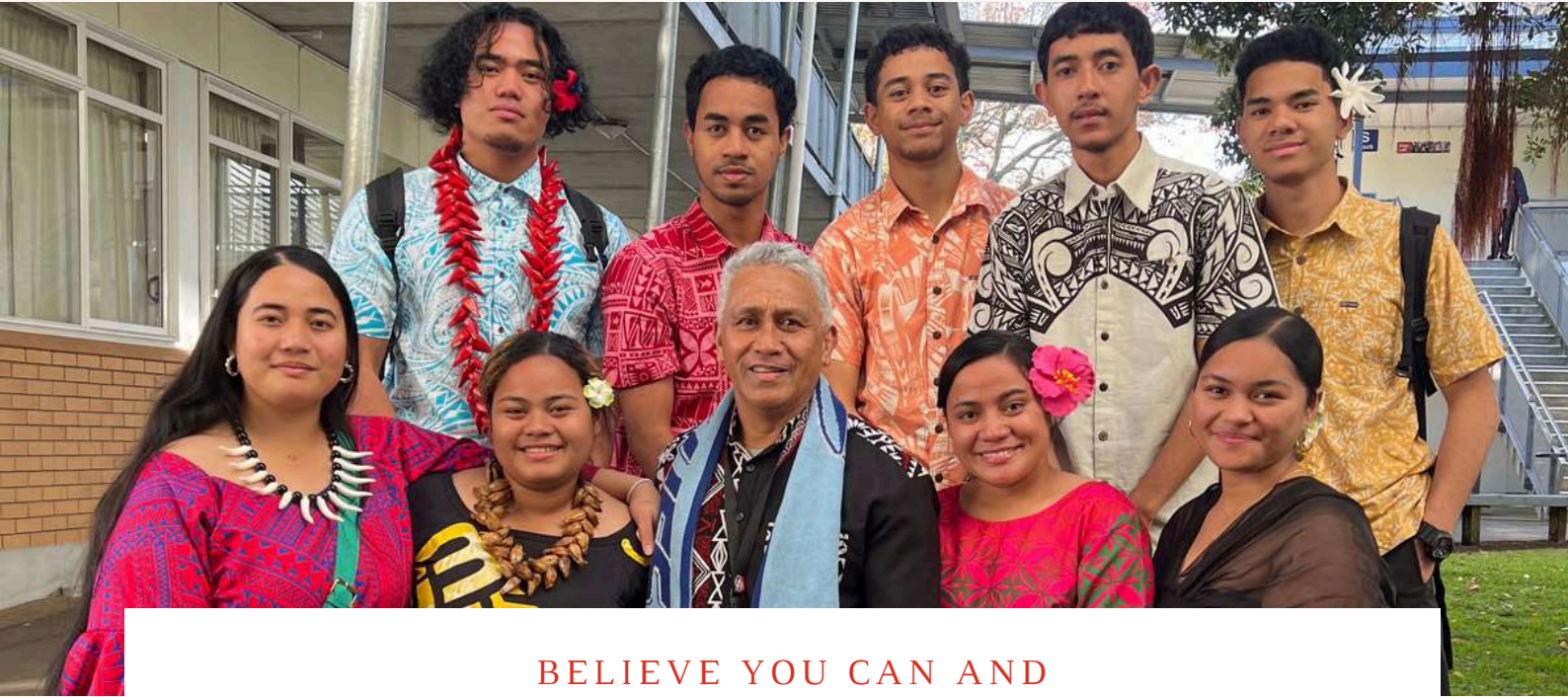




Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



BELIEVE YOU CAN AND

You're halfway there



Mid-Year Victories

Let's toast to all the triumphs MRGS students have conquered in the first half of the year.



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou

We celebrated Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa - Samoa Language Week last week. The theme this year was 'Tautua i le alofa, manuia le lumana'i – Serve in love for a blessed future' and it was a privilege to join with our students and staff in celebrating their language, culture and identity.

School life continues to be busy as we move into the second half of Term 2. This is an important time for our senior students as many internal assessments take place this time of the year.

Please talk with your child about where they are up to in each of their subjects to make sure they are on track. We have a number of homework centres that can provide extra help if needed. This information can be found [here](#).

I would also like to remind senior students and whānau about our next round of mentoring meetings which take place on **Thursday 20th of June**. Emails were sent to all parents and caregivers this week with the booking details.

