



Mount Roskill Grammar School
NEWSLETTER



GROWTH STARTS WITH
A seed of knowledge



A Special Visit

Aotearoa filmmakers Miki Magasiva and Ana Miskell shared their experience of filming *Tinā* with our students.



From our Principal

Kia ora koutou,

On Thursday 13 March we had our first mentoring session of the year. Mentoring is an important component of our support for our seniors students and reflects the value we place on building relationships with our families.

The mentoring programme aligns with our school goals of “Clear pathways to success” and “Partnerships for learning”.

During these sessions mentors, students and families work together to set and monitor student goals for academic achievement, attendance and co-curricular activities.

They also continue our focus on increasing “student agency” where the students take ownership of their goals and learning. Our next mentoring sessions will take place in Term 2 on Tuesday 10 June.

Our summer sports teams continue to go well with archery, bowls, cricket, volleyball and waterpolo all taking place this term. Our volleyball teams have been competing in the Auckland Championships this week.

We have a few important games for our winter sports codes coming up. Our Boys and Girls Basketball teams are both playing for promotion/relegation at home on Thursday 20 March in Gym 3 starting at 5pm.

Our Boys Hockey team are playing in their promotion/relegation game on Monday 31 March at 5pm at Kristin College. Good luck to the teams for those important games.

Ngā manaakitanga

Tom Webb
Tumuaki | Principal



A Message from the School Board

Kia Ora & Talofa Lava,

Let me introduce myself and share with you my cultural taonga / measina about my whakapapa / genealogy of my si'omaga / places of belonging.

Let me start with birth and legal name. My first name is Leatua, my middle name is Larry, and my surname is Tupa'i-Lavea. Tupa'i-Lavea my fathers and mothers' genealogy roots through family titles, of which their father's held – Tupa'i Logovii from the village of Niusuatia, Upolu and Lavea Feterika from the village of Safotu, Savaii.

I am very blessed and very fortunate to hold church and community roles. As an ordained clergy I am an Archdeacon of the Anglican Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand, and Polynesia. I am referred to as The Venerable Reverend Father Leatua Larry Tupa'i-Lavea.

As a Samoan Aotearoa New Zealander, I hold several paramount chief titles that connect me to my genealogical roots, my whakapapa, my si'omaga and places of belonging and identity! I am Toleafoa from the village of Faiaai, Savaii & the village of Faasitoo, Upolu). I am Tuilimu from the Village of Niusuatia, Upolu). I am Tuala from the village of Leauvaa, Upolu. I am Lotumali'i from the Village of Paia, Savaii.

As a community leader I am the Ambassador for the Children's Rights of Samoa / Le To'omaga Mo e Puapuagatia, chair the Pola Puipui Inc Society NZ, Secretary for the Mafutaga So'ofa'atasi O Faifeau I Aukilani / Incorporated Society of Church Ministers in Auckland, Secretary for Samoan Caucus of the Pacific Leadership Forum amongst other roles, and also a business owner with my wife Helen of a company employing around 100 staff in central South Auckland.

It is my privilege to have been nominated as the Presiding Member (formal for Chairperson) for the MRGS School Board and whakawhetai / fa'afetai lava to the Board for their confidence in my leadership.

I have served on the School Board since 2022 under the outstanding leadership of Marjet Pot. I extend my sincere thanks, including on behalf of all those who have served alongside Marjet, for her mahi / tautua / service of over 20 years to the School and Board, including 19 of those years as our Presiding Member.

My children Lincoln & Paige are current students, and my oldest children Phoenix & Jahvan are alumni of MRGS. In their time and to this day, I have been grateful to all the teachers and support staff for dedication and commitment to give of their best to the learning and growth of our students, importantly, their leadership and setting the example of the Roskill Way in bringing to life the Roskill Values of Manaakitanga, Whanaungatanga and Tūmanakotanga!

I look forward to working with the Principal, Kaiako and our wider school whānau / aiga and community. One of my core values is that the partnership between our kura and our whānau and community is paramount so that it looks and feels genuine in the way we show up and take ownership as kaitiaki of MRGS! I look forward to meeting many of you in the coming months to further strengthen these valuable connections. We will continue the hard work of our School Board to support your children to be educated as successful powerful learners, and active responsible citizens.

I leave you with one of my favourite quotes from an Anglican Clergyman who founded the Methodist Church of England, Rev John Wesley:
“Do all the good you can, by all the means you can, in all the ways you can, in all the places you can, at all the times you can, to all the people you can, as long as ever you can.”

Ngā Manaakitanga, Ia manuia,

Leatua Larry Tupa'i-Lavea
 School Board Presiding Member



Phones & Earphones

“Away for the Day”, is a government implementation for all schools in New Zealand. Once students are at school, they will be required to have their phone and headphones in their bags, on silent, at all times.

