

MHJC News

Issue five

July 2011



**Mission Heights
Junior College**
“Growing
Greatness”

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Kia Ora,

So much happens in the life of a school. Just as in any family or any community we inevitably experience highs and lows. The recent sad loss of one of our foundation staff members, Mrs Anita Aspinall was, for many of us, the most difficult time we have experienced in the short life of our school. But even in really difficult times, such as these, there are blessings. Being part of a warm and caring school community, such as we are so fortunate to have at Mission Heights Junior College, is one such blessing.

I want to sincerely thank our teachers who supported each other, our students too and our families. Your understanding allowed so many of us to be there for Anita's funeral and we are grateful for having that time together to remember a committed and passionate teacher and colleague who gave so much time and energy to our school.

It is difficult too, but so important in times of sorrow, to understand that life does and must go on. Anita was a person who loved to celebrate the achievements of students, who was full of energy and who, during her illness, continued to follow life at MHJC, staying connected via e mail and Mission Heights Online. The last time many of our students saw Anita was when she came in, despite being in a wheel chair, to share with us the joy of our “Santa Show”. Anita would have shared with us in wanting life at Mission Heights to continue and to flourish and I know she would have enjoyed the many successes we have to share with you all in this newsletter.

I constantly feel such pride at the successes we enjoy and more especially as they are in such diverse fields. Our academic successes continue but it is so wonderful to see that, as a relatively new school, we are also certainly making our mark in the sporting arena.

Mission Heights Junior College is in good heart and I want to thank you all, staff, students and parents for the part you play in making it so.

We look forward, on Monday to beginning a very busy and successful new term.

Joan Middlemiss

Principal

Year 9 and 10 Option Information Evening

Students currently in Year 8 and 9 will soon be choosing their option subjects for 2012. In addition to core subjects (English, Mathematics, Science, Global Studies and PE) students will select **4 additional subjects in Year 9** and **2 additional subjects in Year 10** to study. All students will continue to have their DEEP options

Wednesday 10th August from 6:30 – 8:00 pm

We will have an “option expo” at school for students and parents to learn more about each of the option subjects students can choose. Please come first to reception for information about where to find each option and for general information and assistance with making good option choices.

Mrs Anita Aspinall



Mrs Aspinall, who sadly passed away on July 4th 2011, will be remembered as one of our energetic foundation staff members, a Coast Whanau teacher, Cultural Co-ordinator and a passionate teacher of Art.

Mrs Aspinall created a beautiful and vibrant visual arts learning environment. She ensured that students' art programmes truly reflected the school's vision and were linked with their whanau context, a huge task given that in our first year she taught every student in the school for art.

Mrs Aspinall always demanded high standards of herself and challenged students to be the best they could be. It was because of her energy, efforts and community links, that many of our students experienced success in a wide range of artistic competitions, exhibited their work to the public for the first time, and saw their art used in real community projects.

Such a significant contribution to our new school will ensure that Mrs Aspinall is remembered fondly by students and colleagues alike. Her untimely illness and death was a very difficult time for us as a school but we greatly appreciate the support shown by our school community and thank you for your compassion and understanding.

Do we have your correct e-mail address?

We appreciate being able to contact our parents to ensure effective communication between home and school. E mail is a great way to do this.

If you have changed your e-mail address since enrolment or would like to use a different address, eg your work address, **please contact Amy at reception to update your details. (ph 2777881)**

Don't miss out on important information because we have an out of date address!

MHJC are once again Football Champions!

For the second year running our Boys Football Team are the Counties Manukau Junior B Football Champions. The boys were convincing winners, having remained unbeaten throughout the season and conceding only one goal all season in high scoring matches.

Congratulations to all our players and to coach Mr Ingrouille on an amazing achievement!



Netball Success!

Our Year 9 and 10 netballers have had an amazing season so far and there is more excitement to come! The girls reached the top four play offs having been unbeaten in the pool play after some mail biting games!

They then went on to win their next two games which put them in the final to be played in week two of term three. Whatever the outcome this has

been an amazing season for the players and coach, Mrs Jackways.

Good luck!!



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Clever mathematician,
Haren Pathi!
 recently received a medal
 for placing 4th in New
 Zealand in the World Maths
 Week Mathematics
 Competition.



Congratulations Haren!