This is another opportunity to have an in-depth conversation about each student's progress so far this year and to talk about the important assessments that are coming up. I encourage all parents and students to attend.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb
Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora koutou

It was wonderful to see Samoan Language Week celebrated with such enthusiasm by students and staff. It feels each year that these celebrations grow.

Achievements these last two weeks also included a win for MRGS in the Puketāpapa Debating Cup and a placing for Nicole Sue in the Shakespeare's Globe Costume Competition.

There was also sporting success for two of our swimmers, who were chosen for the 2024 Tri Series squad, and five MRGS students who were chosen for the Auckland Hockey Under 18s.

Our students continue to excel on the national stage. We were very proud to see alumni Noma Talakia'atu celebrated as the Top Dance Scholar in New Zealand.

Our Term 2 mentoring conference is coming up. These meetings are an excellent opportunity for tairua, kaiako and whānau to reflect on progress and to celebrate the goals that have already been reached. Working together is the path to success.

Ngā mihi mahana

Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board



Mentoring Session 2 - 20th June

Our next round of senior mentoring will take place on Thursday 20th June from 8.30am - 7pm.
Juniors will not come to school on this day.

Our expectation is that all senior students will meet with their mentors in person here at school, and our hope is that parents will join them.

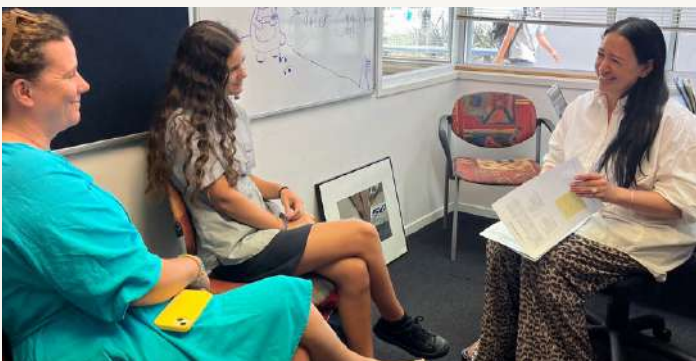
The discussions will focus on subject options, the progress that has been made towards their goals, assessments, and planning for the future.

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

Go to www.schoolinterviews.co.nz

1. Enter the code: **28uk2**
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 the student's name, ID number and mentor's name ready.



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’ bags.

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 needs to get a hold of their child during school time, please contact the administration team at 09 621 0050 (ext 0).

Away for the day



While on school grounds, **phones must be in our bags, on silent**, unless directed to be used for learning by the teacher.

Attendance

Our current attendance percentage is **81.8%**.

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	
Wed 12th June	MEAR Parents Talk 6.30pm, Year 13 Commons
Wed 19th - Fri 21st June	Dance Showcase
Thurs 20th June	Mentoring 2 - Juniors stay home
Thurs 27th - Fri 28th June	Strings Orchestra Camp
Fri 28th June	Matariki - School Closed
Thurs 4th July	MRGS Careers Expo
Fri 5th July	End of Term 2

Early pick up

If you are needing to pick up your child before the end of the school day (eg. for an appointment), please notify the admin team ahead of time by emailing attendance@mrgs.school.nz or phoning 09 621 0050 (ext 786).



Top Scholar in New Zealand for Dance



We are thrilled to announce that **Noma Talakia'atu** (pictured above on the left of the third row) has been recognised as the Top Scholar in New Zealand for Dance.

This prestigious honor was celebrated at the NZQA Top Scholar Awards ceremony held at Parliament on 8th of May. Noma, alongside her parents Amelia and Sione and her dance teacher Miss Thompson, travelled to Wellington last month for the occasion.

The event recognised the highest-achieving New Zealand Scholarship students.



It also highlights the elite scholars who earned the Top Subject Scholarship Award.

Noma's dedication and passion for Dance has truly paid off, and we are incredibly proud of her accomplishment. This award is a testament to her hard work, creativity, and exceptional talent. Congratulations Noma!

Noma's award-winning choreography will be performed at Rūpeke – Dance Showcase on the 19th and 21st of June in our School Hall.

Taiko Experience

On June 4, the Y9 Language classes attended a traditional Japanese taiko drumming session with the Haere Mai Taiko drumming group.

The performance was very captivating and loud, causing the whole gym to shake. It was amazing fun to watch. They proceeded to call upon 12 students who wanted to try the drums, and I was one of them!

We learned a simple beat and how to keep in rhythm with each other. It was a spectacular experience I thoroughly enjoyed.

