



Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



THE WORLD'S BEAUTY LIES IN THE
Diversity of our people



A Tapestry of Cultures

Celebrating the rich variety of cultures in the
Roskill whānau.



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou

MRGS has been a vibrant and colourful place as we finished our celebrations of Cultural Week with our Cultural Dress Day.

As one of the most diverse schools in New Zealand, we value the culture that each of our students brings to school each day. Last week was an opportunity to celebrate that diversity of cultures within our school.

The week started with dance performances in our assemblies on Monday and Tuesday. We had cultural activities and food stalls happening at lunchtimes during the week.

We want all students to feel a sense of belonging when they attend school and a sense of pride in their language, culture and identity.

I want to thank our prefects for taking the initiative and planning this week. They have led from the front, demonstrated the pride and passion they have in our school and students.

To add to the diversity in school this week, we also welcomed students and teachers from Waseda Setsuryo High School in Osaka, Japan as part of our Japanese exchange. Our students will be travelling to Japan later in Term 3 for the second part of the exchange.

Friday was the final day for students to choose options for 2025. Please have conversations at home to ensure that the right options have been chosen and that they lead onto the right pathway for each student.

Students can see Ms Wilson in Careers if they want individual advice.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb
Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora koutou

It is wonderful to see such a lively and busy start to the term.

Our taura showed genuine pride during Cultural Week. Thanks to our wonderful prefect team for leading the way.

Our taura have engaged in rich conversations when deciding their next steps in their learning journey and have taken their option choices seriously for 2025.

The decisions now pave the way for so many options in the future beyond our kura.

Sincere thanks to our kaiako and whānau who support our co-curricular activities.

I wish you all well for the remainder of the season as you "seek the heights" with manaakitanga.

Adding to our school culture we are privileged to be hosting a number of taura from overseas and I would like to thank Wendy Reid, our International Director, and her team for their mahi in creating these connections.

The local, national and international connections created at MRGS are life-long and add to the fabric of our kura.

Ngā mihi mahana

Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board



Pōwhiri for Waseda Setsuryo High School

On July 29th, 15 students and two teachers from Waseda Setsuryo High School, Osaka, Japan arrived at MRGS for an exchange programme. We welcomed them at a pōwhiri.

During this time, the exchange students were welcomed into school through a waiata and in return they sang *Sekai Ni Hitotsu Dake No Hana* meaning "The only flower in the world". We finished the pōwhiri with the hongī.

After the karakia for kai, we ate a variety of food. The assembly the next day provided an opportunity for the Japanese students to be introduced to the MRGS community.

This exchange was a week of cultural immersion and learning, as students from both schools engaged in various activities and shared their respective traditions.

Written by William Singh



University Scholarships

Here are some of the scholarships available at the main universities in Auckland:

University of Auckland Academic Potential Scholarship - School Leavers

Value: Up to \$25,000

Closing Date: **21 August 2024**

University of Auckland Māori Academic Excellence Scholarship

Value: Up to \$25,000

Closing Date: **21 August 2024**

University of Auckland Pacific Academic Excellence Scholarship

Value: Up to \$25,000

Closing Date: **21 August 2024**

2025 AUT Welcome to Auckland Scholarships

Closing Date: **1 September 2024**

2025 AUT Find Your Greatness Scholarships

Closing Date: **1 September 2024**

Massey University Andrew Turnbull Scholarship

Closing Date: **10 September 2024**

Fonterra Pacific Undergraduate Scholarship

Closing Date: **1 September 2024**

Tertiary Open Days

Open days are valuable for exploring university campuses, meeting faculty, and understanding course offerings. Here are the upcoming open days to keep in mind:

The University of Auckland Open Day:

Saturday 24 August at City campus.

AUT Open Day:

Saturday 24 August at AUT City Campus.

Unitec Open Day :

Saturday 31 August at Unitec Mt Albert Campus

MIT Open Day:

Saturday 14 September at MIT Manukau Campus

Schoolbridge App



From Term 3, we are introducing a new app for our community to use.

Schoolbridge allows parents, caregivers and students to access important information about MRGS.

Schoolbridge features will include:

- Updating attendance
- Viewing upcoming events and trips
- Accessing newsletters
- Visiting the school website

For more information regarding Schoolbridge and how to use it, please click this [link](#).

If you are interested in downloading the app onto your device, please click this [link](#).

Phone use

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.

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

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).

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 attendance officer ahead of time by emailing attendance@mrgs.school.nz or phoning **09 621 0069** before 9.30am.

Attendance

Our current attendance percentage is **80%**.

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 four 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

Mon 5th - Fri 9th August	Peace Week
Fri 9th August	Drama Showcase
Mon 12th - Fri 16th August	KBB Music Festival
Mon 12th August - Fri 20th Sept	Mobile Dental Unit on site
Thurs 15th August	Year 9 Immunizations
Thurs 22nd August	Cross-Campus Concert
Fri 23rd August	Mid-term Break - School Closed
Tues 27th August	Roskill’s Got Talent
Mon 2nd - Fri 6th September	Winter Tournament Week
Mon 9th - 20th September	Senior Exams

Cultural Attire Day



Cultural Attire Day



Cultural Runway Show



Cultural Week - Activities & Food Stalls



Year 9 Speech Finals

Our Year 9 Speech Competition champion for 2024 is **Lesieli Mapili** (pictured middle on the right), who stole the show with their amazing speech on 'Why you should explore your culture'.

