

We hope you enjoy our **February** edition of 'Mission Heights News.'
Please click [View it in your browser](#) to view text plus images in this newsletter.

To translate our newsletter, please
[View it in your browser](#) then click
'translate' (top right).

As this is 'Google Translate', exact
translation will not be achieved,
especially with titles and names.



Principal, Mr Ian Morrison

OUR VISION

*'Growing Greatness through
innovative, constantly evolving
personalised learning...'*



Message from the Principal

February Newsbrief

Information for students and parents

The start of the school year symbolises new beginnings for many of us. May I extend in particular a warm welcome to all our new students and staff and wish them a productive, exciting and enjoyable next stage in their learning journey. For everyone, the new year brings resolutions which may or may not last the first visit to the gym! However I am sure that our teachers and support staff will be able to help students meet their varied needs and aspirations. I look forward to meeting you in the course of the many events in our calendar and urge all students to get involved in the four cornerstones which help us to connect outside the classroom.

While we enjoy the wonderful long weekends to celebrate Auckland Anniversary Day and Waitangi Day, it is worthwhile pausing and appreciating the amazing beauty, peace and harmony we are able to enjoy here in New Zealand. Auckland is much maligned at times but after a stunning weekend when my wife and I were able to enjoy Waiheke Island and a close encounter with a pod of Orca we were reminded how blessed we are. It is not always easy for citizens and new immigrants to Auckland but we have a lot to be grateful for and must do our bit in our own community to ensure this city and country remain as desirable to our children and grandchildren as it has been to us.

Growing greatness - *kia mana ake*
Ian Morrison

A GREAT Start to BYOD @ MHJC

After a successful chromebook trial and parent information evening in 2016, new and returning students have embraced our digital learning environment and are now equipped with their personal digital devices. The advantages of students using their own device which is transportable was well documented and places the school at the

Upcoming Events

Dates are also published on our website, [Mission Heights Online](#).

Meet the Teacher Evening - All Whanau
Thursday 9th February,
6:30pm

Road Patrol Training
Thursday 16th February

BOT Meeting
Thursday 16th February

Water Whanau Trip to Maraetai Beach
Friday 17th February

8C1 & 8C2's Trip to Kelly Tarlton's
Tuesday 21st February

Enviro Council's 'Love the Coast' Presentation
Thursday 23rd February

Enviro Council's Sustainable Coastline Cleanup
Friday 24th February

10W1 & 10W2 White Water Rafting at Vector Wero
Friday 24th February

MHJC Swimming Sports
Friday 3rd March

Coast Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp
Monday 6th March to
Friday 8th March at
Shakespeare Lodge

Teacher's Only Day (No School)
Thursday 9th March

SEZ Beachlands Kids Triathlon
Wednesday 15th March

Forest Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp
Wednesday 15th March
to Friday 17th March at
Camp Adair

Water Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp
Wednesday 15th March
to Friday 17th March at Piha
Mill Lodge

Mountain's Yr 7 & 10 Leadership Camp
Wednesday 15th March
to Friday 17th March at
Camp Adair

BOT Meeting
Thursday 16th March

9W1 & 9W2 Snorkelling at Goat Island Reserve
Wednesday 22nd March

forefront of digital learning. Last week, ICT and teaching staff helped our students to connect to our network and take full advantage of our digital learning tools.

A focus of this initiative is **digital citizenship**, which is the responsible use of technology. Students will learn **digital skills**, **ethics**, **etiquette**, and **online safety** in every class while carrying out their tasks. These are important aspects of participating in today's increasingly digital world.

Students will access resources, complete assignments, and improve their personal organisation. During the year, they will experience activities that include researching information, producing documents, analyzing data, participating in surveys, producing videos, designing websites, programming/coding, reading e-books, creating blogs, taking notes, or scheduling events.

It is an expectation that all students at MHJC log onto our network and participate in the school's creative digital learning environment. Your help in providing your child with his/her personal digital device is very much appreciated by our teaching staff. With this partnership, we confidently anticipate even higher levels of engagement, progress and achievement.

The BYOD Team @ MHJC



HOMEWORK TOOLS @ MHJC

All students are encouraged to strengthen their literacy and numeracy skills, by completing 4 x **See Reader** tasks each week using **Reading Plus** and 4 to 5 **Maths Buddy** tasks, which are assigned by maths teachers. Our data shows that there is a high correlation between the number of homework tasks completed on our homework tools and the progress of our students - put simply, *"the more we practice, the better we get"*. We have also introduced another exciting e-learning tool called **"Write that Essay"** which will support students' writing skills.

