played against McAuley High School, with a close loss 40-42.

Our Premier Boys Basketball Team started their first season in the Premier Grade against Westlake Boys High School losing 95-80.

We wish all teams the best for their season!

A visit from the Harlem Globetrotters

On May 9th, we had two members of the Harlem Globetrotters - “Wham” Middleton and Joey “Hot Rod” De La Rosa visit our school to shoot some hoops with the MRGS Senior Basketball Team.

All this action was captured by Seven Sharp and reporter Michael Holland who were there for the filming of this media story.



Haisem Osman and **Wai Tonga** had the opportunity to interview the two Globetrotters and ask them questions about where their love of basketball came from and how they ended up travelling with one of the world’s greatest sports entertainment brands.

It was an unforgettable experience for the students and one they will be talking about for a long time.

To watch this media story that was aired on Seven Sharp, please click this [link](#).



Swimming Successes

During the recent school holidays, we had three swimmers competing at the NZ Age Group Competition held in Hastings.

All of them had outstanding performances and came away as National Champion in their Age Group for at least one event.

Nemanja Markovic - 15 Year Old Boys
1st 200m Breaststroke

Daniel Kregting - 16 Year Old Boys
1st 200m Butterfly

Ethan Stocks - 16 Year Old Boys
1st 800m Freestyle



SURSUM Magazines

If you or someone you know has missed out on their school year's magazine or simply would love another one, we have copies of the following past years magazine for sale:

2020, 2021, 2022, 2023

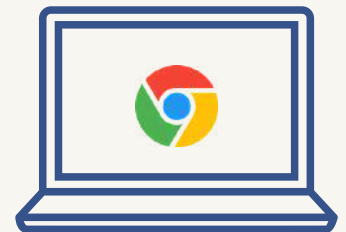
\$5 per copy

Please visit the accounts office if you are interested in purchasing one.

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.



Stay up to date with everything in the school



[@mountroskillgrammarschool](#)



[Mount Roskill Grammar School](#)





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DIGITAL FONO

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WARMLY INVITED
TO OUR SHARED
COMMUNITY
DIGITAL FONO**



**DIGITAL
DISCIPLINE**

**TO SUPPORT AND INSPIRE INDIVIDUALS
AND FAMILIES GRAPPLING WITH THE
CHALLENGES OF SOCIAL MEDIA AND
SCREEN TIME.**

**RAISING AWARENESS AND PROVIDING
TANGIBLE TOOLS TO EMPOWER INDIVIDUALS
AND FAMILIES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES
OF SOCIAL MEDIA ISSUES/ADDICTION**

with Tony Laulu

Digital Discipline Facilitator

<https://www.digitaldiscipline.co.nz>

**WEDNESDAY
29TH MAY
2024**

6:00-7:00 PM

Mt Roskill Intermediate School Hall
Access via Frost Road

FREE ENTRY