

We hope you enjoy August's edition of 'Mission Heights News.'  
Please click [View it in your browser](#) to view text plus images in this newsletter.

To translate our newsletter, please  
[View it in your browser](#) then click 'Translate'  
(top right).

As this is 'Google Translate', exact  
translation will not be achieved, especially  
with titles and names.



Principal, Mrs Joan Middlemiss.

## OUR VISION

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



## Message from the Principal

### August Newsletter

*Information for students and parents*

What an amazing month we have had since our last newsletter. Our students continue to enjoy outstanding successes at the highest levels. Most importantly this success is across a broad range of activities showing that, as a school, our students are truly being challenged to great heights wherever their talents lie.

The **Regional Science Fair** judging saw MHJC students take first placings in 4 of the 8 categories our students entered and we also gained a further two second placings. With 25 schools from across the region competing, this level of success is nothing short of amazing. We also have a **Mission Heights Junior College** student **Karina Gesmundo** in the **NZ finals of the Vegemite Year 9 and 10 Spelling Bee**. Karina placed third in the very challenging Auckland finals to secure her spot and will now travel to Wellington to compete at national level.

We recently celebrated the success of our debaters in the regional competition but our success has not stopped there. Our team of **Laila Abada**, **Rylee Fraser** and **Elaina Hea** has advanced through three further Auckland wide rounds eliminating **Diocesan Girls School's** second team, **Westlake Boys High School** and then the **Diocesan** first team to reach the Auckland finals against **St Kentigern College**. Our students were the only Year 9 students in the finals round and, from over 100 teams, to reach the top two is an amazing feat.

Year 10 student **Prina Mistry's** talent was recognised when she placed 2nd nationally in the **Year 9 and 10 Gifted Awareness Art Competition**, another outstanding achievement. As the winter sports season winds up a number of our Year 9 and 10 sports teams have also secured top placings in their competitions and our Year 7 and 8 Girls netball team also placed 2nd recently in their competition.

Add to these speeches, Mathex, or our wonderful school production



## Upcoming Events

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

### SEZ Cross Country

Tuesday 3rd September

### MHJC Hosting Hindi Speech Competition

Wednesday 4th September

### MHJC 'Family & Friends' Evening: 7pm Staffroom

Wednesday 4th September

### Year 7/8 EZ Speech Finals at Somerville Int.

Tuesday 10th September

### Ormiston Senior College Open Evening

Tuesday 10th September

### SEZ Boys Basketball Tournament

Wednesday 11th September

### SEZ Girls Basketball Tournament

Thursday 12th September

### MHJC 2014 Yr 8 & 9 Option Evening: 6.30pm

Wednesday 11th September

### MHJC Mufti & Disco

Thursday 19th September

### Celebration Assemblies

Tuesday 24th September

### BOT Meeting

Wednesday 25th September

### Term 3 Ends

Friday 27th September is the last day of Term (9 Week Term)

### Term 4 Starts

Monday 14th October

### Term 4 Ends

Thursday 12th December is our School Prize-Giving and the last day of Term (9 Week Term)

“School Rox,” cross country, creative writing and Travelwise and it is plain to see that our students are gaining opportunities that it would be hard to match and they are grasping these opportunities and making the absolute most of them. What more can we ask?

Regards,

Joan Middlemiss



Pictured: 'Projects Galore!' Young scientists put to the test by teams of expert judges.

## MHJC Successful at NIWA Manukau Science Fair

Scientific curiosity is embraced at Mission Heights Junior College, and this was certainly evident on Wednesday evening at the NIWA Manukau Science Fair Prizegiving. Congratulations to our 2013 prize-winners:

- Year 7 to 10 Technology and Innovations:  
First Place: Cailey Dayu, Courtney Powell & Krishin Rama
- Year 7 & 8 Intermediate Consumer Science:  
First Place: Victor Chua & Justin Tan
- Year 9 & 10 Physical and Material World:  
First Place: Dylan Townsend
- Year 9 & 10 Environmental Science/Planet Earth and Beyond:  
Second Place: Asha Shashikumar
- Year 9 & 10 Living World:  
First Place: Jessa Ilano
- Year 9 & 10 Living World:  
Second Place: Nishalia Maharaj
- Year 9 & 10 Living World:  
Highly Commended: Shayana Swamy & Tania Singh

### Special Awards:

- Prize for Best Year 9 Investigation:  
Dylan Townsend
- Prize for Best Year 10 Investigation:  
Jessa Ilano
- Award for Best Application of Electronics:  
Cailey Dayu, Courtney Powell & Krishin Rama
- IET Innovation Award:  
Cailey Dayu, Courtney Powell & Krishin Rama
- Best Use of Statistics Award:  
Jessa Ilano

A selection of MHJC's Science Fair Projects are showcased below...