Thank you to Asia New Zealand for giving us funding to have a drumming session and Kojima Sensei for organizing this event.

Written by Mahmoud El-Saddik (Y9)



Samoan Language Week



MEAR Parents Talk - June 12th

MEAR Parents talk, Wednesday 12th of June, 6.30pm in the Year 13 Commons.

The Ministry of Education's Community Partnerships group, in association with MRGS, will be hosting the first in a series of talks for our MEAR community. This is for any parent within our MRGS community and will be of particular interest to those parents from our Middle Eastern and African communities, as well as those parents who have a Refugee background.

This Wednesday's talk is focused on conflict de-escalation strategies and techniques for young people. The talk will focus on ways that young people can cope with challenging social situations in ways that enhance mana and support them to make good decisions.

There will be staff on hand to help guide you to the event location, and light refreshments will be provided.

We hope to see you there!



Puketāpapa Cup

On June 1st, our Premier Debating teams debated against Lynfield College in the Inaugural Puketāpapa Cup Championships.

Our Premier Junior Team who consists of **Aanya Shukla** (right), **Natalia Sanchez** (left) and **Rijul Angurala** (middle) won this competition!

Congratulations to these three amazing individuals and we look forward to seeing many more of their victories in the near future.

Celebrating MRGS' Mediators

Thank you to Mr Webb for presenting the certificates to all our newly trained mediators and advanced mediators. A great celebration of our rangitahi who value restoring peace in our school in a mana enhancing way.

Mediation is available to any students who would like to deal with a conflict they are having in a respectful and peaceful manner. Any enquiries regarding this can be made at Student Services.



Jazz Band Camp



MRGS PERFORMING ARTS

Shakespeare's Globe Costume Competition

On Saturday 1st of June, **Nicole Sue** travelled down to Wellington to represent MRGS at the annual National Shakespeare's Globe competition.

Her Lady Macbeth design was selected as third equal amongst hundreds of other costume designs submitted and her design was constructed by professional costumiers (pictured on right).

It was amazing to see Nicole on stage collecting her cash prize and to see her being recognised for the beautiful concept she came up with.

Nicole is now working on a costume construction project for Showquest in Week 7 which could lead to the World of Wearable Arts in Wellington – we are crossing our fingers for you Nicole! Congrats!



Matariki for Tamariki



It was awesome having the NZ Dance Company visit to perform 'Matariki for Tamariki' for our Year 9, 10, Te Reo and Performing Arts students. **'Isope 'Akau'ola** - an ex MRGS student performed beautifully and made us very proud.

(The show) "brings to life a group of friends who journey throughout Aotearoa during the Matariki season. This band of players discovers the landscape of lush ngahere (forests), mighty maunga (mountains), and majestic moana (oceans), while encountering flora and fauna through the seasonal change.

Along the way, the wairua (spirit) of each of the nine whetū (stars) of Matariki also inhabit the performers, who through their adventures use the power and meaning of karakia (prayer), waiata (song) and whakapapa (lineage) to reflect and plant the seeds of new beginnings generating fun and hope for the future ahead."



MRGS PERFORMING ARTS - ALUMNI NEWS

Lijah Mavaega (Alumni 2021) & Tristin Katoa (Alumni 2019)

Lijah Mavaega and Tristin Katoa work at No.3 Roskill Theatre in their new performance space at 1234 Dominion Road.

'Te Ao Hou' is a devised physical theatre production brought to life by a collective of emerging artists, co-directed by Margaret-Mary Hollins and Hone Taukiri. New worlds big and small ignite through a fusion of movement and emotion. Boundaries of past and future are challenged. Te Ao Hou' dares to imagine a world without boundaries and poses the question of who we could be, if we free our imagination.



Tickets for this performance can be purchased [here](#).



Reon Bell (Alumni 2018)

Reon Bell trained at Toi Whakaari National Drama School in Wellington. Reon won the 2022 Wellington Theatre Award for Most Promising Newcomer.

As part of the Matariki season, TUAKIRITEA is a new collaboration from Pōneke based artists Huia Max and Reon Bell. It is a compilation of scenes, experiences, waiata, poems, ideas and kōrero that all come together to form a complete piece of theatre that discusses and deconstructs what it means to be Māori in modern day Aotearoa.

Tickets for this performance can be purchased [here](#).

