



Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



AS THE PACE SLOWS,
Growth quietly reveals itself



As we approach the end of the school year, we look back to celebrate the achievements of our amazing staff and students.



From our Principal

Junior exams have been taking place in school last week and it was pleasing to see how seriously students were taking them.

As well as a record of their learning through the year, these exams are a good opportunity to get exam practice for NCEA in the years to come.

NCEA external exams also continue to go well for our senior students. The final NCEA exam is on Friday, November 29 and I wish all of you the best as you approach your final exams.

As we come to the last few weeks of the school year, we look forward to some exciting activities with our junior students.

On Monday, December 9 and Tuesday, December 10, we will hold our annual Wider Education days for Year 9 and 10 students.

This is an opportunity to take learning outside the classroom and end the year with some different activities. Please ensure that you have returned your permission slip so you can get on the activity of your choice.

Our last day of the term is Wednesday December 11. This is also the day of our Junior Prizegiving where we acknowledge the successes of our Year 9 and 10 students this year.

I hope to see many of you there to celebrate our students.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb

Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia ora koutou

Although we are nearing the end of the year, it is exciting that there are still so many celebrations occurring recognizing our taura.

It was a privilege to attend the MacLean Centre prize giving on Friday, November 22.

I would like to congratulate taura for their commitment to our school values.

I would also like to acknowledge the kaiako of the MacLean Centre for their unfailing support and high expectations of our taura.

I look forward to our next celebration at Junior prizegiving on Wednesday, November 11.

Ngā mihi mahana

Marjet Pot
Presiding Member
School Board



Chromebook Returns



This year we have loaned over 300 Chromebooks to students to support their learning.

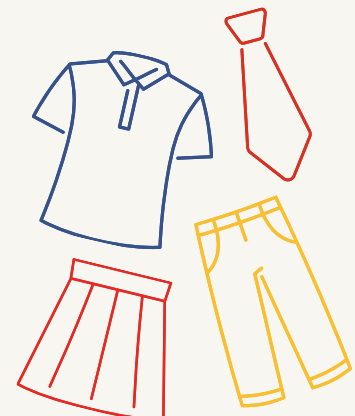
All Chromebooks and chargers must be returned by Friday, November 29. Chromebooks can be returned by students to B6, or by caregivers to our administration office.

If for any reason you are unable to return the Chromebook by November 29, please email chris.dunn@mrgs.school.nz

Donating Old Uniform

As the year ends, we're inviting Year 13s, leavers, and juniors becoming seniors to donate their old school uniforms. Your contribution helps families in need and promotes sustainability.

Please donate school blazers, junior and senior shirts, skirts, shorts, trousers, ties, scarves and PE uniforms that are in good condition to the office.



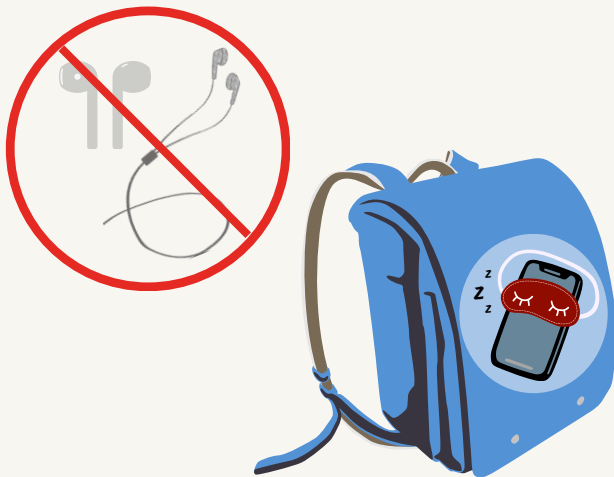
Phones & Earphones

As we have moved through this term, we have noticed an increase in the visibility of phones and ear phones during break times.

It is a requirement that phones and earphones are “away for the day”, once students are onsite and are not to be visible.

If students are seen with their phones or earphones out during break times, they are being reminded to put away. Some students who are continuously having these items visible will be having them confiscated and returned at the end of the school day.

Please support us at home by having a conversation with your child about keeping their phones away for the duration of the school day.



Studylink

It's important to apply before **16 December** to leave enough time to get all information sorted before you start studying.

Remember, if you're in your last year of school and thinking about applying, you don't need to wait for your NCEA results or for your study to be confirmed.

Click [**this link**](#) to apply now.

Attendance

Our current attendance percentage for juniors is:

Year 9: 83.6%

Year 10: 85.7%

These are great percentage rates from our Junior students!

We have just over two weeks left of the school year, keep up the great attendance right until our last day.

Key Dates

Tues 5th - Fri 29th November	NZQA Exams
Thurs 28th November	School finishes at 12.30pm Y13 Graduation Dinner
Thurs 5th December	Amazing Race
Fri 6th December	School finishes at 12.05pm Last day for school canteen
Mon 9th - 10th December	Wider Ed Activites
Wed 11th December	Junior Prizegiving 9.30am Final Junior Reports sent to caregivers End of 2024 School Year
Wed 22nd January 2025	School Office open to public
Thurs 30th January 2025	Pōwhiri for Year 9s & all new students
Mon 3rd February 2025	First day for all students

MacLean Centre Prizegiving



Maara kumara Te Kete Rukuruku o Whakaotirangi

On Tuesday we relaunched Te Kete Rukuruku o Whakaotirangi kaupapa which focuses on blending Mātauranga Māori alongside STEM learning. This is our second year and there was lots of excitement to begin another year of planting.