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



The 'MHJC Family & Friends' have organised a parent information evening that is to be held on Wednesday 4th September, upstairs in the MHJC staffroom. The theme that will be presented is:

**'Student Progress & Achievement'**

...with a visiting speaker from Ormiston Senior College, Principal Maurie Jackways.

We hope you can join us from 7.00pm, on the 4th September.



**Are your details correct on our Database?**

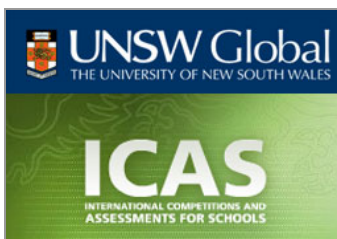
Please ensure that we have your up-to-date email address, phone numbers, and mailing address, so we are able to communicate with you, especially if your child needs to go home during the day.



Pictured: Claudine Kleb and Sibylle Townsend providing catering services for the NIWA Manukau Science Fair Prizegiving.

**Our Wonderful 'Family & Friends' - Thank You!**

The 'MHJC Family & Friends' showed their support for the school once again this year by assisting at the 2013 NIWA Science Fair event. Our sincere thanks goes to Sibylle Townsend, Claudine Kleb, Angelia Lau-Chu, Prina Mistry, Anne Lee, Lisa Herbert and team for supporting both the supervision of the Science Fair Open Days and the catering of the NIWA Science Fair Prize-giving.



#### Results for ICAS Spelling:

##### Year 7 'Distinctions'

Jing Ying Foong  
Brianna Ochi

##### Year 8 'Distinctions'

Ziyad Buksh  
Lorena Gesmundo

##### Year 8 'High Distinctions'

Avinash Sathiyaseelan

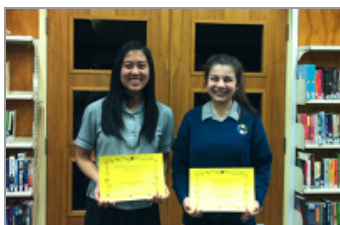
#### Results for ICAS Writing:

##### Year 7 'Distinctions'

Jing Ying Foong

##### Year 8 'Distinctions'

Sophie Chen  
Avinash Sathiyaseelan  
Daniel Strong  
Justin Tan



#### Yr 9/10 EZ Speech Finals

Mission Heights Junior College was well represented at the Eastern Zone Secondary Speech Competition that was held at Pakuranga College recently. Our congratulations to...

##### Year 9 Division:

Laila Abada  
Who placed third overall

##### Year 10 Division:

Jessa Ilano  
Also placed third overall.



#### MHJC 2013 Speech Finalists

**Back:** Kyle Potgieter, Kaden Naidoo, Steven Guo & Rylee Fraser

**Middle:** Nishalia Maharaj, Karina Gesmundo, Maeono Ivaiti, Laila Abada, Insaaf Hartley, & Jessa Ilano

**Front:** Ngapipi Herewini, Victor Chua, Justin Tan & Ayesha Ali

On Tuesday 13th August students who had progressed through from the school semi-finals competed in the **MHJC 2013 School Speech Competition**. The standard was particularly impressive this year, and our congratulations go to...

##### Year 7 & 8 Division:

1st: Victor Chua  
2nd: Ngapipi Herewini

##### Year 10:

1st: Jessa Ilano  
2nd: Nishalia Maharaj

##### Year 9:

1st: Laila Abada  
2nd: Maeono Ivaiti



Pictured: Laila Abada, Elaina Hea and Rylee Fraser competing against Saint Kentigern College debaters on Monday evening.

#### MHJC Debaters Place 2nd in Auckland Final

On Monday 26th August Laila Abada, Elaina Hea and Rylee Fraser battled against Saint Kentigern's College for the title of 'Auckland's Top Junior Open Debaters'. After 5 preliminary rounds, and some very hotly contested octo finals, quarter finals and semi finals, a split decision by the judges saw Saint Kentigern's College narrowly edge out our Year 9 team. Our congratulations and thanks go to Laila, Elaina and Rylee for a high quality and entertaining final debate!



### Carl's Cantonese Speech Success

Congratulations to Year 7 student Carl Xie, who represented MHJC and placed 3rd at the APPA Cantonese Speech Competition, held at Somerville Intermediate.



