

MHJC News

Issue Four

June 2011

Kia Ora,

I feel immensely proud of our school, its students and its teachers. We have been open less than 3 years but this month alone we once again saw our students, supported by dedicated teachers, making their mark both nationally and globally.

Many schools never feel the pride of winning a national or international competition but this month at Mission Heights Junior College we have done both. A group of our Year 8 students entered and were placed first equal in the New Zealand Association of Mathematics Teachers Statistics Poster Competition. This achievement was all the more remarkable as they were competing against students in Years 9 and 10 from throughout New Zealand.

On the international front our Problem Solving Team made us immensely proud by winning first place in the Middle Division Education Category at the International Future Problem Solving Conference in Wisconsin, USA. Twenty two teams competed in the Middle Division and there were 70 competing teams in total.

Not only did they bring home the first place trophy but our team was one of only 3 teams from across all the divisions to be nominated for the elite "Beyond" award. This is a remarkable achievement from a talented and dedicated team and their coach.

Also making their mark on the global front were three of our Year 10 students, all members of our Student Executive Council, who were selected to attend a young Leaders Convention at the Hwa Chong Institution in Singapore. The students debated youth issues with students from other nations and even had the opportunity to have lunch with Singapore's Minister of State for Finance.

These are indeed all outstanding achievements but they are only the tip of the iceberg as our students, across the school, repeatedly impress me with their commitment and achievement in so many areas, whether it is in academic, sporting, cultural or leadership pursuits. Well done to you all. You are certainly making us proud!

Joan Middlemiss

Principal

Family and Friends

Our Family and Friends will meet next on Wednesday July 13th. The focus of the meeting this month will be the 2011 Cultural Festival scheduled for September 3rd. 12:00 to 3:00 pm

Please find below the link for the parent's survey regarding the Cultural Festival. We would be delighted if you could spare a few minutes to look over it and fill it in.

<https://mhlprzm01.mhjc.school.nz/zimbra/>

This was a very special and successful event in 2010 and we need your support to make the 2011 event just as successful.



**Mission Heights
Junior College
"Growing
Greatness"**

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**MHJC makes its mark
....as World Champions!!**

MHJC has taken on the world and come out on top! Our Middle Division Community Problem Solving team has just returned from winning first place in its division at the International Future Problem Solving Finals.

22 teams competed in the Middle Division and our students excelled in all aspects of the competition. They had to submit a 12 page summary of their project prior to the on site competition. They also were required to make a 5 minute video about their project, create scrapbooks to verify their process and achievements, create an on site display, have a half hour interview and tell the public about their project at a 3 hour "fair". In all aspects the students came away with an almost perfect score.



Following the competition the team enjoyed a well earned celebration in Disneyland before returning home.

Congratulations to Archal Lal, Shivani Rajan, Mavish Prasad and coach Mrs Dada!!



..National Champions

Congratulations to our International Statistical Literacy Poster Winners!!

This year for the first time MHJC students entered the International Statistical Literacy Poster competition. The theme of this year's competition was "In my neighbourhood".

2 Year 8 teams entered the competition at the national level along with 170 entries from other schools. **Asha Shashikumar, Swashna Lal and Sasha Amichand placed first equal winning a cash prize of \$600.** Their poster has been selected to enter at the international level at Dublin, Ireland.



Best presented



1st place winners

Our second entry by Neesha Kumar and Sanara Swarnadhipati was judged as the best-presented poster



Mission Heights Junior College
103 Jeffs Rd, Mission Heights.

Ph: (09) 2777881

e-mail: admin@mhjc.school.nz

www.mhjc.school.nz

..and Global Young Leaders

Three Young leaders from MHJC were invited to join their peers from across the globe at Hwa Chong Institution in Singapore for the 17th Young Leaders Convention as representatives from New Zealand.

Student Executive Council members, Nate Lecointe, Samuel Young and Shakira Du Pille participated in debates about issues affecting youth, briefly experienced life in a boarding school and saw some of Singapore's sights during the convention. The students even had the opportunity to interact with Government Leaders during the convention which they described as an amazing opportunity.



Important Dates
Coming Up!

