

We hope you enjoy our April edition of 'Mission Heights News.'
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with titles and names.



Principal, Mrs Joan Middlemiss.

OUR VISION

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



Message from the Principal

April Newsletter

Information for students and parents

Our first term was a very intense and busy term and I was extremely proud of the energy our teachers brought to the two day Teacher Only, Professional Development we ran on the final two days of the term. The combination of their energy and openness to new learning and the catalyst of having an internationally recognised speaker to set the scene, resulted in two highly productive days from which I know our students will benefit. I would like to thank our Board of Trustees and our Parents for supporting these important opportunities for ongoing professional learning for our staff.

This term is already in full swing. It is the start of the winter sport season and also many of the academic competitions are beginning. We have recently been hosting a number of applicants for the Principal's position and we continue to receive many other visitors to our school. They are always impressed by the positivity of our students and staff and the wonderful school environment we are so fortunate to enjoy.

As I begin my final term as Principal of Mission Heights Junior College I am confident that it will be a great one.

Regards,

Joan Middlemiss

Upcoming Events

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

Road Safety Week

Monday 4th to Friday 8th May

NZSL Week

Monday 4th to Sunday 10th May

ICAS Digital Technologies Exam

Tuesday 19th May

Coast Whanau 'Shakespear Lodge Camp' for Yr 7 & 10

Wednesday 20th May to Friday 22nd May

Year 8's Temple Visit

Thursday 21st May

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 27th May, 6pm

Ormiston Senior College Careers Evening

Wednesday 27th May, 6.30pm

ICAS Science Exam

Wednesday 3rd June

Year 8 Transition Visits to OSC

Thursday 4th June - **Coast**

Friday 5th June - **Forest**

Thursday 11th June - **Water**

Friday 12th June - **Mountains**

Talent Quest Finals

Thursday 11th June

ICAS Writing Exams

Monday 15th - Friday 19th June

ICAS Spelling Exam

Tuesday 16th June

Science Road Show (Yr 7 & 8's)

Thursday 18th & Friday 19th June

Board of Trustees Meeting

Wednesday 24th June, 6pm

MHJC Mufti Day & Disco

Thursday 25th June

Last Day of Term 2

Friday 3rd July, 3pm



Pictured Back: Avinash Sathyaseelan, Henry Man, Samson Ireland, Akaash Shashikumar;

Centre: Ho Zhin Man, Kelly Chen, Briana Baker, Ngapipi Herewini, Leonard Tapatuetoa, Victor Chua;

Pictured Front: Jennifer Chea, Sophie Chen, Mrs Middlemiss, Mr Naidoo, Celeste Lane, Brenda Ngo. (Absent Hanna Song).

Executive Council's 2015 Legacy Project

Each year the **Executive Student Council** decides on a **Legacy Project**, something that they hope will benefit the students who follow on at **Mission Heights Junior College** in future years. This year the students plan to further develop the concept of inter whanau competitions to encompass a wide range of activities across the **4 Cornerstones**.

The hope is that this will provide opportunities for many more students to show their diverse talents and contribute to their whanau's attempts to win a new award which will be presented to the whanau with the highest overall points at the end of the year. We wish the Council well with their project and look forward to hearing about their progress in the coming terms.

Teacher Only Days

Lane Clark Professional Development



On Wednesday 1st and Thursday 2nd April, staff from **MHJC** and **MHP** worked with popular international educator, **Lane Clark** to learn about dimensions of learning, information processing, cognitive load theory and pedagogy underpinning the learning process.

The workshop acted as a powerful catalyst for staff to challenge

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2015 Term Dates

Term 2

Monday 20th April to
Friday 3rd July
(11 Week Term)

Term 3

Monday 20th July to
Friday 25th September
(10 Week Term)

Term 4

Monday 12th October to
Wednesday 16th December
(10 Week Term)

*Please do not book overseas
travel during term time.*



NCEA Information Evening

MHJC's Family & Friends group welcomed parents to an NCEA Information Evening.

The focus of the evening was an opportunity for **Senior Leader Kate Lambert** to explain some of the intricacies of NCEA and for **Karen Brinsden** Principal of **Ormiston Senior College** to present data relating to their NCEA results.

These evenings are held each year and are of particular interest to Year 10 students and their parents.

understandings of the **MHJC 6 Step Learning Framework**, with a view to undertake action research to increase the functionality and useability of our home-grown learning model. We thank staff for their valuable thinking and collaboration during these days and look forward to continued work in this area by MHJC's **Learning Framework** action research focus group.



Earn an Academic Cornerstone! Enter MHJC's Science Fair Competition



This is an early reminder for students wishing to enter **MHJC's Science Fair**, that it is time to start undertaking projects so that they are ready for judging in Week 1, of Term 3. Projects can be science or technology based. We also have a scientific photography category this year, with a "Precious Resources" theme.