Shreya Walthati (Class of 2023)

Shreya Walthati has been accepted into the Indian Ink Next Gen Programme, she is the youngest of the cohort – working with older artists most of whom have already graduated from university in Drama programmes.

We can't wait to see the mahi Shreya and the Next Gen team get up to! Keep up to date with this [here](#).



Senior French Dinner



On 27th of May, the senior French students visited La Garde Manger, a French restaurant on Queen Street. Some of the dishes that we enjoyed included French onion soup, escargot, beef bourguignon and a delicious creme brûlée.

Along with the food, we also received prizes that included various souvenirs and trinkets such as Eiffel Tower keychains and the Little Prince merchandise.



The restaurant had amazing food which gave us a taste of French cuisine, and it also harboured a very warm and cozy atmosphere that we enjoyed very much!

Merci Beaucoup to Whaea Lee, Miss Robertson and Mr McAlpine for providing transport and organising the evening.

Written by Megan Marinich

Year 10 French Crêpe Day

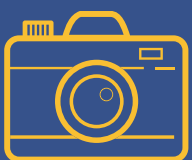
Last week, the Year 10 French students had an incredible crêpe (French Pancake) experience.

Students chose from a range of toppings to add to their crêpe including nutella, banana, cream, lemon, honey, sugar, strawberry & apricot jam. Lemon and sugar was a true classic. We also spoke about what we ate in French. Bon appétit!



« J'ai pris une crêpe au sucre et au citron. Au miel aussi. C'était classique et bon. Après ça, mon ami et moi avons pris une crêpe au nutella, à la crème et à la banane. On a pris trois crêpes. Les crêpes sont délicieuses. J'adore les crêpes. »

Written by Shahana Kulathungar



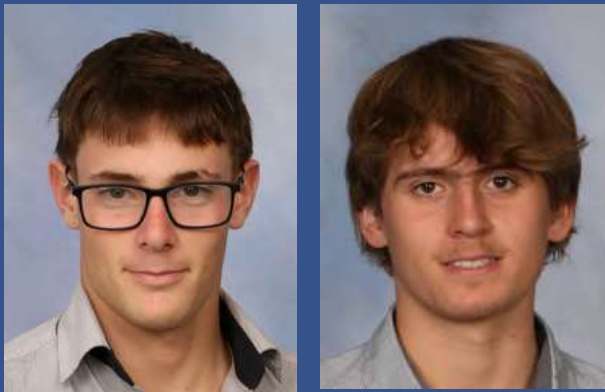
Photolife School Photos

School photos have arrived. If you have purchased a school photo from Photolife, please pick them up from the main reception.



Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Swimming Success

We are delighted to announce that **Nemanja Markovich** (left) and **Ethan Stocks** (right) were selected as two of the 39 swimmers of the 2024 Tri Series squad. The competition will be held in Hamilton in October.

The Tri Series is an event that has been specifically designed to introduce young NZ swimmers to the demands of performance racing in an international environment. This event has been developed as a great opportunity for athletes to develop and race for their team against Australian states.

This is a great opportunity for Nemanja and Ethan to learn about themselves as well as having a great time in a very fast-paced team environment. Well done to our two MRGS students!

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](#)

Hockey Success



The MRGS Boys first team are on track for a great season, remaining unbeaten after 7 games. Last Wednesday, the team overcame MAGS 3-2 in a tense encounter played in atrocious weather conditions.

The team has a bye this week but continues on with the Auckland Competition before heading into the Super City Event in the next couple of weeks. Thank you to all the parents for the loyal and positive support!

A number of senior boys and girls have been selected for Auckland Under 18s Hockey Team and will travel to Hawkes Bay in July to play.

- Hamish Thomson
- Finn Orsbourn
- Markko Kennedy
- Anna Watkinson
- Enkhuul Maibayar

A huge congratulations to all!



Junior Girls Football

Our junior girls footballers showed true team spirit this week, and have demonstrated huge improvement since the beginning of the season.

They came back from 1-0 down against St Mary's to finish with a 2-2 draw.

Well done to all involved!

Stay up to date with everything in the school



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



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





MOUNT ROSKILL GRAMMAR SCHOOL PRESENTS



Careers Expo 2024

Come along and find out more about career pathways, courses and what the tertiary providers can offer you!

Date

Thursday 4th of July

Time

12:30pm - 4:00pm

Location

MRGS Hall



- Learn about tertiary study
- Discover new career pathways
- Connect with industry leaders!

For more info please contact
careersdepartment@mrgs.school.nz