If your child were to be seen with their phone, they will firstly be reminded of the expectations of phones and asked to put it away. The next step would be a conversation with their Dean. For subsequent times, you may be required to meet with the Senior Leader of your child’s House, and your child will lose the privilege of having their phone with them at school for a certain number of days.

“Away for the Day” enables students to strengthen their interpersonal skills and relationships, actively participate in lunch time activities, and remove themselves from the negative aspects of phone use while at school.

If you urgently need to get hold of your child during the school day, please contact the administration team at 09 621 0050 (ext 0).



Attendance - Appointments

It is important that our students are at school every day, as any missed learning has an impact on students' achievement and belonging at school.

Our request is that as much as possible, appointments are scheduled for outside the school day. If you are unable to manage this, please inform attendance@mrgs.school.nz as soon as possible.

If you intend for your child to leave school at a particular time, please inform us in advance so we can request the child out of class, leaving ample time for you to attend the appointment.

Key dates	
Tues 18th March	Iftar Night
Fri 21st March	Junior Reports Distributed to Parents/Caregivers
Wed 26th March	Tongan Fiafia
Thurs 27th March	Junior Report Evening 4 - 7.30pm
Fri 28th March	Samoan Fiafia
Sat 29th March	Kapa Haka Rehearsal
Wed 2nd - Sat 5th April	Polyfest
Thurs 10th April	Mahurangi Exchange (Away)
Fri 11th April	End of Term 1
Mon 28th April	Start of Term 2

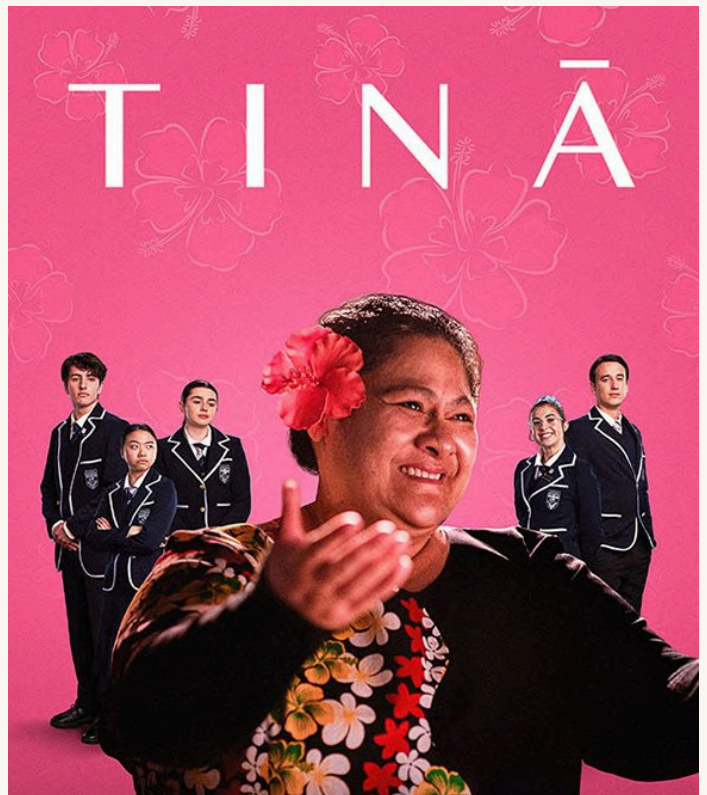


Tinā - Filmmaker School Visit

This week, some very lucky ākonga from Media, English and Samoan were treated to a thought-provoking talk by Aotearoa filmmakers, Miki Magasiva and Ana Miskell.

Magasiva is the writer and director of the incredibly inspiring feature film, *Tinā*, and Miskell is the film's production designer. Our students received expert first-hand advice on careers in the screen industries, and got to ask some probing 'behind the scenes' questions.

If you haven't yet watched *Tinā*, you are missing out. See it at your local cinema while you still can. And bring tissues!



Year 10 French Crêpe Day

Bonjour! On Monday 24th February, the Year 10 French class had the enjoyable experience of tasting crêpes. The toppings were authentic and delicious—Nutella, confiture (jam), crème et bananes (cream and bananas), miel (honey), and sucre et citron (sugar and lemon).

As we enjoyed this traditional French treat, we practiced French phrases like “C'est trop bon!” (“It's so good!”) and “Je trouve ça bon.” (“I find this good.”) to describe our choices.

This activity was a fun and interactive way to engage with French culture while practicing our language skills in a real-world setting.



MacLean Centre - Garden to Table

The MacLean Centre students have kick started their Garden to Table project in Week 5. The students will be growing, harvesting, preparing and sharing the food they plant.



Alumni News

Jessica Huang (2024 Alumni) went on Outward Bound in February 2025 via a scholarship received through MRGS.

Outward Bound is a non-profit organisation committed to helping people unlock their full potential through outdoor adventure and challenge. Their courses are designed to build essential life skills and attitudes that go far beyond the outdoors.