Project display boards need to be submitted by 4 pm on Friday 24th July (Term 3, Week 1).

There are prizes to be won, including a special field trip for year level winners, gift certificates, and chocolate! Many students will also be eligible to progress through to the **2015 NIWA Manukau Region Science and Technology Fair**, that is hosted in our school theatre. At this Fair, there are special awards where students can win money and experience-based trips.

Please e-mail **Mr. Dion Cowley** dcowley@mhjc.school.nz or **Ms. Catherine Hunter** chunter@mhjc.school.nz if you are interested in learning more about the Fair. These teachers are very happy to help provide students with templates and assist with ideas/methods /analysis. Cardboard display boards in a range of colours are available for purchase at the MHJC reception, for \$10.



NEW ZEALAND QUALIFICATIONS AUTHORITY
MANA TOHU MĀTAURANGA O AOTEAROA



Pictured: Simran Singh, Aadi Singh, Oho Takeshi and Piper Korner enjoying Japanese snacks during a food lesson about etiquette and manners in Japan.

Year 7 Japan Trip

Six students from Year 7, Simran Singh, Aadi Singh, Piper Korner, Oho Takeshi, Isabella Gillespie, Jerusalem Toitalo and Japanese teacher Ms Wigg, are heading to Japan in July. The group will be heading to Fukuoka, in the south of Japan, alongside over 300 people from 40 countries to take part in the Asia Pacific Children's convention, where they will be representing both Auckland and New Zealand. They will then be partnered with a Japanese family for a homestay experience.

To prepare for this, the students have been participating in a series of Japanese experiences so that they can get accustomed to the unique aspects of Japanese culture. They are especially enjoying familiarising themselves with the flavours of Japan, as pictured above. Thank you to the Auckland Council for their generous sponsorship of this experience.



'Road Safety Week' Monday 4th to Friday 8th May

Students, please remember to travel safely to school, using helmets, safety signals and crosswalks. This is also a reminder to those driving vehicles to slow down and watch out for cyclists and walkers around the school.

Week 3 of Term 2 is Road Safety Week. A list of planned lunchtime events is shown below... Also, check out our Travelwise Page on Mission Heights Online <http://online.mhjc.school.nz/course/view.php?id=3851> to register and for more information:

Monday: Random prize giveaway to students who display road safety;

Tuesday: Travelwise Bake Sale... everything is \$2;

Wednesday: Bike Smoothies... ride a bike to make a smoothie: \$3 each;

Thursday: Bike Smoothies... ride a bike to make a smoothie: \$3 each;

Friday: Fast and slow bike races.

(Prizes to be won include helmets, locks and lights.)

All proceeds raised from the sale of pedal-powered bike smoothies will go to purchase a class set of bikes, which is MHJC's Travelwise initiative for 2015.

TravelWise
thinking transport.



M.A.D Initiative in 'Make A Difference' DEEP Class

During Term 1 the **Make A Difference** DEEP class selected to support the **New Zealand Red Cross**, with specific reference to aiding refugees living in Auckland. Through active research it was found that blankets are a high priority and essential need for the approximate 700 refugees that arrive in Auckland each year. Students also found out that English is not widely spoken amongst refugees and therefore, developed an interest to raise story books to encourage reading. Story books offer pictures and basic English ideas that can support both children and adults in their journey of learning English.

Students who gifted a blanket and story book were automatically in for a draw to win two movie tickets. At total of 43 brand new blankets were donated together, with 30 story books. Two representatives from the NZ Red Cross, Dawit Arshak and Rob Munnik visited the **Make a Difference** class to give a presentation on the struggles and hope of refugees, and lead a discussion of the value of the NZ Red Cross in Auckland.



Hao Wins Wedding Invitation Competition

Year 10 Option Graphics students were given the opportunity at the beginning of the year to create a **Wedding Invitation** for a couple that will be getting married in August in the United Kingdom. Although the requirements of the brief were clear, they were not easy to meet. The card had to include images representing two cultures: a 'Kiwi' groom and an English bride.

During the school break, all students' designs were sent to England for the couple to evaluate and make their decision. The winner of the competition is **Hao Zheng** from 10M2. This represents a fantastic outcome and is a strong example of an **authentic learning task**.



Design by Hao Zheng, Mission Heights Junior College, Auckland New Zealand



It's New Zealand Sign Language Week. Join MHJC in celebrating New Zealand's third official language.

Have fun learning NZSL by playing 'Sign Ninja' on...
<http://www.nzslsignninja.co.nz/>



MHJC's Lawn Bowlers are Fast Learners!