### APPA Samoan Speech Competition

Year 7 student, Mathyu Fa'Atola proudly represented Mission Heights Junior College at the APPA Year 7 & 8 Samoan Language Speech Finals at Viscount School. Although Mathyu did not place this year, he is already looking forward to competing in this event again in 2014.



Pictured: Scenes from the recent 2013 Vegemite Regional Spelling Bee Competition.

Below: The top 4 spellers will now progress through to the NZ Spelling Bee Finals.

### MHJC Students Compete at Regional Spelling Bee

On Sunday 18th August, Year 10 students Karina Gesmundo, Jessa Ilano and Helen Ma represented MHJC at the 2013 Regional Spelling Bee, held at the Q Theatre on Queen Street. Qualification for this event meant that the girls were already amongst the top 208 Year 9 & 10 spellers in the country.

After 7 grueling rounds (the first consisting of a written test), Karina confidently spelled her way to 3rd place. The top 4 spellers will now progress through to the Wellington finals, to battle for the title of 'New Zealand's Top Speller!' We wish Karina all the very best for the Nationals!



**Social Action:  
Human Rights & Social  
Justice Issues**

10F1 have been exploring Human Rights and Social Justice Issues, and have worked to develop a 'Social Action'. Groups learned about issues such as child poverty here in NZ, extreme poverty in countries such as Cambodia and Zambia, juvenile justice issues in United States, workers rights in India, inequality experienced by cocoa farmers in Ghana, unfair detention and torture of prisoners in Guantanamo Bay as well as food relief assistance in West Africa.

'Social Actions' taken included a letter writing campaign, where students attempted to raise public awareness and funds through a candy floss sale, baking and food stalls as well as a sponsored head shaving event. Raised funds were then donated to organisations such as Oxfam, World Vision, Save the Children and Kids Can.

**Short Story  
Competition**

**Short Story  
Competition 2013  
Winners**

The standard of entries was very high. Well done to all those who entered!

Winners of the **Co-Author**  
category:

**1st Place**

Paula Alontave &  
Anthony Hua

**2nd Place**

Hari Narasimhan &

Pictured: MHJC's action-packed and fulfilled Mathex Evening.

**2013 MHJC Mathex Evening**

On Wednesday 14th August teams from Mission Heights Primary, Baverstock Oaks Primary, Mission Heights Junior College, as well as teachers and parents battled within each division for the title of '2013 MHJC Mathex Champions'.

The winning teams were:

**Year 7:**

Sinead Venter, Kayla Pieterse, Shivaen Singh & Kaveen Kumar

**Year 8:**

Oanh Le, Ruben Van der Merwe, Victor Chua & Justin Tan

**Year 9:**

Cailey Dayu, Anthony Hua, Yuzhang Tan & Steven Guo

**Year 10:**

Karina Gesmundo, Ivy Hu, Jerry Chen & Chen Wei Lam

To see our teams in action during the Mathex Evening visit:

[http://youtu.be/M0qi\\_ZAy2l8](http://youtu.be/M0qi_ZAy2l8)



Pictured: Stunning images from MHJC's Cultural Dress Parade.

**Cultural Dress Day a Highlight of MHJC's  
International Languages Week**

Students and staff embraced the spirit of our recent 'MHJC International Languages Week' by participating in a Cultural Dress Parade. As you can see by the montage of photos, we are proud to celebrate our wonderfully vibrant cultural diversity!

**MHJC Sports Report**

Shakir Younis

**3rd Place**

Justin Tan &

Victor Chua

Winners of the Junior  
category:

**1st Place**

Si-Min Chung

**2nd Place**

Sophie Chen

**3rd Place**

Disha Mehta

Winners of the Senior  
category:

**1st Place**

Asha Shashikumar

**2nd Place**

Rashmeen Sandhu

**3rd Place**

Nishalia Maharaj



### Year 7 & 8 EBBA Basketball

Mission Heights Junior College entered five teams into Semester One of the EBBA Basketball Module. The MHJC 'Heat' girls team won the girls championship division and the MHJC 'Lakers' boys team finished 3rd place in the boys championship division. Interest in junior basketball is at an all time high, with MHJC entering six teams in the Semester Two Module, which started last week.



### MHJC Cross Country Results

The annual MHJC Cross Country Event was held on Friday 23rd August. Despite showery conditions, all Whanau embraced the spirit of the day with extra-ordinarily high participation rates for this voluntary event. Congratulations to our overall winners, Mountains Whanau and our individual place getters...

