

MHJC News

Issue Nine

October 2009



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

Contents

Principal's message
Welcome Mrs Jackways
Yummy Apple Stickers
Lets Get Inventin'
Family and Friends
Important dates
MHJC Year Book
Knitathon
Mission Heights Junior
College Achievers
Visiting Artist
Trading Places
More Achievements!
Ormiston Senior College
Building Projects on Site.

Kia Ora,

Life at Mission Heights Junior College continues to be busy and exciting with much to report since our last newsletter.

As you will see our students continue to experience success right up to national level, in both their academic and other activities. We are very proud of their success.

At the same time as we are planning for the end of our first school year we are already busily preparing for 2010 when we will have all four year levels operating in our school. We have made our new teaching appointments in preparation for this growth and the high calibre of our new appointees can only add further to the strength of our school. Our students are indeed fortunate as we are attracting large fields of applicants and therefore are able to select successful, experienced teachers who also bring exciting extra curricular interests and expertise to our school community.

This term our Year 9 students will experience their first examinations in week five. We want to give our students authentic opportunities to experience all kinds of learning, and sitting examinations will be part of their experience in their senior secondary years, along with their internally assessed work. Becoming familiar with the process of revising and sitting an examination is often as important as learning the material itself and we want to ensure that our students will go to the Senior College confident and familiar with this type of assessment, just as they are becoming familiar, right from Year 7, with NCEA style assessment practice in their on going assessments.

This term we will again have student led conferences as we did earlier in the year. You can expect to be contacted by your child's Learning Advisor in the very near future to arrange a mutually convenient time for this. These meetings are very important in supporting your child's learning and we look forward to the same high turnout as we had last time.

Thank you all for your on going support of our school. It is greatly appreciated.

Joan Middlemiss , Principal

Welcome !

Mrs Sally Jackways has joined us this term in our library. Mrs Jackways is a trained librarian and has already settled in and is enjoying life in our beautiful new library. She had a busy and exciting introduction to Mission Heights Schools with a very successful Book Week last week.

Welcome Mrs Jackways.



Let's Get Inventing

Johanna Nee Nee will soon be making her invention idea for a new game into a reality, now that she has learned that her invention has been chosen for an



episode of the popular TV show "Let's Get Inventing".

Johanna learned of her success from Luke Nola the show's presenter at a school assembly last week. Johanna's invention story will be filmed in November and will be screened in 2010.

!! Important Dates !!

Year 9 Examinations,
November 9- 12

Prizegiving and last day for
MHJC students, December
11th.



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Yummy Apple Stickers

Thank You to our Family and Friends Group for promoting our Yummy Apples whanau competition.

Water whanau recently had their winning whanau muffin and

Sze Meeng received her individual prize reward. We earned \$409 of free sports equipment! Keep saving your stickers throughout the year so that next year we can earn even more!



A Message from Family and Friends

It's hard to believe but it's that time of the year again – winding down and wrapping up, honouring achievements throughout 2009 and for some of us, celebrating new beginnings in a new environment. Welcome back to the last term of 2009! And while 'Family and Friends' are not part of the teaching staff here at MHJC, we are just as important to our children's education.

Our children receive the best education when we and the dedicated teachers work as a team. It's a parent's enthusiasm, support and involvement that inspires children to do their best; and a teacher's ability to teach what they need to learn. Together we can achieve wonderful things.

There's a lot of excitement ahead of us here at 'Family and Friends' for the next 9 weeks, including a beautiful 2010 desktop calendar with art works by some of the students which will go on sale soon for you to purchase and gift wrap for Christmas, 'Celebrating Family and Friends evening' where we can have fun and laughter together over food, and last but not least, our very own 'Mission Heights Sing-Quest', modelled on the likes of 'American Idol' set to launch in Term 1, 2010. These are indeed hectic days we live in and I look forward to you sharing in on these exciting times. As a parent myself I know how fast time goes by. One year our child's in Year 1 and seemingly in the blink of an eye they're in secondary, or in their senior years of high school for that matter.

In closing, I encourage you to fully embrace the moment and urge you to take the time from your busy schedule to spend time with each other as a family and become familiar with MHJC. Together, we can create an environment for our children to excel. On behalf of the committee members here at 'Family and Friends' I look forward to seeing you very soon.
Jaime Christmas, Chairperson.