We were lucky to have further support from Prof Nick Roskrige (Professor in Ethnobotany) and Mātua Sai who have been doing extensive mahi in this area and on climate change.

Tauira from all three campus schools met in Te Puawaitanga o te Mātauranga to hear kōrero about the importance of kūmara not only as a source of food but it's important connection to whakapapa and navigation of the Pacific.

We planted four maara (gardens) at MRPS, each with various soils to fair test which variable will have the greatest harvest.

We were also shown by Prof Nick how to build our own tāpapa to grow the kūmara tipu (plants) ensuring we are able to play our part in protecting and sharing old variations of kūmara.



A huge mihi to Mr Syme and Whaea Jackie for their leadership and encouragement of the kaupapa, Ying from Curious Minds who helped our initial kaupapa begin, our tumuaki Mr Webb, Mrs Walsham and Mr O'Reilly for their ongoing support, and kaiako who organised students to take part.

MRGS Staff News



Lorraine Vickery (pictured in red in the middle) is our Assistant HOD in the MacLean Centre. She is also our longest serving staff member.

We would like to congratulate her on her decades of success in NZ Hockey. She has played over 50 games for New Zealand! After 53 years playing hockey, she has been acknowledged for her service to Hockey New Zealand, Auckland Hockey and Masters Women Hockey Club.

It is great to celebrate the success of our kaiako.



MRGS Art in the Beehive



Congratulations to Year 13 student - **Lucian Reedy** whose artwork (above) was chosen from the Mt Roskill Art Showcase to be displayed in the Beehive's West foyer, an exciting and prominent display area in Parliament.

Alumni News

Laura Shepperson is an MRGS Alumni and the author of the Sunday Times bestseller book - 'The Heroines', inspired by myths and myth retellings.

Laura's parents (bottom right) visited MRGS to present our library with the latest copy of her new book - 'The Heir of Venus'. This gift was accepted by Mrs Cunningham, our school librarian.

In this book, Laura highlights that the passion that led to this book was instilled by MRGS English teacher, Ms Heath and she dedicates the book to our school body. Congratulations Laura!

If any students are interested in reading these books, they can find them in our Learning Hub.





Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Netball Musters for 2025

Are you interested in playing Netball next year?

We are hosting musters for this sport on:

- Thursday, November 28 on the outside courts by Gate 4.

Everyone is welcome to attend!

If you have any questions, please email sportsdepartment@mrgrs.school.nz

Sports Coaches and Managers 2025

We are looking for coaches and managers for 2025 to support our students to ensure our students experience all of the benefits of sport.



If you can help in any way, please contact Director of Sport Emma Calcutt - emma.calcutt@mrgrs.school.nz

Girls' basketball, netball, boys' and girls' football, cross country, fitness/strength and conditioning are some of the areas that we really need some support with.

Junior Summer Football Festival - December 4th



After a fantastic first summer football festival for juniors, we are looking forward to our next opportunity on Wednesday, December 4th after school.

All juniors are welcome.

Draws & Results

[MRGS Sports T4 - Weekly Sports Draw & Results](#)

1st X1 Cricket Success



Congratulations to our 1st X1 cricket team who had a resounding victory over Lynfield at home on Saturday, November 16. Losing just one wicket, our boys were a credit to the school, with their sporting behaviour and outstanding cricket.

We farewelled Year 13 - **Ankur Singh** who played his last game for Mount Roskill on Saturday.

Volleyball Junior Championships



Congratulations to our junior volleyballers who took part in the Auckland Championships.

Lawn Bowls Junior Competition



On November 12, 10 junior students participated in Bowls Auckland's Junior Pairs Competition. From the sizzling BBQ to the cheers from teammates, it was a fantastic introduction to bowls for our junior students and the teams had a blast. Congratulations to **George Maplesden** and **Israel Young** who finished unbeaten in their pool.



Junior Girls Futsal



Our Junior Girls Futsal team has shown incredible growth this season, not only improving their skills but also building a strong team connection on and off the court.

Their hard work and determination paid off in their most recent game, securing a 3-1 win against Diocesan.



Clearing out lockers

Senior student lockers must be empty now.

Junior student lockers must be emptied by Tuesday, December 3.

All locker contents will be donated or discarded if not picked up before the December 9.

Stationery List

Mount Roskill Grammar School Stationery Lists are available now.

If you wish to purchase from OfficeMax and take advantage of their free shipping with orders over \$70 including GST, please click this [link](#).

All stationery list for all year levels can also be found on our MRGS website [here](#).

OfficeMax
MySCHOOL

Got five minutes?

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.

myschool.co.nz 0800 724 440

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