Jessica explained that the experience did the world of good for her confidence and getting out of the comfort zone.

We are pleased to hear about Jessica's positive experience and are very proud of her.

Thank you Mr Kerins for supporting our students. We already have a recipient lined up for 2025, but there will be more opportunities for students in the future.



Careers

AUT University Presentation

Last Friday, the 7th of March, over 100 Year 12 and 13 students gathered in the Learning Hub for an enlightening presentation from AUT University, delivered by Amadeo Abrogena.

The students spent their Hui Ako period learning about various academic programmes, campus life, and future career opportunities.

Amadeo's engaging presentation covered essential topics, including the benefits of joining AUT and tips for preparing for university life. Students took this opportunity to ask questions and gain some insight into their future studies.

This liaison visit not only sparked enthusiasm for higher education but also encouraged students to look forward to their own educational journey. A huge thank you to AUT and Amadeo Abrogena for a memorable and informative session.



Upcoming University Liaison Visits

- University of Waikato Liaison visit - Friday March 14th in Hui Ako in Learning Hub
- University of Auckland Liaison visit - Thursday March 27th Hui Ako in Hub
- Victoria University Liaison visit - Friday March 28th in Hui Ako in the Hub
- Massey University - Thursday April 3rd in Hub



Students can book an appointment with the Career Advisor [here](#).



@mrgs_careers

Stay up to date with everything in the school



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[Mount Roskill Grammar School](#)



Mount Roskill Grammar School

SPORT NEWSLETTER



Lawn Bowls Tournament

On Tuesday, March 11th, our students had a fantastic day at the Lawn Bowls Tournament, held at Mt Eden Bowling Club and Auckland Bowling Club in Parnell.

Under sunny skies, all teams enjoyed the opportunity to compete, develop their skills, and experience the sport in a fun and supportive environment.

Seeing everyone giving their best effort while embracing the friendly atmosphere was great.

Give Orienteering A Go!

On Wednesday 19th March, MRGS is hosting Event 4 of the Auckland School's Sprint Series Orienteering. To register, pay \$11.50 to MRGS Accounts. For more information, contact Mrs Brown or the Sports Dept.

Winter Sports Registrations

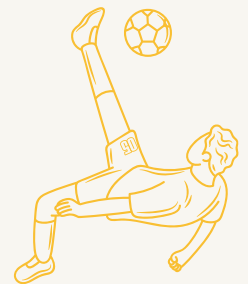
Don't miss your chance to represent MRGS in sports like football, basketball, hockey, netball, and more. Register [here](#) or see the Sports Department for more details. See below for more info:

Football Festivals

We will be running three Football Festivals after school this term for all students interested in playing football. These fun, pre-season games help coaches place players into appropriate teams.

If you want to play this season, make sure you are there!

- Friday 21st & 28th March
- Tuesday 1st April



Junior Netball



Monday lunchtime is our junior netball muster.

Anyone interested in playing next term should come along to Gym 2.

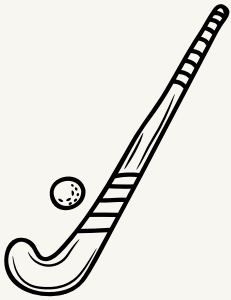
Hockey

One more muster for hockey. If any students are keen to play hockey this year, they should make sure that they go to the hockey turf on Wednesday lunchtime.



PROMOTION/RELEGATION GAME

Hockey



Come support our Boys Hockey team who are playing in their promotion/relegation game on Mon 31 March at 5pm at Kristin College.

Basketball

Come support our Senior Boys' and Girls' Basketball teams as they compete in their promotion/relegation games!

Let's fill the stands and bring the energy to help them maintain their spot in their grades -

Thurs 20th March at 5:30pm in MRGS Gym 3.



Mount Roskill Grammar School Devices for Learning

2025

We are a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) School

Your child needs a device for learning to bring to school. All of our courses have an online component and devices are used by students on a daily basis to access learning activities and resources. We are not able to provide learning devices for all of our students. In some instances teachers will be able to provide a small number of computers to classes when needed, but this provision cannot be relied upon to cover all device needs. Any online assessment that takes place can be supported through the School's resources.



Purchasing a Device

There are many retail options available for purchasing a device. If you go to [Datatek Pacific NZ](#) and let them know you are part of the MRGS community you can secure preferential pricing. [NZ Laptop Wholesale](#) provides affordable options on new and refurbished learning devices. Big retailers like Harvey Norman, Noel Leeming and Warehouse Stationery will also offer good deals on Chromebooks and Laptops.

Accessing a Loan Device

If you have a client relationship with Work and Income NZ, you may qualify for support from them. Email chris.dunn@mrqs.school.nz and we will send you a letter to support your application for a learning device to be supplied at very low to no cost.