#### Year 7 Girls:

- 1st. Sophia Herewini
- 2nd. Tylah Williams
- 3rd. Tyla Amos

#### Year 7 Boys:

- 1st. Ahmad Qasimi
- 2nd. Aryaan Batra
- 3rd. Luqmaan Lateef

#### Year 8 Girls:

- 1st. Tiana Windbuchler
- 2nd. Manasseh Gray
- 3rd. Aisha Koike

#### Year 8 Boys:

- 1st. Jayden Smith
- 2nd. Junayd Mohamed
- 3rd. Felixsun Seang

#### Year 9 Girls:

- 1st. Danielle Venter
- 2nd. Courtney Powell
- 3rd. Cailey Dayu

#### Year 9 Boys:

- 1st. Vaneel Ram
- 2nd. Vincent Djajana
- 3rd. Kaden Naidoo

#### Year 10 Girls:

- 1st. Sanara Swarnadhipathi
- 2nd. Sasha Amichand
- 3rd. Asha Shashikumar

#### Year 10 Boys:

- 1st. Nivneel Prakash
- 2nd. Ruan Botha
- 3rd. Jerry Chen



### Drake Fun-Run

To conclude their Duke Of Edinburgh award, Ivy Hu, Grant Lu, Harvey Carunungan, Nikkola Flores and Narjis Adnan completed the Auckland Series 5km Fun-Run around Barry Curtis Park. It was an very early 7am Sunday morning start, however all students were happy with their progress and achieved some Personal Best times.



### Tuesday Open Mornings

We are extremely proud of our wonderful school, our **GREAT** students and dedicated staff. We welcome visitors, educators and prospective students to our school, which is open for viewing 'in action' each Tuesday morning at 10am. Appointments are not necessary. Simply report to our school reception, where either our school principal Mrs Joan Middlemiss, or Deputy Principal



Pictured: MHJC's Senior Girls' Football team in action.

### Strong Season Finish to Senior Girls' Football

The Year 9 and 10 Girls Soccer season ended on a high note with a win over Howick College (2-1). The girls secured their win with a late game penalty shot. The win tied the girls for first place in the Counties Manukau U15 Division. All girls can be proud of their efforts for the season.



Pictured: Top left, MHJC 'A' Team & bottom right, MHJC 'Black' Team.

### Senior Netballers Bring Home Year 10 Trophy

Our MHJC 'A' Team won the Year 10 trophy at the Eastern Zone Secondary Schools Finals Day. The team competed in the Senior Section against teams containing students up to Year 13. Despite losing their final to Pakuranga College, the team were the top ranking Year 10 team and the only Junior aged team to qualify for the top division. Congratulations to Mrs Sally Jackways and her team on a superb effort. The MHJC 'Black' Team defeated Pakuranga College 9 to top their division. The two goal victory capped off a great season for Miss Trudi Wigg's team.

Miss Abbi Shields' MHJC 'Purple' Team were defeated by Howick College in their playoff for 3rd and 4th place. Congratulations to all three senior netball teams for a successful netball season.

Naddy Naidoo will lead you on a guided tour of the school.



### Please Contact Us

Please do not hesitate to send an email to the Assistant Principal in your child's Whanau if you would like to communicate any pastoral needs/concerns.

Click on the Whanau button(s), below to send a confidential email...

Coast Pastoral

Forest Pastoral

Water Pastoral

Mountains Pastoral



We'd love you to follow us on



Pictured: Members of our mighty MHJC Year 7 & 8 Girls Netball Team.

### South Eastern Zone Success for Junior Netballers

The Year 7 & 8 girls netball team represented MHJC at the South Eastern Zone Netball Tournament recently. With great team work and high spirits the girls won six straight matches in a row and progressed through to the finals. The girls ultimately placed second, losing against Sommerville Intermediate with a score of 12-7.



Pictured: MHJC's Enviro Group, celebrating their Bronze status.

### TravelWise Award Ceremony at 'The Cloud'

Members of the MHJC Enviro Group attended our annual awards ceremony at The Cloud, where special guest star Erin Simpson was MC for the night. Auckland Transport's TravelWise programme encourages schools and students to travel more actively, safely and sustainably to and from school. It aims to raise road safety awareness and to improve the overall health and well-being of the school community.

Facebook! Simply click on the buttons below to be directed to our new Facebook page, or our website.



