

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

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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

### February Newsletter

*Information for students and parents*

A warm welcome to the 2015 year to all our families. We have had a very positive start to the school year at Mission Heights Junior College. Due to the majority of our families attending our Admin Day our students have been able to settle quickly into their learning programme and our new Year 7's arrived feeling confident and ready for their next steps in their new school.

Once again this year we have an increased roll, with over 800 students and, due to this and the changes in our timetable structure this year, we welcome a number of new staff to the school.

I have just had the pleasure of presenting the annual report on student achievement to the Board of Trustees for the 2014 year. (This report is available to you on our [website](#).) As a school we had such success last year and I am confident that we can look forward to more success in 2015.

Regards,

**Joan Middlemiss**



## Upcoming Events

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

### MHJC Swimming Sports

Friday 6th March  
Panmure Lagoon Pools

### Mountains Whanau

#### 'Camp Adair' for Yr 7 & 10

Monday 9th March to  
Wednesday 11th March

### Forest Whanau

#### 'Camp Adair' for Yr 7 & 10

Wednesday 11th March to  
Friday 13th March

### Water Whanau

#### 'Piha Mill Camp' for Yr 7 & 10

Wednesday 18th March to  
Friday 20th March

### BoT Meeting

Wednesday 25th March

### MHJC Mufti Day & Disco

Thursday 26th March

### Cultural Food Festival

Saturday 28th March  
11:00am to 3:00pm

### Term 1 Ends

Thursday 2nd April

### Term 2 Starts

Monday 20th April, 8.15am

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## 2015 Term Dates

### Term 1

Thursday 5th February to  
Thursday 2nd April

(9 Week Term)

### 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)

## Whanau Organisation for 2015

### Coast Whanau

Mr Sachida Naidu

Deputy Principal

Mrs Reshmika Lal

Assistant Principal

Mrs Priscilla Naidoo

Whanau Co-ordinator

### Forest Whanau

Mrs Cathy Hewlett

Deputy Principal

Ms Kate Lambert

Assistant Principal

Mrs Courtenay Kilpatrick

Whanau Co-ordinator

### Water Whanau

Miss Melanie Kindley

Deputy Principal

Mr David Nutt

Assistant Principal

Mr Helgard Groenewald

Whanau Co-ordinator

### Mountains Whanau

Mr Neil Penfold

Deputy Principal

Mrs Neelam Taneja

Assistant Principal

Miss Catherine Hunter

Whanau Co-ordinator



### MHJC present at the Inaugural Science & Technology Symposium in Singapore

Year 10 students, Victor Chua, Joshua Fong, Joseph Haddad and Samson Ireland represented Mission Heights Junior College at the inaugural Science & Technology Symposium for Youths, hosted at the Hwa Chong Institution in Singapore from 18th-24th January, 2015. The objective of the symposium was to provide a platform for collaborative learning in science, technology, engineering and mathematics through the interaction and sharing of research ideas amongst students of diverse cultural backgrounds.

MHJC's 'The Sixth Sense' team delivered a presentation about their solution to the issue of driveway reversing injury to delegates from South Korea, China, Malaysia and Singapore.

'The Sixth Sense' team were treated to a range of high quality experiences, and especially enjoyed *Prof Sow Chong Haur*, the head of Physics at the National University of Singapore, who presented a keynote presentation on 'Nano-technology'. The boys visited the Singapore Botanic Gardens, 'Gardens by the Bay' and the SMART Centre, to learn about the development of autonomous vehicles.

Please do not book overseas travel during term time.



### Young Designers Make Headlines

Mission Heights Junior College graduates Anthony Hua and Paula Alontave were the National winners of the Young Designer Awards Trust's 2014 Young Designer Competition. We were delighted to see their graphics work recognised in the Times Online, over the holiday break. Click on the link below to read the article...

