

# MHJC News

Issue six

July 2009



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

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Kia Ora,

Welcome to Term 3. We are looking forward to another great term at MHJC. Term two was very busy and positive. It was wonderful to see our students so involved not only in their classroom learning but also in so many extra curricular activities.

Our Year 9 Drama students entertained and impressed with their very first production, a modern interpretation of Romeo and Juliette.

A team of local police challenged a combined staff and student team to a very close game of basketball, which the police won by just one point.

Many students have participated in Australasian academic competitions and we have already experienced some high level success.

Our sports teams continue to compete in weekly competitions and despite being hard hit by flu as the term drew to a close our students have continued to represent us proudly.

Our extended length student lead conferences were a huge success with over 90% attendance by parents. The feedback has been very positive with the meetings providing an opportunity for students to speak in depth about their learning and for parents to see Mission Heights Online in action and to view and understand the E Astle testing results.

Student initiative continues to be a strength. In the last week of term our Year Book Committee ran a very successful Disco and raised start up funds for our 2009 Year Book. Our Enviro students have established a permanent worm farm and a group of students has initiated a relationship with Vision Dannemora Retirement Village. The "can mufti" and many other fund raisers have shown that our students are making a difference in their community.

Also late in Term 2 we welcomed our newly elected Board of Trustees. We thank them for their commitment and their willingness to serve our school.

We look forward to a successful third term and hope that we are over the worst of the winter illnesses.

**Joan Middlemiss , Principal**

## TEACHER ONLY DAY - August 6<sup>th</sup>

*The Minister of Education has allocated 2 days in 2009 for secondary schools to use for staff professional development relating to the new NZ Curriculum.*

***The first of these days will be on 6<sup>th</sup> August and we advise parents that normal school will not run on that day.***

*For Families requiring child care on that day, our excellent Before and After school Care providers Mission Kids are planning to run special one day programmes for MHJC students using professional presenters. One will have a Performing Arts focus and one a Science focus.*

*For further information please contact [emma@missionkids.org.nz](mailto:emma@missionkids.org.nz)*

***Congratulations to two  
outstanding ICAS  
Academic Competition  
Achievers!***



Sahil Madan and Mitchell Farmer return to school with something to celebrate!

Year 7 students Mitchell Farmer and Sahil Madan have achieved outstanding results in recent ICAS Academic Competitions. Mitchell gained High Distinction Passes in both the ICAS Science and the ICAS Computing Competitions, placing him in the top 1% nationally. Mitchell's score of 33/35 in Computing put him only one point behind the top score nationally.

Sahil gained a Distinction in the Computing Competition. His score of 31 places him in the top 3% in New Zealand.

Well done Mitchell and Sahil!



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## ***Yummy Apples Sports Equipment Fundraiser.***



*Well done Mountains Whanau,  
who won our Term 2 Yummy  
Apples sticker challenge.*

***Students in Mountains Whanau have won the right to wear  
muffi on Friday 24<sup>th</sup> July as a reward.***

*Please keep collecting Yummy Apples stickers in Term 3 .  
This term, in addition to a new whanau challenge  
starting, there will be an individual prize draw. Each page  
of stickers collected will give individual students an entry  
into a draw for a great individual prize.*

## ***Our First Disco!***

***On the last Thursday of term, Miss Kindley and the  
students in the Yearbook Committee ran our first very  
successful disco. With the theatre transformed with  
coloured laser lights, great music and glow sticks  
adding to the atmosphere, the evening was enjoyed by  
all and ran without a hitch.***

***Thanks to all the students and staff who contributed to  
the success of the evening.***



## **Ormiston Road Senior High School Public Meeting**

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

**7:00 pm MHJC Theatre.**

**Come and find out more about this exciting  
new development.**

## MHJC Family and Friends

Our Family and Friends group now have a link from our website ([www.mhjc.school.nz](http://www.mhjc.school.nz)) to keep parents up to date with Family and Friends news.

At the next meeting on August 5<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 pm, MHJC Staffroom, Family and Friends will host a **Parent Information and Consultation meeting regarding our Health Curriculum**. This is your opportunity to be informed about our programme and to have an input.

### Student and Parent Learning Conferences

We have had very high attendance at, and positive feedback regarding these recent conferences where students took the lead in talking in depth about their learning with their parents and learning advisors.

We believe it is essential that students and parents are fully informed and knowledgeable about students' progress and next steps for learning at MHJC.

An important aspect of the meetings was also to form relationships with Learning Advisors and to ensure parents were confident in accessing online learning information.

Students and parents have access to E Reports and to E Asttle test results and we urge you to contact your child's Learning advisor promptly, should you ever have any questions or concerns.

If you wish to give any feedback on the format of the conferences please e mail [admin@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:admin@mhjc.school.nz)

### BOARD NEWS

**Congratulations and Welcome to Our newly elected Board Members**

Following the recent elections we congratulate newly elected parents representatives:

**Mr Aubrey Christmas**

**Mrs Ranjna Madan**

**Mrs Alanna Young**

**Mr Arjun Sandhu**

**Mrs Tougheeda Hartley**

and Staff Representative,

**Mrs Kathlene Hetaraka**

on their election to our Board of Trustees.

The Mission Heights Junior College Board meets on the third Thursday of each month

### Enviro News!

Our Enviro Council is hard at work:

- \* working with the primary school to reduce rubbish and teach the year 1 to 6's about recycling
- \* installing a worm farm
- \* developing a website
- \* investigating compost
- \* planning a native garden
- \* evaluating bins for the classroom recycling programme



MHJC and MHP Enviro committee members watch the construction of our permanent worm farm



# Some Recent Happenings at MHJC



Year 9 Drama students performed Romeo and Juliette to two lunchtime audiences



Year 9 Spanish students cook torrijas



MHJC Basketball players pictured with the Croatian team at the World Under 19 Basketball Competition



Problem Solvers convince Manukau City Council to allow them to develop a nature walk in the bush reserve



A group of MHJC Students competed in the Auckland Secondary Schools Aerobic Competition.

Congratulations to Monica Giles who placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Junior B Division

**Also Fundraisers ....**  
**SPCA,**  
**Salvation Army,**  
**Talent Quest!!**