Inter-Whanau Competition

Wednesday 22nd March

Eastern Zone Swimming

Friday 24th March

MHJC Mufti Day & Disco

Thursday 30th March

SEZ Orienteering

Tuesday 4th April

Otago Maths & Otago Problem Solving Competitions

Wednesday 5th April

Teacher Only Day & Student Led Conferences

Thursday 6th April

Team & Group Photos

Friday 7th April

Last Day of Term 1

Thursday 13th April at 3pm

Good Friday (No School)

Friday 14th April

2017 Term Dates

Term 1

Wednesday 1st February to Thursday 13th April
(11 Week Term)

Term 2

Monday 1st May to Friday 7th July
(10 Week Term)

Term 3

Monday 24th July to Friday 29th September
(10 Week Term)

Term 4

Monday 16th October to Wednesday 13th December
(9 Week Term)

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.

Protocol for Signing Out for Appointments or Illness

Please contact the Senior Leader of the Whanau through the Whanau Administration team:

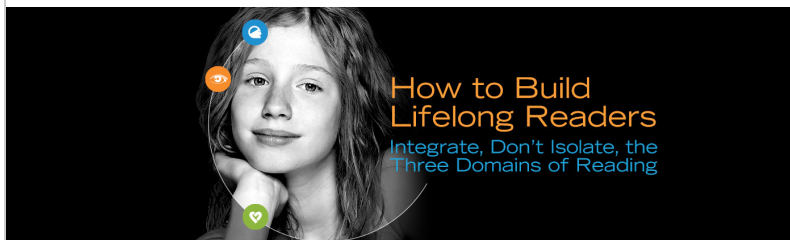
Phone (09) 2777 881

Coast ext.625

Find out more about our eLearning tools below...

reading plus®

CHANGING THE WAY STUDENTS READ



Our school is using *Reading Plus* to help students become better readers. *Reading Plus* is a web-based program that helps students develop the skills they need to be proficient readers and independent learners. Through regular *Reading Plus* practice, your student will begin to read faster with better comprehension. To learn more about *Reading Plus*, visit www.readingplus.com.

Your child can complete *Reading Plus* assignments on your home computer or tablet. Assignments in each program can be completed in any order, but please remind your child that *SeeReader* lessons are the most important.

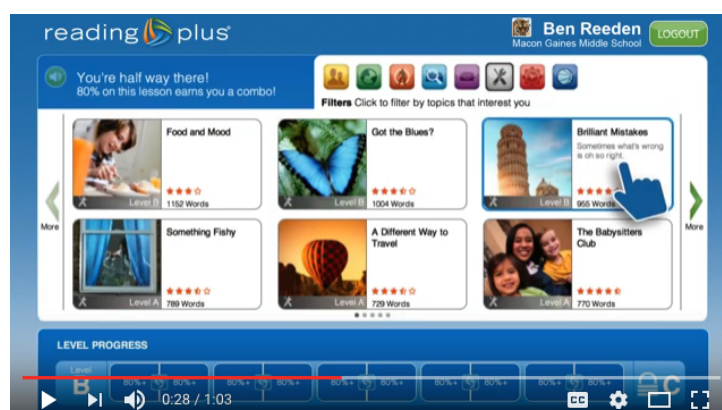
reading plus®



Reading Plus is the only reading system that simultaneously develops all three domains of reading: physical, cognitive, and emotional.

By integrating three domains into one personalized system, Reading Plus builds the physical skills essential for fluency and stamina, provides the personalized, leveled content that allows students to build vocabulary and comprehension, and taps into student interests to build confidence and motivation.

Click on the video below to see [How 'Reading Plus' Works...](#)



Forest ext. 626
Water ext. 627
Mountains ext. 628

The Senior Leader will inform the MHJC Receptionist by phone and email.

Parents must sign students out at the MHJC Reception. If the student is returning to school on the same day, the parent must also sign the student in at the MHJC Reception, please.

**Remember
SIGN IN
AND
SIGN OUT**

**School
Tours**



A reminder that Mission Heights Junior College is **open for viewing** by the public on **Wednesday mornings** each week, starting at **9:45am** from our school reception. Come and see our learners in action!