[Times Online - judging books by covers](#)



### Trees for Survival: Kowhai Award

Mission Heights Junior College was recently awarded the 2014 Kowhai Award from the *Trees for Survival* organisation. The award is handed out to schools

Joseph was fortunate to trial an autonomous golf cart - check out a short video of this on the link below...

[Click here to see Joseph's journey in an autonomous vehicle...](#)

Other highlights of the trip were their attendance at the Nobel Forum Grand Ceremony where students interviewed 3 nobel laureates and a visit to Fusion World at the Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology (SIMTech) where the boys viewed a range of transformative innovations to respond to everyday issues.



Top: Joseph Haddad records his journey on an autonomous vehicle.  
Below: Delegates from the Science & Technology Symposium at the Singapore-MIT Alliance for Research & Technology (SMART Centre).



who exemplify hard work in the programme and have shown commitment to learning about New Zealand's native trees. Featured in the picture is **Dianne Patterson**, Field Officer from *Trees for Survival*, MHJC's Enviro Co-ordinator **Catherine Hunter** and **Camryn Chetty**, a member of the school's Enviro Council.

**TravelWise**  
thinking transport.

### 'Back to School' Parent Survey

Auckland Transport conduct regular surveys to understand how important messages are being communicated within the Auckland community. They are currently seeking feedback from our school community on the 'Back to School' campaign which has been run throughout the Auckland region.

Please click on the link below...  
[Back To School Survey](#) to be taken directly to a brief online survey. Everyone who completes the survey goes into the draw to win a \$50 Prezzy Card. All information and responses are used for internal research purposes only. Thank you for taking the time to assist with the survey and for supporting our Travelwise programme.

Did you know? .....

Car trips to schools  
make up about 40%  
of the morning  
traffic in Auckland



TravelWise

### Asia Pacific Children's Convention in Japan

Mission Heights Junior College has been selected as the New Zealand representative school at the Asia Pacific Children's Convention (APCC) in Fukuoka, Japan. The APCC is directed at 11 year old students, with a focus of fostering the 思いやり (omoiyari) spirit; cultural tolerance and understanding, acceptance of diversity and global citizenship. Hundreds of students from schools in over 40 countries will gather in Fukuoka, on the southern Japanese island of Kyushuu for two weeks of a camp-style conference, and homestays - which includes time in a Japanese school.

This opportunity was offered to every school in Auckland with Year 6-8 students. Mission Heights Junior College was awarded this coveted placement after a lengthy application and interview process. Japanese teacher, Ms Wigg will lead the delegation, which consists of five Year 7 students, who earned their place on the trip through a process which included applications, references, and an intensive semi-immersion day camp.

The 'Junior Ambassadors' who will accompany Ms Wigg to Japan on this trip, which is generously funded by the Auckland Council, are from left, Jerusalem Toilalo, Simran Singh, Piper Korner and Isabella Gillespie (Aadi Singh, absent). Please show your support for our fundraising activities over the course of Term 1 and 2.



### Japanese Immersion Conference

Over the summer break, Japanese teacher Ms. Wigg was selected as one



### CodeWorx Competition Targets Thinking & Computer Programming Skills

On Wednesday 25th February Avinash Sathiyaseelan and Bob Liou, accompanied by members of staff, attended the 2015 Codeworx Student and Teacher Workshop at the Orion Health Centre. The boys are pictured above with Ian McCrae, Chief Executive Officer and founder of Orion Health, with Raspberry Pi computers they will be programming as a part of the 2015 CodeWorx Challenge.



NEW ZEALAND  
MUSIC  
EXAMINATIONS  
BOARD

### NZMEB Examination

Every year MHJC students have the opportunity to sit external NZMEB music exams through our 'Music Certificate' DEEP course. Results from our

of four teachers to represent New Zealand at a Japanese teachers intensive immersion seminar and conference in Sydney, Australia. This course was run by the **Japan Foundation**; a programme set up to assist with teacher professional development with regard to linguistic skill, pedagogical advancement, cultural experiences and networking for teachers. Ms Wigg also had the support of **International Languages Educational Pathways (ILEP)** to attend this course on a scholarship placement which covered all costs.