The finals held on Wednesday 31 July were a battle of words between our six incredible finalists. **Skylah Kyle** and **Ben Epream** were neck-and-neck for the runner-up spot, and we can't forget the other talented speakers: **Tatum Tutunoa**, **Kayur Nathoo**, and **Renaë Kumar**. Your speeches were mind-blowing!



This year's competition started with every Year 9 student writing and presenting a speech as part of their English class. The best of the best from each class competed in a semi final round, before the top six were selected for the grand finale.

Congratulations to all who participated!

A massive thanks to our fabulous MCs of the final, **Natalia Sanchez** and **Aanya Shulka**, and to **Indie Magasiva**, **Gabe Familara**, and **Hayden Carpendale** for rocking the stage with their music.

Also, we couldn't have done it without our amazing judges, Mr Webb (Principal) and Mrs Flemming (Deputy Principal of Mount Roskill Intermediate), and the mastermind behind it all, Ms Kelly.

Chess Power Regional Finals

AGC Sunderland, One Tree Hill College and old rivals Mt Albert Grammar challenged us on Friday 2 August, in the Chess Power regional finals for a spot in the national finals.

Going into the 7th and final round, all the teams were within a single point of one another. Decisive wins from up and coming talent like **Dev Kumar** and **Alec Cruz** –who both finished with 4.5 points– along with performances from our seasoned veterans **Pranav Shenoy** and **Sourav Dhungel** both with 5 points allowed us to clinch the 1st place spot by 1 point.

Now to the finals in Wellington where we will have the chance to earn the title of national champions!

Written by Chess Captain - Sourav Dhungel





Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Hockey Success

During the first week of the holidays, four MRGS students competed in the Vantage U18's National Hockey Tournament.

Finn Orsbourn (pictured above) travelled to Napier and played in the Auckland Men's U18 Blue Team. The team won the final against Canterbury 3-1, making them national champions. Congratulations Finn!

Hamish Thomson also travelled to Napier as part of the Auckland Men's U18 White Team, which placed 18 overall.

Anna Watkinson and **Enkhuul Maibayar** played in the Auckland Women's U18 White Team in Christchurch. They enjoyed the opportunity to gain more professional hockey experience and to meet new players.

Congratulations to all four players, what an awesome experience!

Sports Regional And National Representation

We want to hear about your regional or national sports representation.

Please email Emma Calcutt emma.calcutt@mrgs.school.nz with a photo and let us know of any achievements so that we can celebrate your success!



[@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 3. 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 T3 - Weekly Sports Draw & Results](#)

NZ Secondary Schools Swimming Championships 2024

A team of six swimmers took to the pool at the National Aquatic Centre in Albany for four days from 25 to 28 July.

There were 680 swimmers from just over 150 schools competing. The combined efforts of all six members of the team saw us finish 28th school overall.

There were some outstanding swims resulting in six medals in total - three gold medals, one silver medal and two bronze medals. A particular congratulations to **Daniel Kregting**, **Ethan Stocks** and **Nemanja Markovic** for bringing those medals home.

Success Gold Medals

- **Daniel Kregting** 100 and 200m Butterfly (16 Year Old Males)
- **Ethan Stocks** 200m backstroke (16 Year Old Males)

Silver Medal

- **Daniel Kregting** 200m Freestyle (16 Year Old Males)

Bronze Medals

- **Daniel Kregting** 400m Freestyle (16 Year Old Males)
- **Nemanja Markovic** 200m Individual Medley (16 Year Old Males)



NZ Secondary Schools Swimming Championships 2024

Full Results

Daniel Kregting 16 Year Old Males

- 1st 100m Butterfly
- 1st 200m Butterfly
- 2nd 200m Freestyle
- 3rd 400m Freestyle
- 4th 100m Backstroke
- 4th 200m Individual Medley
- 8th 200m Backstroke
- 8th 200m Individual Medley
- 11th 100m Backstroke
- 13th 50m Freestyle

Nemanja Markovic 16 Year Old Males

- 3rd 200m Individual Medley
- 6th 100m Breaststroke
- 7th 100m Butterfly
- 7th 200m Freestyle
- 8th 50m Breaststroke
- 8th 400m Freestyle
- 10th 50m Freestyle
- 14th 50m Butterfly
- 16th 100m Freestyle

Ethan Stocks 16 Year Old Males

- 1st 200m Backstroke
- 10th 50m Backstroke
- 18th 200m Freestyle
- 23rd 50m Freestyle

Jinitha Hewa 17 & 18-Year-Old Males

- 30th 50m Breaststroke
- 33rd 50m Backstroke
- 45th 50m Freestyle
- 46th 50m Butterfly

Dana Lukmanova 13 Year Old Girls

- 33rd 50m Backstroke
- 36th 50m Breaststroke
- 37th 50m Butterfly
- 41st 50m Freestyle

Duyen Tran 15 Year Old Girls

- 27th 50m Breaststroke
- 50th 50m Freestyle

Curling Success



MRGS students **Christina Xu** and **Micky Ng** competed in Curling New Zealand's Women's National Championships in Naseby over the school holidays.

The players were down south for a week and the winners of the competition were selected for New Zealand's Curling Teams who compete overseas.

Christina said the best part of the championships were playing with and against Olympians.

Awesome mahi Christina and Micky!

Stay up to date with everything in the school



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