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### Slow Down Around Schools Campaign

In July, the MHJC Travelwise Group in conjunction with NZ Police and Auckland Council conducted the "Slow Down Around Schools" campaign, where students checked the speeds of all vehicles traveling within our school zone between 7.45-8.30am. Astonishingly, almost half of the traffic was traveling over the 40km speed limit. Parents, you can help make our community safer by following the speed signs and driving 40km/h around schools.

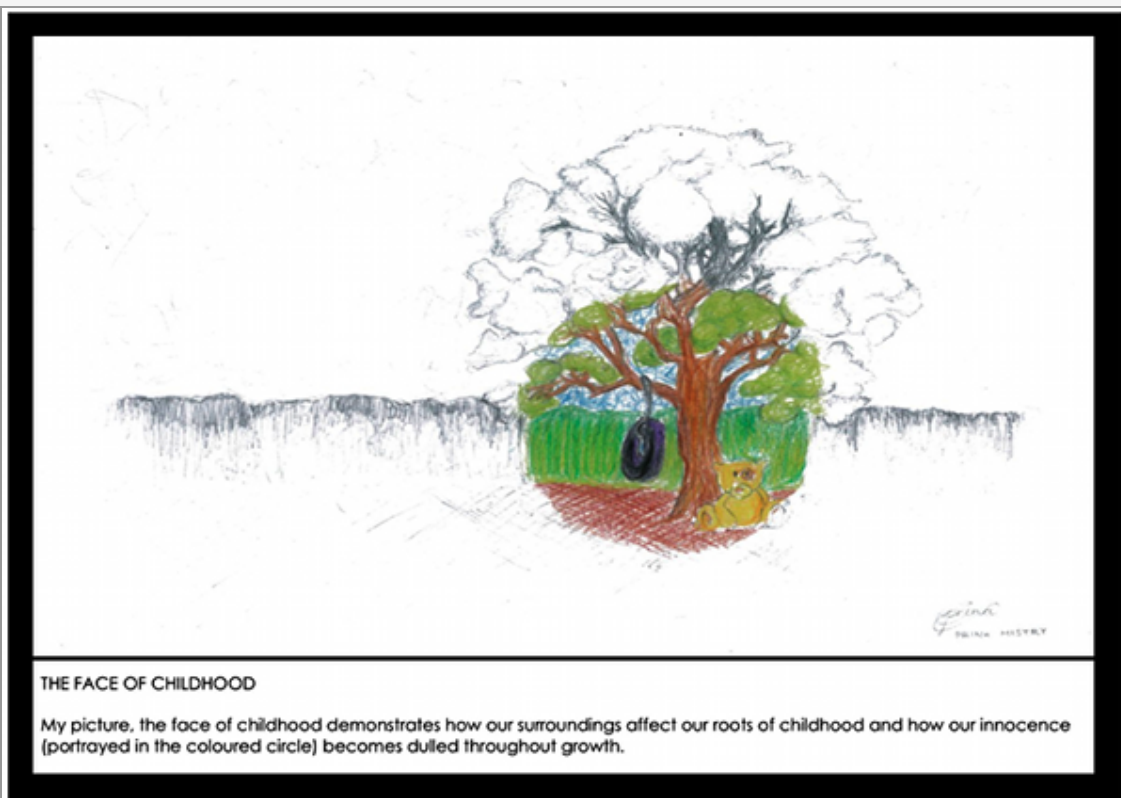


### MHJC's Enviro Planting Day

The MHJC Enviro Group traveled to a Clevedon property and 'planted out' 500+ plants recently. This is an annual event, where students plant the **Trees For Survival** native plants they've cared for and grown for 12 months. As you can see in the photos above, it was a rewarding day that was enjoyed by all!

## Gifted Awareness Week Art Winner

View **2013 Winning Entries** on their Website: [www.giftedchildren.org.nz](http://www.giftedchildren.org.nz)



### Gifted Awareness Week - Competition Results

Congratulations to Year 10 student, Prina Mistry (work pictured above) for gaining 2nd Place in the Secondary School Art Division.



## Wearable Arts Winners Featured in Creme Magazine

*Publishing permissions gained from Editor, Creme Magazine: 30.08.13*

1. **Pictured left:** Avant Garde winner Leena Fong models the garment, 'Life Lines'. Also pictured below with fellow designers Amy Ma and Emmaly Neil.
7. **Middle:** Top Female Model, student Sinead Venter wearing 'Shadowed Golden Flower'.



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You are receiving this email to keep up to date with news and events at Mission Heights Junior College.