Ms Wigg participated in a 4 day seminar, entirely in Japanese where she attended lessons in advanced language skill, had the cultural experiences of a calligraphy lesson taught by a master Performance Calligraphy artist and a lesson in using Japanese 'furoshiki' cloth wraps. She also enjoyed Japanese food, songs, and a movie and the opportunity to speak in Japanese with guests, lecturers, and conference participants.

### Message from MHJC's Family & Friends

**Family and Friends** would like to welcome back all our existing families to MHJC. We trust you all had a wonderful and relaxing break and are excited about starting the 2015 year. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to new families. We hope that through our many community events planned for this year, we will get to meet you all at some point in time.

For those of you who are new to MHJC, **Family and Friends** consists of a core group of parents. We aim to support the many events happening at the school throughout the year, such as the **Science Fair, Year 10 Graduation, Food Festival** and various sporting and cultural events. Supporting these events is a great way for parents to connect up with our school community, and ultimately support our children's education.

If you think you would like to be part of **Family and Friends**, please let us know. You may want to be an active member of **Family and Friends**, and help organise events. Or you may want to play a small role when you have the time available. There is a job for everyone! **Family and Friends** welcome parents, grandparents and caregivers.

Please feel free to make contact with us on...

[familyfriendsmhjc@gmail.com](mailto:familyfriendsmhjc@gmail.com) and let us know how you think you can support our school community. We look forward to hearing from you!

**MHJC Family and Friends**

*Bringing our Community Together*

December exams have been posted and we wish to congratulate Tayla Smith for gaining a Distinction (A) in her Grade 1 piano examination. Please contact our music teacher, Mr David Law [dlaw@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:dlaw@mhjc.school.nz) should your child wish to participate in a music examination this year.



A friendly 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!



We'd love you to follow us on Facebook! Simply click on the buttons below to be directed to our new Facebook page, or our



### Where Can you Get Help?

We hope that your child's time at MHJC will be positive and worry free, but should you ever have any problems we urge you to seek help early.

There are many people who can help. For issues with your child's learning, please contact either the classroom teacher, your child's learning advisor or, if your concerns are not resolved, the Senior Leader Curriculum in your child's Whanau. For pastoral issues please contact your child's Deputy Principal.

If any problem does not go away please do take your concerns to someone else. In such cases we urge you to contact the Associate Principal (Mr Naddy Naidoo) or the Principal (Mrs Joan Middlemiss).



#### Coast Whanau

[coast\\_absence@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:coast_absence@mhjc.school.nz)  
[coast\\_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:coast_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz)

#### Forest Whanau

[forest\\_absence@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:forest_absence@mhjc.school.nz)  
[forest\\_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:forest_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz)

#### Water Whanau

[water\\_absence@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:water_absence@mhjc.school.nz)  
[water\\_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:water_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz)

#### Mountains Whanau

[mountains\\_absence@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:mountains_absence@mhjc.school.nz)  
[mountains\\_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz](mailto:mountains_studentservices@mhjc.school.nz)

website.



Facebook



Website



**Mission Heights  
JUNIOR COLLEGE**

Ph 277 7881  
admin@mhjc.school.nz



*great food, great performances, great people, great fun!*



*Delicious food from  
around the World...*

*Live performances  
& cultural items...*

*Coupons for sale on  
the day - \$10*

Students, friends and family of **Mission Heights Junior College** are proud to host a **Cultural Food Festival** on Saturday 28th March, 2015.

**What?** Delicious food, talented performers and a great atmosphere!

**Where?** Near the courts at Mission Heights Junior College. Food coupons for sale from 11:30am on the day for \$10.  
Tickets sold via cash and eftpos on the day.

**Our Programme?** Food on sale + performances on stage from 12 to 3:00pm

*Come along and help us celebrate our...*

**Cultural food festival**

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