During the school holidays six Year 10 students from Water Whanau participated in a three day lawn bowls training workshop with Jill Fraser, from the Pakuranga Bowling Club at Lloyd Elsmore Park. Their introduction to lawn bowls culminated in a one day 'pairs tournament' the following week, between teams from Mission



Forest's Fabulous Cricket Day

On Monday, 30th March, Year 8 students in Forest Whanau organised a Whanau-wide Cricket Tournament in celebration of the recent Cricket World Cup. This also provided an opportunity for Forest Whanau to come together as one.

The Year 8 students worked extremely hard throughout Term 1 to develop creative and engaging games that provided a great day of competition. The day was spent outside, extending students' knowledge of cricket, teamwork, and the importance of fair play. A special congratulations goes to the UAE for Most Organised Team, Australia for Best Whanau Spirit, and Bangladesh for the overall Cup Winners!



Education Perfect World Series

Mission Heights Junior College students will be working hard over the coming months to defend our 2014 placings in the Education Perfect World Series. Last year students worked exceptionally hard to carry our school to a final result of third in the world and first in New Zealand, from over 1000 schools around the world. As approximately 300,000 students compete in these events, this was an amazing result. In 2015 MHJC students will set out to defend this title.

Heights Junior College, Elim Christian College and Sancta Maria College. Congratulations to Sophie Chen and Claudia Nair who placed 3rd overall.



Congratulations Amy

At the annual prizegiving for Howick Pakuranga Cricket Club, Amy Moore (8F2) was recognised for being part of the team that won their grade this season. Amy's HPCC team won the Auckland Cricket Association Under 14 B Grade for 2015, defeating the other HPCC team in the final. Amy starred with the ball throughout the season, taking 10 wickets in total, at a very impressive economy rate. Next season she is hoping to push for a place in the Manukau Districts under 15 Team, coached by MHJC teacher, Mr Neil Penfold. An increasing number of MHJC girls are choosing to play cricket as their summer sport, and Mr Penfold is very hopeful of establishing a school team at the college in the very near future.

Students can still enter the World Series, at a cost of \$25. This is a suitable competition for students from a wide range of ability levels, and offers a chance for many students to participate in the academic cornerstone. If interested, please email Ms. Wigg on twigg@mhjc.school.nz for more information.

The first event in the 2015 series is the Social Sciences competition, which began on Tuesday, April 28th. We wish our team all the best for achieving both the school-wide goal, and their own personal targets for this competition.



Pictured Left: Trudi Wigg with Michelle Lodge (BDSC), Adam Burden (Lynfield College), Miyuki Chiba (The Japan Forum), Yoko Nishimura-Parke (NSW Dept of Education) and Akiko Harada (National Advisor of Japanese)

Pictured Right: Miss Wigg with an ikebana flower arrangement, post-workshop.

Ms Wigg Attends Japanese Language Teachers Conference

MHJC's teacher of Japanese was fortunate over the holidays to be invited to attend the Japanese Language Teachers Association of Victoria (JLTAV) conference in Melbourne, Australia.

Only three NZ teachers were able to participate in this, as well as the National Advisor for Japanese, Ms. Akiko Harada. Ms. Wigg attended in her capacity as a member of the Executive Committee of NZ Association of Japanese Teachers, and was generously sponsored by the Japan Forum to participate.

Over the intensive two day conference delegates were treated to inspirational workshops about modern Japanese teaching practice, incorporating culture and ICT into lessons, and several innovative new resources and websites.

The new Australian Curriculum Document for Japanese was also presented to participants, and two renowned keynote speakers gave fresh perspectives on current classroom issues globally.

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



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Sports Report



SEZ Year 8 Boys Football

On Thursday 30th April, our Year 8 Boys Football team took part in the South Eastern Zone Tournament, held at a wet and windy St. Kentigern College.

The boys trained hard for this tournament and started very well, defeating Howick Intermediate 8-0. This big win gave them a lot of confidence going in to their next games, beating Sir Edmund Hillary 3-0 and Pakuranga Intermediate 3-1. They lost 2-1 to the eventual tournament winners, Somerville Intermediate, in what was a very tight and competitive game. Mission Heights Junior College entered their last pool game knowing that a draw was enough to take them through to the Semi-Finals. Facing Farm Cove, the boys produced one of their most disciplined performances, winning 3-1. This included two wonderful goals, one from Joshua Jeftha who finished a very well worked goal that started from our back four, and a stunning lob from Caleb Prasad for the other.

This win meant that MHJC finished second in their pool, and were drawn against a very strong Bucklands Beach Intermediate team in the semi-final. The day finally caught up with our tired players and despite MHJC's best efforts, BBI were comfortable 2-0 winners. Congratulations to MHJC's Year 8 Boys Football Team for placing 3rd overall in the SEZ Tournament.