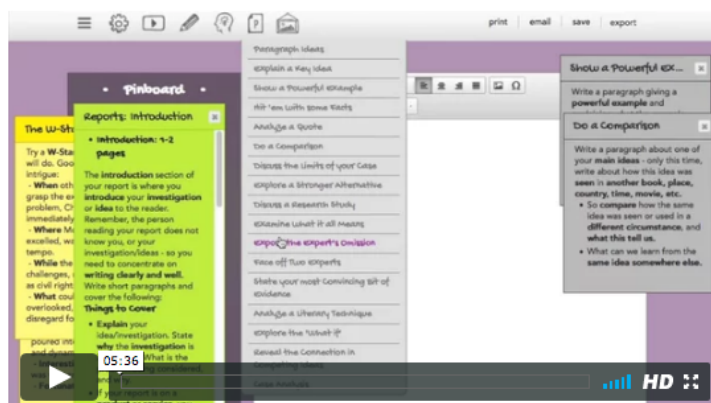
CONTACT US



Write that Essay is a ground-breaking academic writing programme transforming writing outcomes in schools today. Developed by educator and author Dr Ian Hunter, the programme has been designed for student use, both within the classroom and at home, to accelerate independent writing abilities.

The programme uses a combination of teaching modules (key writing skills), and scaffolded writing tools to support the acquisition of foundation through to more advanced writing skills. Teachers can differentiate access to the site, so that students are helped at a level that suits their writing abilities to craft essays and other cross curricular writing tasks.

Click on the video below to see [How 'Write That Essay' Works...](#)



Coast Whanau
coast-absence@mhjc.school.nz
coast-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Forest Whanau
forest-absence@mhjc.school.nz
forest-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Water Whanau
water-absence@mhjc.school.nz
water-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz

Mountains Whanau
mountains-absence@mhjc.school.nz
mountains-studentservices@mhjc.school.nz



We'd love you to follow us on Facebook! Simply click on the buttons below to be directed to our new Facebook page, or our website.



Facebook



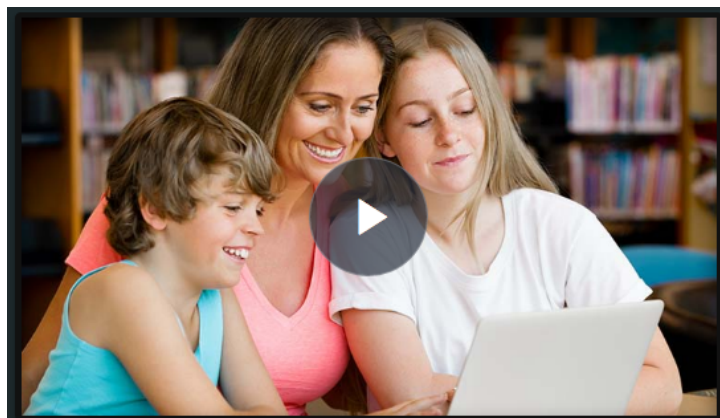
Website



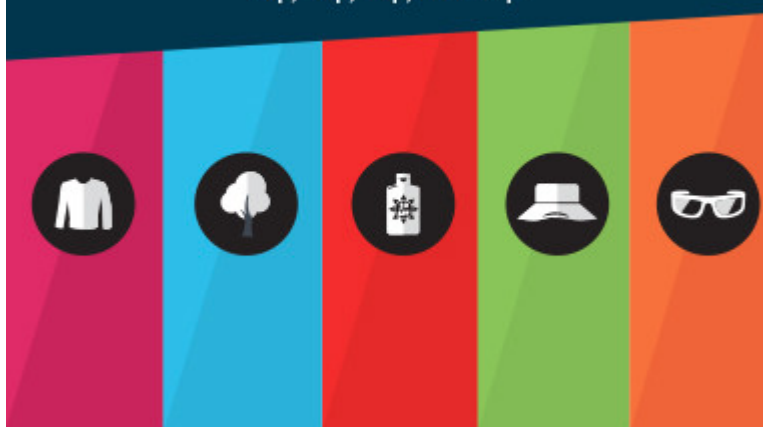
Benefits of MathsBuddy

- ✓ Gives student the freedom to study without stress, at home, in their own time, at their own pace.
- ✓ Students can catch up on lessons they missed or concepts they have not fully understood.
- ✓ Because maths concepts build upon each other, sometimes it's necessary for students to go back and revise a particular concept before moving on to a new topic, this can be done as every student has access to the entire Year 1 to 13 program curriculum.
- ✓ Students can preview lessons at home before they take them at school.
- ✓ Students can gain understanding and confidence especially in areas where they struggled previously.
- ✓ Students can complete the worksheets and interactive questions to test their understanding. All of their results are recorded so that their progress can easily be seen.
- ✓ Above all, it works!

Click on the video below to see [How 'Maths Buddy Works...](#)



Be SunSmart use the Sun Protection System
slip, slop, slap, and wrap



MHJC Students featured in the Eastern Courier - Go to...