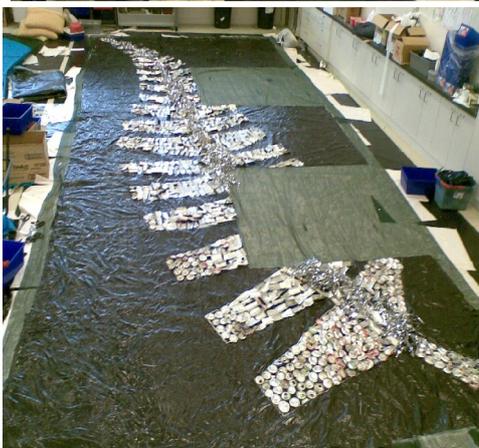
- July 6th MHJC Mathex
- July 7th Disco and Muffi Day
- July 15th End of Term 2
- August 1st Beginning of Term 3
- August 8th Mountains whanau Year 10 visit to Ormiston Senior College
- August 9th Coast, Water and Forest Year 10 visit to Ormiston Senior College
- August 10th Option Choice evening for Year 8 and Year 9 students and parents
- MHJC Speech Finals:
August 11th Year 9 and 10
August 12th Year 7 and 8
- School Production "Oliver"
Monday 15th – Saturday 20th August

Progress with our Rugby World Cup Welcome letters



Our Art studios continue to be a hive of activity as more giant letters take shape spelling out the words Haere Mai.

The symbols are unmistakably kiwi, ranging from a giant tui, a silver fern and Maori motifs.



Now only the letter I remains to be made. This will be constructed of hundreds of cast off jandals! If you have any lying in your cupboards they could end their days welcoming visitors to our shores. All donations gratefully accepted !



This has been an amazing project with all the art work letters created from recycled materials by students from across the school.

Enrolments 2012

We recently held a very successful evening for intending students and their parents attended by around 150 parents and students. Pre enrolments for 2012 are now open.

If you know anyone intending to enrol in 2012 please ask them to contact us 2777881 or admin@mhjc.school.nz so we can add them to our contact list for ongoing updates as the enrolment process progresses.

Accurate forward planning helps us provide quality for all our students. In 2012 we will once again not be accepting out of zone enrolments



Year 10 Spanish students make links with Argentina on a shared e- project

The year 10 Spanish class, are working on a global project alongside a school in Mar Del Plata, Argentina. The students keep in touch with students in Arturo Illia School through e-mails with the main aim for this project being to get information from Mar Del Plata while in return, our students send them information about New Zealand. The students will compare Mar del Plata as a coastal city to New Zealand as a coastal country using the information in order to develop an e-Magazine 2011. The magazine will be uploaded online, available for internet users world wide.

Mar del Plata beach is a little more crowded than our typical NZ beaches!



MATHEX NIGHT

Details...

Notes
Please bring something to write with, something to write on and a calculator

- Who?** Mission Heights Junior College and invited guests from our contributing schools
- What?** Fun Mathex Evening
- When?** Wednesday 6th July 2011, starting at 7.00pm
- Where?** MHJC School Gymnasium
- How?** Enter a team of four students. Categories for Year 7 teams, Year 8, Year 9, Year 10 teams and Year 5/6 teams. Each year group will have different questions. Parents are also invited to form/enter their own teams.
- Why?** Because maths is fun!

National Excellence in Teaching and Leadership Awards

These annual awards are an opportunity for individual parents, parent organisations, boards of trustees, management committees, secondary student councils and community organisations, to identify teachers and leaders who are an inspiration to their students, to their peers and to their communities.



If you would like to nominate a special MHJC staff member then it is easy! Just go to this website for online nomination or to download forms and read more about the awards and nomination process.

[http://www.neita.com.au/index.asp?](http://www.neita.com.au/index.asp?menu1=nz2&menu2=0&content1=news.htm)

[menu1=nz2&menu2=0&content1=news.htm](http://www.neita.com.au/index.asp?menu1=nz2&menu2=0&content1=news.htm)

All nominated teachers will receive a certificate recognising their nomination and regional and national winners are also recognised.

Enviro Garden Starting to Produce!

Another first for MHJC: Our first crop of carrots from the garden grown by our Enviro Team!

MHJC was designed and built as a "green" school and this is one of a number of projects happening this year to raise awareness among our students of the need to be environmentally aware.



Fees and Donation

We would like to give a gentle reminder about outstanding fees and also request payment of the School Contribution. We know it is easy to forget about these payments but your prompt attention to any outstanding payments would be most appreciated.

Thank you!