Jaemin Han
 has proven that he is a very
 talented
 young writer.
 Jaemin
 recently
 placed 3rd in a
 national essay
 writing
 competition where he had to
 submit 2 essays, one in English
 and one in Korean.
 Jaemin won \$100 in prize
 money.



Well done Jaemin!

Mathex

The 2011 MHJC Mathex night was a huge success!

**Congratulations to our winning
 teams**



Year 7

Preetham Garikipati
 Aadam Khan
 Atiq Koike
 Rishab Kumar

Year 8

Gurvez Chandok
 Neihana McMillan
 Harish Narasimhan
 Jerry Yao

Year 9

Caesar Goh
 Ji Hoon Im
 Sahil Madan
 Darian Moodley

Year 10

Josh Ghezzi
 Alvin Huang
 Sadie Kim
 David Tien

ICAS Computer Skills

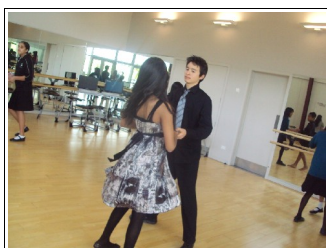
Congratulations to our first **Distinction Award Winners** for
 2011

**Sasha Amichand, Daria Solovyeva, Andrew Wong, Neesha
 Kumar and Caesar Goh.**

These students scored in the top 10% of all students
 nationally.

Congratulations to all our achievers!

Dancing in DEEP



Our unique DEEP programme offers MHJC
 students the opportunity to learn new skills,
 develop passions or enrich and
 strengthen achievement across a broad
 range of learning activities.

Recently a number of students completed
 a term of ballroom dancing and their final
 performance was polished and poised!



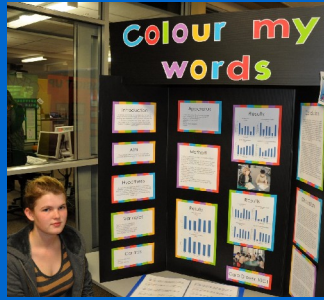
MHJC on Breakfast! Jandals Please!!



This week some of you may have seen MHJC and our New
 Zealand themed Rugby World Cup Welcome letters featured
 with Tamati on the Breakfast Show on TV1. Our very last letter to
 spell out the greeting "Haere Mai" is the letter "I" and our clever
 students are creating it in the shape of a giant jandal from
 hundreds of donated jandals. We have already had a wonderful
 response after the show, with jandals arriving in the mail, but if you have any of these kiwi
 icons lying around at home, no matter what colour or condition, we would love them to
 become part of our art work!

Coast's Science Fair

Coast students have been experiencing the successes and challenges of being scientists this term with their individual science research projects. With topics selected according to their own interests, they followed a rigorous scientific process and



came up with some interesting and beautifully presented results which they shared with their families at their own mini science fair recently.

Students also had an opportunity to attend workshops with scientists from the community earlier in the term or visit Motat to learn more about science in action in the community.

Fun and Challenging Learning in Forest Whanau!

Forest whanau's learning came alive this term with activities as diverse as a visit to the Howick Historical Village and a very competitive quiz day which really tested students' memories about different aspects of the term's learning contexts!

The finale of a great day was a newspaper catwalk where students transformed their teachers into catwalk stars!



Come and Enjoy Oliver

This year's school production "Oliver" will be on stage from Wednesday 17th August to Saturday 20th August.

The cast and orchestra have been rehearsing since April. Over 100 students are involved on stage or behind the scenes!

Tickets are \$6 and are on sale at reception.



Supreme Soul at Pasifica Beats



In the first weekend of the holidays 4 of our students, Elijah, Mark, Johnson and Callan, participated in the regional "Pasifica Beats" music contest.

The students, whose band is called Supreme Soul, composed their own songs and competed admirably against much older secondary school students. Well done to our budding musicians!

Trees for Survival Planting



Our Enviro students grew 900 healthy native trees from tiny seedlings over the last year. 610 of these were planted by our students in three hours on July 1st. Along with the planting the opportunity to participate in a powhiri on site made this a memorable day. Well done!

Interschool Skate Competition

In a first for our school we recently participated in an inter school skate boarding competition against Ponsonby Intermediate School. MHJC won the competition and the individual champion on the day



Karanveer Singh competes while Anthony Parkes waits for his turn

was Matthew Nikkolai