

MHJC News

Issue Four

May 2009



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

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Kia Ora,

Our focus at the start of this new term has been on preparations for our official opening and it was a great honour to have the Prime Minister officially open the two Mission Heights Schools on Friday May 8th. The positive impression made on that day has resulted in wonderful feedback and everyone who contributed to the success of the occasion should feel very proud.

Many of our visitors, including the Prime Minister, took the opportunity to tour the school and were impressed with our great facilities and the positive attitude of our students. It was heartening to hear the Prime Minister's strong support for the Junior College and Senior College schooling structure. This is a new structure for secondary schooling in New Zealand with our school being only the second Junior College to be built, the first being Albany Junior High School. Research indicates that it will greatly benefit our students.

Work has already begun on the Senior College development in Ormiston Road and we were delighted to hear that Mr Maurice Jackways has been appointed as the Establishment Principal. Mr Jackways, of Otago University, is an experienced and highly regarded former Principal of Mt. Aspiring College.

We acknowledge the generosity of Sunsystems NZ and CCL, who marked our official opening with the announcement of a donation of 50 additional computers to the two Mission Heights schools. We are leading the way in Australasia in the use of Sun ultra thin client technology in an educational environment and are proud to be Sun Centres of Excellence.

Our "E learning" Evening at the end of Term 1 was attended by a large number of parents. Any parents who were unable to attend, please contact the Curriculum Leader of your child's whanau to obtain your own log on and password for Mission Heights Online so that you can access your child's learning materials and online reporting. If you require assistance with this please also let us know and we will be happy to provide assistance using our student ICT crew leaders.

Joan Middlemiss , Principal

Mission Heights Junior College Family and Friends

The 'Family and Friends' team at Mission Heights Junior College are excited to have this opportunity to help serve and look forward to getting to know each and every one of you better. Please join in on our next meeting on Wed, June 3^d at 7.30pm in the Junior College Staffroom We have lots to discuss and your input matters! See you then.

Warm regards,F&F Team



Mission Heights Junior College
Official Opening, by the Prime Minister
Hon. John Key, May 8th 2009



Thank you !

**Mission Heights Junior College
Establishment Board of Trustees**

We acknowledge and are grateful for the hard work of our Establishment Board of Trustees in establishing Mission Heights Junior College.

Our thanks to:

Board of Trustees Chairperson, Bernardine Vester
Deputy Board Chairperson, Chris Kerr and Trustees, Ian Fox, Nicola Troughear, Ranjna Madan, Alanna Young and Lawrie Beamish.

We also extend our thanks to Governance Facilitator Alan Burton and to Jenny Wilson from the Ministry of Education, New Schools Division.

Board of Trustees Elections

Elections will be held shortly for the Board of Trustees of Mission Heights Junior College. The establishment board will be replaced by five trustees elected by parents and caregivers of students at the College, one staff trustee elected by the staff of the College, and the Principal.

Information about the election will be mailed to parent and caregivers of students of the College in the week of 11 May.

Nominations forms for candidates willing to stand for election will be included.

Voting papers will be sent out early June.

The ballot closes at noon on Friday 12 June.

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact:

Alan Burton (Returning Officer):
Phone: (09) 355 9288
Mobile: (021) 616 061
email: alan.burton@opus.co.nz

Yummy Apples!!

Each whanau is competing to collect the most Yummy Apple stickers this term.

Every sticker we collect helps us gain a share of \$200,000 worth of sports equipment.

So please keep eating those apples and collecting your Yummy Apple stickers.



**‘Our Community’
Planning for Real**

We would like to thank MHJC students, parents and staff for completing the recent **TravelWise** surveys, as these have already identified issues in the area.

To build on the information gathered in the surveys and to raise awareness among MHJC students about the TravelWise programme, a **“Planning for Real”** exercise will be run at the school on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st May in the Sir William Manchester Library.

What is Planning for Real?

- A large aerial map of the MHJC area will be set up for classes to come and complete **TravelWise** activities
- Each student is asked to do the following:
 1. Place a colour-coded sticker next to their house indicating their mode of travel eg. blue sticker if they walk, red sticker if they come by car
 2. Tell the travel planners about any issues they have coming to school eg. scary dog, busy road, lack of footpaths etc

Please feel free to pop in to the school library on the 20th or 21st May to view how our community mapping activity is progressing.

TravelWise

thinking transport.



Sport at MHJC --Don't Miss Out!

Currently we have teams preparing for netball, football and basketball competitions. Please encourage your child to read our E Updates on Mission Heights Online every day to make sure they do not miss out on lots of exciting extra curricular opportunities. These are available in the whanau and online both at home and at school and also to parents using your own Mission Heights Online log on.

Congratulations to our Year 9 Food Technologists.

Our Year 9 Food Technology class have successfully applied to be part of the 2009 "Fuelled for School" Challenge and have received \$3000 to implement their exciting proposals to encourage healthy living at Mission Heights Schools



Under the mentorship of Mrs Hewlett, the students had to compile an extensive application and proposal.

Some of their goals are to mentor Mission Heights Primary School students in creating healthy lunches, and to develop and trial an online recipe book with healthy and delicious food.

Well done to our enterprising students!!

Maths is Cool!!

80 of our students recently sat the first Otago University Problem Challenge and later this term we are looking forward to our first exciting MHJC Mathex competition.



Cognition Consulting recently videoed 9M maths for use in teacher training in the Middle East as a model of "world class 21st learning" in action.

A Sporting Champion

Ryan Tennant recently won trophies for line honours, optimist sailor, and Sportsman of the Year. Ryan sails from the Maraetai Sailing Club



ICT Hint for Families

Parents have enquired how they can help ensure their children's work completed at home is compatible with their school work.

At M.H.J.C. we use the Open Office Software Suite . This can be downloaded

Free

At:

<http://download.openoffice.org>