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/auckland/local-news/eastern-courier/87427180/Junior-college-scoops-senior-school-engineering-awards>

Eastern Courier

Neighbourly
www.neighbourly.co.nz

stuff

Friday, January 13, 2017

您的小地方，我们一起关注

Emerging engineers awarded

MEGHAN LAWRENCE

Students from Mission Heights Junior College in East Auckland have collected merit prizes in the Transpower Neighbourhood Engineers Awards.

More than 52 schools competed in the 2016 awards, which are designed to encourage collaboration between students, teachers and engineers.

It's an initiative of the Institution of Professional Engineers NZ and offers students opportunities to work on practical projects in the school and community, as well as providing a creative way to enhance the technology curriculum.

Four MHJC teams were presented with a \$1000 prize and certificates at an awards assembly last month.

Principal Ian Morrison says: "The world needs people who are innovative problem solvers. People who are resilient and try and try again to find a solution to a problem no matter how big."

Projects ranged from a school-wide emergency warning system to electronically-controlled pedestrian crossings and making a game out of not littering.

The Project Lockdown team built a communications system to



Competition representatives with students Katrina Mohammed, Bill Wong and Ryan Ngo, and teacher Rob Hargreaves.

alert students, including those with hearing impairments, when a school needs to perform a lockdown in an emergency.

Katrina Mohammed, 14, says: "What hit us was articles in the United States about intruders entering school grounds, so we

wanted to solve this issue.

"Then we realised our school didn't have an established lockdown system. We only had a

"The world needs people who are innovative problem solvers."

fire alarm system, therefore we wanted to make it more established in the school by creating a prototype," she says.

The system uses a pop-up message to all computer screens, which runs in sync with the school's alarm.

The project also made it to the finals of the 2016 NZ BrightSparks competition and stops are being made to install it at the college.

Team Project X tackled the problem of drivers failing to stop at crossings.

Hruthin Pagadala, 14, says: "We were looking at concerns in the community and thought road safety was important."

They developed an automated road patrol system where sensors pick up pedestrians waiting to cross and trigger the traffic lights to change to red.

Mentoring engineer Mikes Patel, from Fisher & Paykel, says: "The Project X team has put together a project that's unique in the sense that it considers students' safety above all."



Mission Heights
JUNIOR COLLEGE

Ph 277 7881
admin@mhjc.school.nz

Upcoming Parent Information Evening

All parents and students are invited to our upcoming...

'Meet the Teacher Evening'

TONIGHT

Thursday 9th February

6:30pm in your child's Whanau

- Introductions with teachers
- Meet your child's Learning Advisor
- eLearning @ MHJC
- Camp information

We hope you can join us!

Be GREAT

seek
support

eLEARNING

Resubmissions

Class Work

Teacher Help

encourage your friends to come along...

to

HOMEWORK CLUB

Make **a**
difference

HOMEWORK CLUB

3:15PM TO 4:15PM

Monday's in Mountains / Wednesday's in Forest

MATHS CLUB

3:15PM TO 4:15PM

Wednesday's in Coast Whanau



Mission Heights JUNIOR COLLEGE

"Growing greatness through innovative, constantly evolving personalised learning"



At Mission Heights Junior College our mission is to grow every student's unique "grain of greatness". This is achieved through innovative, constantly evolving, personalised learning programmes with strong pastoral structures to support holistic well-being, progress and achievement for every child.

Specialist teachers work collaboratively to co-construct highly integrated, 'real life' learning contexts where students are active in their learning to lead meaningful change within local, national and international settings. Our digital environment promotes strong foundations in numeracy and literacy. The Google platform, web-based applications and eLearning programmes support seamless home - school learning and responsive teacher support. Students make meaningful decisions to personalise their timetables through our D.E.E.P programme (Discovery, Essentials, Enrichment & Passions) with over 100 exciting course selections and opportunities to engage across the 4 dimensions of a balanced education: Academic, Sport, Culture & Leadership through Service.

We help and guide students to become GREAT:

Good Citizens
Resilient
Enterprising
Aspirational
Thinkers

To achieve this we provide a GREAT learning environment that is:

Globally Focused
Relevant
Engaging
Authentic
Twenty First Century



Specialist Teaching for students in Year 7 to 10
Personalised & Integrated Learning Programmes
An Engaging & Modern Learning Environment
BYOD - use of digital learning platforms
NCEA standards offered in every core subject
Highly supported transitions to MHJC & Senior College

GROWING GREATNESS
KIA MANA AKE

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www.mhjc.school.nz

Phone 277 7881

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