2009 MHJC Year Book

The school yearbook team is now taking orders for the 2009 MHJC School Yearbook. A Memoir DVD is attached to the inside cover of each yearbook and is included in the price of \$15.00. The DVD has a selection of photos from all four camps, the official opening, discos and a movie of the journey of our magnificent school, literally from the ground up!

Students, please bring your order/money to Miss Kindley and the Yearbook team each morning before school in the Coast Whanau.

Knit a Square- Show you Care!

Following on from their first very successful partnership with Kidz First hospital the Year 9 Technology Class are planning a 'Knitathon' day on Tuesday 8 December to support Kidz First Hospital.

The whole school will be involved in knitting squares which can then be made up into blankets.

We would appreciate donations of Size 8 or 4mm knitting needles and double knitting wool.



Congratulations Monica!

In our last newsletter we congratulated Monica Giles on her success in the regional Aerobics competition. Over the break Monica went on to take 2nd place nationally. What an outstanding achievement!

Community Problem Solvers Reach Great Heights!



Eight Mission Heights Junior College students, from two teams, have qualified to compete in the national finals for Community Problem Solving next weekend.

Six students from the Project TANE team, Alex Sutton, Daisy Zhu, Georgia Perry, Cara Dreyer, Chris Townsend and Helen Cao will present their project about their work opening up our neighbouring bush reserve, to the judges in the Middle Division and Liam Boxall and Anusha Ahluwalia, whose project is about Cyber Citizenship in a 21st Century environment, are part of a combined MHJC and MHP team competing in the Junior Division. Congratulations and good luck to both teams!



ICAS Mathematics Achievers

Congratulations to our great mathematicians!

High Distinction

Year 7:

Mitchell Farmer
Sahil Madan

Year 8:

Glenn Jou

Year 9:

Eric Jou

Distinction

Year 7:

Oscar Chin
Darrian Moodley

Year 9:

Sophie Giles

Credit

Year 7:

Alex Browne
Jake Chen
Avneet Singh
Sandy Su
Sze -Meeng Tan
Christopher Townsend

Year 8:

Suhail Muhammed

Year 9:

Gurkunwar Bedi



Visiting Artist:

Nicky Foreman

Students in 7W1 and 8C were fortunate recently to participate in a fantastic workshop with artist Nicky Foreman.

Students are now working on great experimental abstracts following on from this experience. They will complete their own works next week.





Congratulations!

Vaughan Grant has been selected for the Counties -Manukau U15 Boys Invitational Touch Team to travel to Australia to play against Queensland Representative teams in November. Well done Vaughan and good luck!

Shivani Rajan and Josephine Anderson have been selected for the U17 Counties Manukau Basketball development Team. Congratulations!



Battle of the Bands

We love that old time rock and roll, especially when it is sung and played with such energy and style by our very own Year 7 and 8 Rock band "People of Steel".

Aanchal, Nate, Samuel, Ryan and Callan, all from Mountains whanau, were rewarded for their efforts with third place, in the first heat of the 2009 Intermediate Battle of the Bands, hosted by Mission Heights Junior College last week. This puts the band in to the wild card draw for the grand final in November.

Another MHJC band, "Un-Named", Uniska, Christian, Abbie and Suzanne entertained the audience with an original song by Uniska, while the judges made their decision.

We look forward to Mission Heights Junior College having more bands in this competition, and others, next year and congratulate our budding rock stars!



Trading Places.

Principal / CEO for a Day

Recently we welcomed CEO of Mainzeal Construction, Peter Gomm to MHJC as part of the Principal for a Day Programme and in the last break Mrs Middlemiss spent a day as CEO of Mainzeal.

We learned about each other's visions, discovered interesting common ground and enjoyed being in quite a different environment for a day.



Mrs Middlemiss on a Mainzeal site

Ormiston Senior College Underway.

Work is underway on the Ormiston Senior College in Ormiston Road. Mr Maurie Jackways, Principal of the college has also officially taken up his position and is temporarily working from an office at MHJC.

Our Executive Council enjoyed the opportunity to meet recently with Mr Jackways.

The school's website is

www.ormiston.school.nz

Building Projects Happening on our Site

Work has begun on the 18 classroom Stage Two development for Mission Heights Primary School. While there will be inevitable disruption Hawkins Construction is working hard to keep this to a minimum. The building project is expected to be completed mid way through 2010.

Also due for completion around the same time is the Mission KINZ kindergarten off Valderama Drive. This will cater for 50 pre schoolers.

